

LIFESTYLES

# New info centre welcomes tourists

BY BILL BRADLEY  
NORTHERN LIFE

Sudbury Tourism and its funding partners have opened a new Visitor Information Centre at the VIA Rail station on Elgin St.

The info centre is open from 10 am to 6 pm, seven days a week during the summer months to provide visitors with information on services, events, attractions and activities available across the city.

The centre is a pilot project funded by \$20,000 from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and \$8,750 from FedNor.

Sudbury MPP Rick Bartolucci and Louise Paquette, director general of FedNor, attended the recent funding announcement. They both have fond memories of the train station.



FORTIN

"This building is 99 years old and is considered a heritage building. I remember coming down here as a kid just to see, like lots of other youngsters, just who was getting off the train," said Bartolucci.

Paquette said, "I too do remember those trains. I loved to come down and stand around just to hear the conductors yelling out All Aboard!"

Mayor David Courtemanche said he was happy to see the old train station being used for a tourism centre.

"There in a case is the axe used by John Bowland to blaze the first survey line for the CPR into Sudbury. It was presented to Sudbury city council back in 1921 and I am glad it is hanging on these walls," Courtemanche said.

Museum curator Jim Fortin and the Northern Ontario Railway Museum and Heritage Centre are responsible for the



MARG SEREGELY

City of Greater Sudbury summer student Angele Pickard is ready to provide visitors with important travel information at the new Visitor Information Centre located inside the Via Rail Station on Elgin St.

historic displays at the new kiosk.

Fortin says Sudbury's history is of interest to tourists.

"The photos here show the railways, the types of engines used over a period

of a hundred years in this area. You can really see the impact of the railways on the settlement of the city itself and how important rail transportation was and still is," said Fortin.