

There are many ways for city to cut back

To the Editor:

Recently a survey from Greater Sudbury Hydro was mailed out asking if we were in favour of combining water-sewer and hydro bills. I replied no! I called hydro to tell them to stop sending me a return addressed envelope — I have automatic withdrawal. I'm still getting the envelopes — another waste of tax dollars.

It seems to me that those who attended the pre-budget sessions were all sports enthusiasts and said they were in favour of a tax increase. Well, I am not in favour of a tax increase for the services we are getting. We had a well-groomed town before Sudbury showed up. Our streets and roads were plowed and snowbanks removed — for less taxes. I have never seen Capreol in this mess as long as I've lived here.

Now councillors are talking of hiring an auditor. I don't think these people have a clue as to what to do. I think they bit off more than they can chew. There are many ways to save at the top. Cut out some of the frills like all those who are provided vehicles and gas.

Many of us are pensioners and on fixed incomes and all we do is pay bills. I think those pre-budget sessions were a

farce. The councillors' minds are made up and they'll do as they please.

J. SWEZEY
Capreol

Students earn wages through hard work

To the Editor:

Re: Student Wages Affect City's Bottom Line — March 18.

Your letter writer called the money paid to summer students working for the City of Greater Sudbury "money wasted" angered me.

I am completing my second year at Carleton University and am returning home to my summer job with the city for a third year. Although I won't be "planting flowers" or "installing rural address signs" as the writer suggests, I look forward to, once again, contributing to the Sudbury community, while earning enough money to cover tuition and textbooks for next fall.

How much more do I need? Hmm, I have yet to eat, pay rent, wash my clothes. It irritates me that a Sudburian can even suggest taking much-needed money away from a group of people who are willing to work for it.

Just remember who your future political leaders are and please, don't be shocked if, while trying to fix the economic woes the current generation in power caused, one of us unskilled labourers refers to old age pensions as money wasted.

REBECCA HAMMOND
Ottawa

Museums often turn into big money pits

To The Editor:

Re: The Northern Ontario Railroad Museum And Heritage Centre's proposal to invest in a \$4.7-million expansion.

Taxpayer beware! The Canadian Canoe Museum located in Peterborough undertook the same massive expansion a couple of years

ago. They even boast of having Pierre Trudeau's buckskin jacket. They once had workshops on canoe building, now they are hoping the Royal Bank will forgive a loan to allow them to open with one full-time position at a lower pay rate and just a few part-time employees.

It opens from May until October, and is still begging for money. I think the \$75,000 Sudburian's are asked to pay will be money in somebody's pocket, and not the promised future jobs.

It could lose money for up to 10 years. If organizers are depending on getting provincial or federal funding for this endeavour, forget it. Most Canadians don't want to fund something that doesn't involve something that benefits them.

Wake up Sudbury, you are next in line to be fleeced by consultants.

J.M. BELFRY
Cardiff

Museums are too valuable to close

To the Editor:

For Greater Sudbury to even contemplate cutting museum services and foregoing our heritage is a travesty. The Anderson Farm Heritage site has been an important component of the Walden and Lively community for decades.

The investment of time, money, and resources have helped to create this window into our past of which we should never lose perspective. The site offers a wealth of information of our heritage for our children and future generations to learn from. The park-like setting provides important leisure activities. Some of the buildings are multi-functional providing important opportunities for the arts.

The site provides a focal point for the sense of community in the Walden area. Creativity is enhanced. I would hope that city councillors have good insight. I would hope that

city councillors would elect to enhance, rather than suppress our heritage sites.

CHRIS BLOMME
Sudbury

City should fix roads, to arenas or ski hills

To the Editor:

Recently, I travelled by ambulance to the emergency department of the Sudbury Regional Hospital. I was strapped to a backboard as the attendant suspected a back injury. To say I was in pain due to the ride would be a gross understatement and I questioned the attendant as to whether the vehicle had any springs as it certainly felt like they were missing. He assured me that the vehicle did indeed have springs. I replied that he couldn't prove it by me.

There's one thing of which I am certain, and which city council should keep in mind during the budget debate: at no time during my ride to the hospital was I the least bit concerned whether it closed an arena, cut off money to Science North, scrapped the plan for a skate board park or, heaven forbid, not hire another consultant.

No, what I thought about for the duration of the trip to the hospital was road maintenance, or rather the lack of it.

FRED CRAMER
Chelmsford