



Photo by Tuan Minh Nguyen

Priyank Patel (left) enjoys playing in the snow with his friend Mihir Chaudhari at Jane Forrester Park last week. Both are first-year students in biotechnology at Loyalist College. Patel and Chaudhari also visited the park the day before when the snowfall happened. "It was snow everywhere. It was very cold. It was challenging but we enjoyed it," said Patel. For more weather photos, see page 5.

# Snowstorm causes travel challenges

By Tuan Minh Nguyen

Residents of Belleville, Quinte West and eastern Northumberland County were hit recently with a significant snowfall that caused disruptions and challenges for many in the community. The snowfall began last Wednesday afternoon and continued until Thursday about noon, leaving behind a total accumulation of over 16.8 centimetres by the end of Jan. 26, according to the weather station at CFB Trenton.

For many residents, the heavy snowfall caused major disruptions to their daily routines. Some power outages and dan-

gerous driving conditions made it difficult for people to get to work or school. The City of Belleville's Public Works department worked around the clock to clear the streets and sidewalks, but the sheer volume of snow made the task difficult. It was recommended that many residents stay indoors, as they were unable to get to work or school due to the dangerous conditions.

The following campus update was posted on Wednesday on the college website to all Loyalist students, faculty and staff, to minimize the risk this snowfall could pose: "Due to inclement weather, all in-person instruction on campus at Loyalist College is cancelled

as of 4 p.m. through this evening." Many classes in the afternoon ended earlier than expected, so that students could return home early before most of the snowfall started.

The heavy snowfall also had a significant impact on the local transportation system. Many bus routes were extra busy which caused a lot of inconvenience for travellers.

Jaspreet Singh, a first-year student in the project management program, usually goes to school by bus. On Wednesday, he said he had to wait 20 minutes for the bus. "It's so cold and there is so much snow," he said. "It's very hard to survive here if you are not familiar with these conditions."

Despite the difficulties, members of the local community came together to support one another and work through the challenges. Many residents used social media to share information about road conditions and power outages, and to offer assistance to those in need.

The city's snow-clearing resources were mobilized to full capacity, and worked tirelessly, plowing, and salting the streets to make them passable. Crews also worked to clear sidewalks and driveways, making it possible for people to move around safely. As a result, most of the main roads were cleared by Wednesday night, permitting residents to return to their normal activities.

"I just wanted to extend a huge thank you to the City of Belleville worker who was plowing the streets tonight," Lily Woods, a resident of Belleville, shared on Facebook. "My little car had no chance making it onto my unplowed dead-end road, so he went out of his way to get it plowed for me! Wish I grabbed his name, but if he sees this thank you! You made my night!"

By late Thursday morning, Jan. 26, when the snowfall started to end, life of people in Belleville got back on track. The main roads had been cleared of snow, vehicles were able to move around more easily, and classes returned to normal.

# Weather woes impact many across county

By Shelby Holmes

The snowstorm that hit the area last Thursday made travelling difficult and changed many people's plans, including all Tri-Board buses being cancelled, difficulties getting to work, or college classes being cancelled or moved online.

A Texas low started on Wednesday and continued into the next day, and some areas saw up to 20 centimetres of snow. A snowfall warning was announced by the

Environment and Climate Change Canada, asking people to be prepared for changing travel conditions.

The residents of Tweed, north of Belleville, were hard at work Thursday making paths and clearing out areas. Snowplows from the township, local businesses, and people who owned a plow were on the roads and in parking lots, and people were working on shovelling or snow blowing their driveways and cleaning piles of snow off their cars.

On Wednesday evening, the Municipality of Tweed declared a significant weather event, and encouraged people to avoid all non-essential travel. Despite the roads being plowed, the weather still made travel difficult, as roads still had slush on them and the snowfall reduced visibility. Some places in the area were even closed because people were unable to get there.

Traffic slowed in the area, and the village wasn't as busy as it normally would be. Many people were trying to stay indoors

and out of the storm. Although the weather has caused problems for some, others tried to go about their day as usual, going to work, going to get gas, and even walking their dogs.

Mike Russell, an employee at VP Racing Fuels, said the storm affected his work. Due to the weather, Russell had to be at work at a time he normally wouldn't because his co-worker was unable to come in due to the storm and the lengthy drive in the snow. Russell stated that he usually

only works the afternoon shift but would be working both shifts because of the change in plans.

"It's slow because a lot of people are staying home today," said Russell on Thursday, adding he expected it would probably be slow all day.

The snow in Tweed slowed as the day went on and stopped entirely in the afternoon. Environment and Climate Change Canada removed the snowfall warning in Tweed late Thursday morning.

# Students get day off when winter conditions turn bad

By Kennedy Babutac

Poor road conditions and continued inclement weather forced the cancellation of all school bus and taxi transportation in the Tri-Board Student Transportation Services jurisdiction last Thursday. Schools remained open but any students driven to school by parents or guardians needed to be picked up at the end of the day. The bus cancellations affected students in the Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District Board, the Hastings & Prince Edward District Board and the Limestone District School Board.

Grace Werkhoven, a Grade 11 student at PECE in Picton, said, "It didn't affect me in a bad way because I have lots of schoolwork to do, so staying home has given me more time to get it done." When asked if there should be an option for online classes during snow days, Werkhoven responded, "It wouldn't necessarily be beneficial to me. Online classes on snow days would make sense, but it's unnecessary. If lessons are pushed back a day, then so be it."

"We should be allowed to treat snow days as if they were the weekend. It is using the time to study when we want



Photo by Kennedy Babutac

A snowstorm last week made roads too slippery and resulted in the cancellation of school buses across the area.

to rather than focusing on everything like a school day. We're still kids, right, so I think snow days still have a special meaning to just going outside and playing. At least for me, it does."

Another student from PECE, Ben Sykes, in Grade 11, responded to the same question about online school for snow days. "I don't believe that having an online option is beneficial," he said. "Many kids don't have internet, and many other kids are without devices to do schoolwork on snow days, so if we did have an online class, those kids would fall behind and have a hard time catching up."

Gord Taylor from Tri-Board Student Transportation Services jurisdiction talks about the recent snow days and storms, how they determine bus cancellations, and how Tri-Board prepares. "There are three things that determine bus cancellations: Legacy roads, which are known to give trouble during bad weather; Current, which is the current conditions of the roads and weather, and Material, which is the forecast," said Taylor.

..See Students, page 2



Photo by Tuan Minh Nguyen

The scene at Bay subway station during afternoon rush hour on Jan. 31. Following an increase in violent attacks in recent days within the city's transit system, Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) and Toronto Police Services announced they will be increasing their presence on Toronto's transit.

# More police presence for Toronto transit

By Tuan Minh Nguyen

Following an increase in violent attacks in recent days within the city's transit system, Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), Toronto Police Services announced they will be increasing their presence on transit with over 80 officers in a latest announcement on Jan. 26.

Thanh Thu often commutes to her office every day by subway line 2 Bloor-Danforth.

"I have seen some police at the subway station, but not every single one," she said. "Just some stations which are the busiest."

"I've read about it on the news but have never seen it in person," said Ly Do, another commuter, on the way home by streetcar route 504 after shopping. She hasn't travelled much by TTC since 2019 because she no longer feels safe. However, she still has to travel by streetcar or subway sometimes because she doesn't have her own vehicle.

Duong Nguyen, a transit user, comes to work every week by streetcar route 510.

"I barely see any police, which makes me wonder why we're pouring so much money into the police force every year, but we still have these attacks going on, and the police only step in when it's too late," Nguyen said.

Nguyen believes that increasing the police presence in TTC is only a temporary solution.

"It doesn't actually solve the core issue at hand, which is inaccessible housing and inaccessible mental health support to help these individuals get the help that they need," she said.

Do also think that the recent violence attacks on TTC probably stemmed from people with mental issues. She said that some people are intentional about it these days because they feel like they can get away with it.

"It's not that effective unless we have cops on every car," she said. "Hence, I

don't know if it's scalable and will solve the root of the problem, but it's a good first step to weed out as many cases as possible."

However, Nguyen said the police presence on TTC could make some people uncomfortable. "Sometimes the presence of police doesn't bring the same level or don't bring the same feeling of safety and comfort to certain groups of people," she said.

Thanh Thu had been the victim of a racist attack at Spadina station before. Since that attack, she's only taken Uber to go home if it is late at night.

"I feel kind of unsafe when I am on the TTC, or when I was waiting for the TTC," she said. "I think the solution the city having right now for the TTC is not a good one because people like me who travel by TTC every day still feel unsafe."

Do thinks that there are many root causes leading to this problem. In order to completely solve it, she thinks that is necessary to have support from many authorities to solve each of those causes.

"More adolescents commit crimes because they probably hear about it on the internet and feel like they can get away with it, so we need to minimize exposure to the internet for this age group. Also, there are people with mental issues or homeless people who committed these crimes. For this group, it might be better to provide them with better housing and mental support, as well as giving them tools to live a more meaningful life, to feel the need to contribute to the society," she shared.

"It's not a one-size-fits-all solution, but I think we can also start with allowing people to own more tools to protect themselves and educate them on how they can protect themselves in this type of situations, as well as more emergency exits or buttons to alert others of the situation."

In recent days, attacks occurred on TTC including a woman who was

stabbed on a streetcar, two uniformed Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) workers assaulted on their way to work, a TTC driver who was shot with a BB gun, and the latest is the case of one person robbed at knifepoint at Yorkdale subway station on Jan. 28.

At a press conference at police headquarters on Jan. 26, Toronto Police Service Chief Myron Demkiw stated that the goal is to have more than 80 police officers on duty at all of the city's transportation hubs on a daily basis.

"Our deployments will be dynamic and may change from day-to-day. However, our officers will be on, in, and around the transit system, across the city, throughout the day and late into the evening each and every day," he said.

"The TTC must be safe for everyone, without exception to the people who use it and the people who provide the service each and every day," Toronto Mayor John Tory said in the same press conference. "Any act of disrespect or violence that is directed towards another passenger or towards a TTC worker is completely unacceptable."

On the same day, TTC's website also posted that they would increase more than 80 additional TTC staff focused on safety.

"This includes maintenance and transportation managers who will rotate through the subway network during peak service. Managers will be highly visible and will conduct system cleanliness as well as health and safety audits," they stated.

Previously, on Jan. 9, The TTC board accepted a 10-cent fee hike on single cash and PRESTO trips, while maintaining rates for seniors, Fair Pass program participants, and PRESTO monthly and yearly passes. "The revenue from this tuition increase, together with the city's planned \$958.7 million subsidy to the TTC, will be used for assuring the system is dependable, safe, and accessible to all Torontonians," they stated.



Photo by Tuan Minh Nguyen

A police officer keeps watch on a street car route near Dundas Street in Toronto on Jan. 30.

## Students...

Continued from Page 1

Weather captains are those who wake up early in the mornings, drive around their zone, and determine if the roads are safe enough to go and pick up students. There are 30,000 students in the area that Tri-board serves. Their mission relates not only to the bus drivers, but also for the students' safety. There are many variables to take into account for bus cancellations.

It is between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. when the weather captains conclude that buses should be cancelled and they rarely cancel buses the day before. Bus drivers are usually on the roads by 6:30 a.m., so the company needs to decide early.

"It's all about safety with the

students and bus drivers," said Taylor.

Because the weather warnings were issued about four days before Thursday's storm, Tri-Board officials concluded late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning to cancel buses that the three school boards work with.

"Tri-Board oversees home-to-school transportation for three school boards and spans approximately 16,000 square kilometres," states Tri-Board's website. "The goal is to use the best local assessment and weather forecasts to ensure that buses operate only under safe conditions to ensure the safety of students and bus drivers. We transport about 30,000 riders daily, as well as ensuring the bus system is safe for students, efficient and effective in getting bused students to school ready to learn."

## Free public skating sessions in Tweed give people a chance to have fun

By Shelby Holmes

After cancellations because of COVID-19, public skating has returned to normal in Tweed. During COVID, the public skating was unable to happen, but it has returned and is currently free.

For the 2022/23 season, the public skate sessions are free throughout the winter months due to a variety of sponsors. It used to be that people had to pay to public skate, but this year, the sponsors have paid. All of the sponsors are on the flier created for the public skate sessions. Some of the sponsors are Tweed Veterinary Services, Tom's Valu-mart, Gaylord Hardwood Flooring, Stoco Lake Lodge, Moira Place, and more.

Public skating is offered at the Tweed Community Centre every Wednesday

from 2-3 p.m., and on Saturdays when the Tweed Oil Kings don't play, from 1-3 p.m. This year, public skating started on Oct. 8, and is scheduled to go until Feb. 4 with the possibility of more dates being added.

The public skate is hosted to give people a chance to skate and to give them something to do. People are able to show up or leave at any point during the skate times and are able to use a change room to get ready and put their stuff down. Music is played for people to listen to while they skate. Luke Murphy, an employee at the arena, stated that on average, there are about 25 to 50 people skating.

Similar to other places, the Tweed Community Centre had to make changes during COVID-19. There was no public

skating due to the rules and regulations. Regulations had changed a lot in the world during the pandemic. Masks, social distancing, lockdowns, and cleaning rules made a lot of places change their rules to fit the regulations and to keep people safe.

"During COVID, we didn't have any public skating at all. It just was too hard with all the rules. We were only allowed a certain amount of people in the rink and we had a lot of cleaning cautions to take. It definitely made things a lot harder working here," said Murphy.

The Tweed Community Centre has a variety of events that happen. Whether it's some form of hockey, figure skating, people renting out the ice, or something else, the centre has played a big role in the community and continues to do so.

# Service animals provide companionship as well as offering much-needed assistance

By Danielle McPherson

It is no surprise that dogs, having been deemed *man's best friend* for so many years, are also the most common animal in the service animal industry, and are in more demand than ever before.

Although the use of dogs for those who are visually impaired has been scattered throughout history, some evidence suggests guide dogs even have been around since the 1750s in a Paris hospital for the blind.

It wasn't until soldiers from the First World War came home blinded by mustard gas that the more modern-day need for guide dogs began.

What started as a dog-only world, now includes cats, monkeys, birds, and even miniature horses.

In addition to more animals being trained to help, the jobs that they are performing has expanded beyond those who are visually impaired. Service animals are now being trained to help with mobility problems, people with autism, seizures, diabetes, psychiatric disorders, and much more.

Bean, a 14-week-old chihuahua from Belleville, is currently in the early stages of his service dog training. Angie Brock, Bean's owner, says that he will be trained to alert her of blood sugar levels, and to help with anxiety.

Bean has been with Brock for just over a month, but she says Bean has taken quite well to his training, adding, "He is as smart as a whip."

Before Bean, Brock lost her previous service dog, Lucy, around a year ago, close to Valentine's Day.

Even though the pair have been together for a short while, Brock describes Bean as her "best little buddy."

Unlike Bean, Ashley, a silver Labrador retriever, is just a month shy of graduating her confidence and obedience class at Fire Team K-9 Headquarters based out of Pembroke, Ontario.

Typically to take the course, dogs have to be at least a year of age, but an exception was made for Ashley.

According to her owner, Rob Waters, and their mentor Cheryl Rousselle, Ashley, at six and a half months old, is the youngest to take the course. Rousselle and Waters both believe that Ashley has the potential to graduate at the top of her class.

When Waters and his wife went to pick out their new puppy, Ashley was the runt of the litter and was never supposed to be a working dog.

Waters said that he didn't need a service dog, but wanted a dog with the behaviours and mannerisms of a trained working dog. He enjoys the company



Photo by Danielle McPherson

**Angie Brock and Bean, a 14-week-old Chihuahua, are picking out treats for Bean's training. Brock is currently training Bean to work as a service dog to sense low blood sugar and help with anxiety. Since bringing Bean home at Christmas, the two have become inseparable. "I am his favourite person."**

Ashley provides when he is at work as he is usually a one-man crew, but needed to know she would have the discipline and focus to not run off.

In the two months that Ashley has been attending her classes, Waters said that he has seen dramatic changes in her growth.

Waters said that when they first brought Ashley home, she used to see her siblings as squeaky toys because of their small "pocket-purse" size, but now she hardly acknowledges their existence.

While Ashley has the capacity and intelligence to become a full-fledged service dog, Water is much happier with her as his "trained companion".

Kat Forder, the manager of Fire Team K-9 Headquarters was unavailable for comment, but is well known within the service dog community for advocating for the equality of therapy dogs.

Unlike service dogs, therapy dogs have to be invited to places whereas service dogs can go anywhere with their handler.

While Student Success officials at Loyalist College were unavailable for comment on the process or treatment of service animals on campus, there are resources available on the school's website.

According to the resident community standards guide, the staff asks that students contact Student Success services, or Residence Life Staff to begin the process of registering a service animal.

2022 graduate of the photojournalism program, Annie Duncan, shared a bit of insight on the process that happened for her and Charlie, who is a mix of German shepherd and border collie.

Duncan said she was in contact with Student Success to set-up accommodations for her anxiety and depression, and there was paperwork to be filled out, some had to be signed by Duncan's doctor and Charlie's vet. Duncan had to check with roommates that they would be okay with a dog in the house, as well as have one of them signed on as Charlie's secondary care-giver if any emergencies were to happen. As well as when Duncan and Charlie moved into residence, the duo had to meet with the head of residence to meet and have a more in-depth conversation about the rules of having Charlie on campus.

With the registration process being a multi-level process, it is recommended that students contact the departments as early as possible so that their animal can be with them sooner rather than later. Official documentation must be on file in both residence and Student Success before bringing the animal on campus or into the residential buildings.

## Tinkered Decor offers unique gifts and crafts

By Kennedy Babutac

Tinkered Decor and More at 217 Front Street in Belleville has something for everyone with a unique collection of crafts and giftwares.

Melinda Hems from Tinkered Decor and More opened the small business in February 2022 with her life and business partner Barb Tilander.

"It was a bit hectic and scary. We opened near the end of the pandemic, so we were still determining the retail landscape. It's been exciting to see how many amazingly talented local artisans there are," said Tilander.

Tinkered Décor and More offers locally made home décor, knick-knacks and more. The two partners created their business to do something they would love to work in. Hems tells the story of how they began.

"The store came about because my life partner lost her brother two summers ago. So, we're like, why are we doing work that we don't like instead of doing what we love? That's where the store came from."

Hems said that at the beginning, it was hard, but they got through with the help of some fantastic people.

"My business partner and I sell vintage, upcycled and giftware. Barb and I love finding treasures at flea markets, yard sales, and auctions," said Hems.

They've recently hired a third business partner (Jennifer Hunter), who has taken on all our social media content and recruiting.

"I'm not sure if there is anything we would have done differently other than possibly having a third partner, which we have now. A lot goes into a successful business and having partnered with diverse skill sets is a must," said Tilander.

"Our goal is to provide high-quality

**"It was a bit hectic and scary. We opened near the end of the pandemic, so we were still determining the retail landscape."**

Barb Tilander

local products to our customers. We have 30 local artisans that have their creations in the store for sale. We have our artisans rotate their stock frequently, so there is always something new in the store. Tinkered Decor and More offers upcycled, re-loved and giftable home décor, consignment items from local makers, craft classes and more," said Hems.

"We are working on getting items in for a gourmet food section.

The store has changed dramatically since we opened, and we have listened to our customers and brought in high-quality items they love," said Hems.

"One of our goals is to have different artisans in to teach classes. We recently had a watercolour painting class that everyone who attended loved, and we plan on doing a native drum-making type soon," Hems added.

"I'm really happy with the store as it is. If we were to expand, we would definitely want to stay in downtown Belleville. We love all the older buildings," said Tilander.

Tinkered Décor and More would like to have an opportunity for stained glass or fused glass artisan join them in the future.



Photo by Kennedy Babutac

**Melinda Hems of Tinkered Decor and More, a small business in downtown Belleville that sells art from local artists.**

# Skating kicks off winter weekend

By Danielle McPherson

Skate Muskoka performed at last Friday's grand opening of Bracebridge's three-day winter extravaganza, Fire and Ice.

Coaches Christine Whyte, Pete Dack, and Violetta Afanasieva have been working tirelessly to create this year's show, "BraveBlade".

While Afanasieva said before the event that she was excited about the show and to watch her skaters perform, she was most looking forward to the show's guest stars Kurt Browning, Alisa Czisny, and Geoffrey Tyler, performing with the new generation of skaters.

"Our guests are such wonderful human beings that they agreed to be a part of our production and our skaters will be interacting with their idols."

Skate Muskoka and the Port Carling Synchronized Skating Team members performed together with a few members of Skate Muskoka taking on solos.

Regan French, a member of Skate Muskoka who has been awarded a Skate Canada Provincial Championship gold medal, and Dexter Lee, a level star three (free skater) performed solos during the show. From the Junior division, Emma Hooper and David Makvegaouri also had solos.

Kaitlyn Morrow, a Skate Muskoka and Port Carling Port Carling Synchronized Skating member, said that she was excited to show everyone how fun skating can be and hoped to inspire others to join them on the ice.

Club members have been learning and practising routines for Fire and Ice since September, and were eager to perform in front of an audience. For some of the skaters, this was their first time performing since COVID.

This will be the first year that students were able to skate with their idols.

Lee, from Skate Muskoka, skated with Browning playing the roles of student and teacher in the show.

In the world of heroes, Browning played BraveBlade, a hero teaching Lee how to be a hero and eventually taking over the BraveBlade name.

Afanasieva said that while she believed her students would do great on Friday, she understands the pressure of performing in front of an audience. Before the show, she added that her students seemed to be a healthy mix of excitement and nerves.

Most of the students may have felt that there was added pressure because they were performing with Browning, Czisny, and Tyler, as these are the people who inspire young skaters, Afanasieva said. The show may have had fictional characters, but Afanasieva said that the truth of being a hero is a very true reality.

Gabi Griffiths-Wigg, another member of Skate Muskoka, said that she was excited to perform in this year's show mainly because she was skating alongside Browning and Czisny, as well as seeing all of her and her teams' hard work come together and perform with so many people. From the Bracebridge Fire and Ice website, last year's attendance was over 800, and before the event, Afanasieva was hoping for a full house.

"Our Fire and Ice show is a very special event and is a big fundraiser



Photo by Danielle McPherson

Alisa Czisny made a special appearance with Kurt Browning and Geoffrey Tyler during Bracebridge's Fire and Ice opening show last Friday.

for the Skate Muskoka club"

All of the proceeds made at the show return to Skate Muskoka to help the non-profit club continue to

grow and develop ice sports in Muskoka.

On January 29th, the Skate Muskoka club posted on their Facebook

page a huge thank you to their sponsors such as Gravenhurst Family Dental Care (their biggest sponsor), and to all those in the community who

purchased tickets. In the post they also announced that the show was a huge success bringing in over \$10,000 for the club.

## Variety of toys available at collectors show

By Shelby Holmes

Last Sunday, people gathered at the Masonic Hall for the Belleville Toy Show. Thirty tables were filled with Lego, video games, Funko Pops and other collectibles.

The toy show ran from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. People of all ages attended the show and the different vendors offered a wide variety for people to look at. People would wander around the area, speaking to others and sometimes finding something they wanted.

The Belleville Toy Show has been around for seven years and is organized by Mike DeRushie.

DeRushie started buying toys in high school and keeping them sealed and has been collecting since about 1992.

Vendors are able to connect through the Toy Show's Facebook page to say they're interested, and it's noted that around 300 people attend the show. Who is a vendor at the toy show depends on people's availability, and sometimes venues can change due to a place already being booked.

"I occupy a certain space, but then I have certain vendors that have been with me since day one. I've sometimes changed venues because this one has been booked, and the vendors change

all the time. So it just depends on the persons availability," said DeRushie.

Alex Hope was one of the vendors at the toy show. Hope has been doing the show for quite a few years, and had found out about it randomly on Facebook. Hope is trying to sell off some of the collection since it has gotten too big and is trying to make more room and downsize everything.

"I have a little bit of everything," said Hope. "I've got a little bit of Lego, little Transformers, some Star Wars. One of the bigger things I have here is some Monster High dolls."

Ken Wentz, from a collectibles store called The Lord of the Figs, was another vendor at the show. Wentz has been into this since 2018 and has been to other toy shows before.

"I started doing these events because it was a good way for me to sell my stuff. I started selling my own collection. Now this has grown to a point where I'm using this to kickstart another business that I'm working in," said Wentz.

With a number of different vendors, the Belleville Toy Show brings variety to its shows. Both children and adults are able to enjoy it and possibly find what they are looking for.



Mike DeRushie, organizer of the Belleville Toy Show, has lots of Lego available.

Photo by Shelby Holmes



(Above) Abhi Sharma, a first-year student in project management program at Loyalist College, takes a photo of his classmate on their way to campus on Jan. 26. Sharma shared that this is the first time he and his friends have seen this much snow. "It's much colder compared to my country because there is no snow back in my country, India," he said.

(Left) Ian Lynch lifts his bike out of a snowdrift on the sidewalk on Front Street. He cycled about 1.5 kilometres to downtown Belleville to shop. "It's not that bad riding. When it gets a little thick, it's a little harder, but other than that, it's not that bad. I think more people should be riding around on the bikes," he said, about travelling after a significant snowfall.

Photos by Tuan Minh Nguyen

(Right) Mihir Chaudhari wipes his glasses after playing in the snow with his friend at Jane Forrester Park last Thursday. Chaudhari and his friend go to the park to go for a walk and sightsee whenever they have free time. They came here even on the day of the significant snowfall.

(Below) - John Cairns, founder of Wheelchair of Hope Foundation, walks on a snow-covered trail at Jane Forrester Park. Cairns said that he goes to this park to exercise every day.

Photos by Tuan Minh Nguyen



(Right) Despite the windy, snowy weather, these construction workers in downtown Belleville hard at work.

Photo by Dawna L Cook

