

## BRIEFS

### » Sweet win

The North Metro Chorus, which includes a number of Peel vocalists, recently won the Region 16 Sweet Adelines competition in Syracuse, New York. The chorus had 117 singers on stage and scored 727 points out of a possible 800. With the win, the chorus has qualified for the international competition at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas in October. The chorus is based in Toronto.

### » For crafters

More than 100 exhibitors will be selling all manner of handcrafted items at the Craftadian show taking place tomorrow at the Hershey Centre. Just some of the items available include artwork, stationery, home decor, leather goods and clothing. A new component to the show is that a jury of representatives from the beauty and lifestyle industries hand-picked a number of vendors selling jewelry and natural body products – including holistic skincare items, nail polish and soap. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$5. Those under the age of 16 are admitted for free. For more, visit [craftadian.ca](http://craftadian.ca).

### » Helping out

Mississauga's Incubate Institute for Community Impact (Incubate Institute) has received \$2,000 in funding from the Co-operators to provide help and support to five community projects in Peel. The money will be used by the organization to host a series of educational workshops to a handful of just-launched non-profits during their first three years of operations. Projects being helped include: World Chang-ers Society, Lab B, Big City Bees, Brave Beginnings and Crane Creations.

### » Pud



## News staffers tap into their inner Viking

By **Iain Colpitts**  
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For those unfamiliar with the Back to the Future trilogy so popular in the 1980s, the main character Marty McFly didn't care much for being called a chicken.

So when my editor implied that some of us were a bunch of wussies for not signing up for an afternoon of axe throwing as part of our Fun and Games series, I had a similar reaction. My only thought was "I'll show them."

That led four co-workers (editor-in-chief Patricia Lonergan, web editor Katie Sealey, photographer Bryon Johnson and advertising representative Kevin Crompton) to join with me on a visit to Bad Axe Throwing on Tomken Road, just south of Eglinton Avenue East.

I'm the only one who lived up to the company's name, and my colleagues will attest to that.

It was a fun experience and axe master Andriy Dovbenyuk was very helpful in teaching us a variety of ways to throw, but for yours truly, the wonkiness began once we started competing. That's when Andriy said, "pressure's on."

Sure, maybe I folded under pressure, but at the same time, I can think of two reasons why I just couldn't get those axes to stick to the wooden target.



First off, unlike any true lumberjack or Viking, I don't have a beard. Even as I approach 30, the best I can do is peach fuzz if I go a week without shaving. The exact opposite can be said for both Bryon and Kevin and, judging by their success, I'm sure each is a product of the great outdoors.

The second reason I may have buckled with the heat on was because I didn't have an axe to grind, pardon the pun.

Leading up to our session, the running joke in our newsroom was to hang on to our pent-up rage, which Katie jokingly assured us she had plenty of.

I believed it, too, once she hit one of the challenging blue targets with her eyes closed. That single-handedly gave us enough points to win one of the team challenges, so congratulations partner.

To my credit though, I couldn't be beat on the underhand throw,



The Mississauga News' sports reporter Iain Colpitts, above, was joined by fellow staffers, top, from left, advertising representative Kevin Crompton, web editor Katie Sealey and editor-in-chief Patricia Lonergan for some axe throwing this week. Left, is instructor Andriy Dovbenyuk. Visit [mississauga.com](http://mississauga.com) for videos. Staff photos by Bryon Johnson

which Andriy said was more difficult that overhand. Still, it just didn't seem as cool, or empowering.

Then Andriy taught us the challenging backwards throw. Sadly, no one was able to channel their inner Luke Skywalker and hit a target we couldn't see.

Despite my struggles, it's easy to see why axe throwing has become such a popular activity, especially for business outings and birthday parties in recent years.

For two and a half hours, it brings out a lot of laughter and camaraderie. For more information on Bad Axe Throwing, visit [badaxethrowing.com](http://badaxethrowing.com).

There are tons of things to do

in Peel, and we want to let you know just how many activities are in your backyard. Fun & Games is a monthly column written by reporters who try an activity in Peel for the first time and share their adventures and missteps with the community. If you want to challenge us to something fun, email editor-in-chief Patricia Lonergan at [plonergan@metroland.com](mailto:plonergan@metroland.com).

## Find stamps, coins

The National Postage Stamp and Coin show is on today through Sunday at the International Centre in Malton.

The show, now in its 73rd year, will feature just less than 30 international and Canadian dealers, and organizers say it's one of the largest such shows the GTA has ex-

perienced in years.

There will be Canadian and international stamps, souvenir sheets and first-day covers, postcards, coins and banknotes, Royal Canadian Mint products, medals and other items.

Admission is \$3 but free on Sunday. Visit [stampandcoinshow.com](http://stampandcoinshow.com).