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## Bricks and bouquets

**Posted 2 days ago**

To the North Bay Newcomer Network, Nipissing University Women's Centre and its diversity committee and Young People's Press: For recognizing the contributions immigrant women make to the local economy. Maria Dabdoub, Bisma Haider, Felicitas Rodriguez, Dr. Mumbi Kariuki and Coun. Sarah Campbell were honoured Thursday evening at the North Bay Public Library for their achievements and contributions to the community. Many of the women honoured started businesses or served the community in volunteer capacities.

To Jean Guy Belzile and the members of the Project Lifeline committee: For purchasing and installing 23 public access defibrillators at various locations in the district, including every arena.

Belzile, Nipissing District's manager of emergency medical services, was recognized along with the project committee by the city earlier this week for making the program a success.

To Canadian retailers: For failing to lower prices quickly enough to reflect the new reality of a strong Canadian dollar. The soaring loonie hasn't pushed down prices of goods in Canada to a level on par with what's in U.S. stores. Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty met with Canadian retailers this week in hopes of encouraging them to drop prices as quickly as possible to more closely reflect the value of our buck.

To Canadian soccer fans, at least some of them in the Toronto area: For failing to leave intolerance and rivalries in their homelands. The Canadian Soccer League final will be played this weekend with Toronto rivals Serbian White Eagles and Toronto Croatia set to square off. It's usually a one-game final, but the CSL has split it into two games in order to separate fans of the title contenders due to the intensity of the rivalry between the teams representing countries from the former Yugoslavia. The aggregate two-day score will determine the champion.

Only Croats will attend today's first leg of the final and only Serbs will be in the stands Sunday. People from other countries, we presume, can watch both games, but the clubs are in charge of selling tickets and providing security.

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