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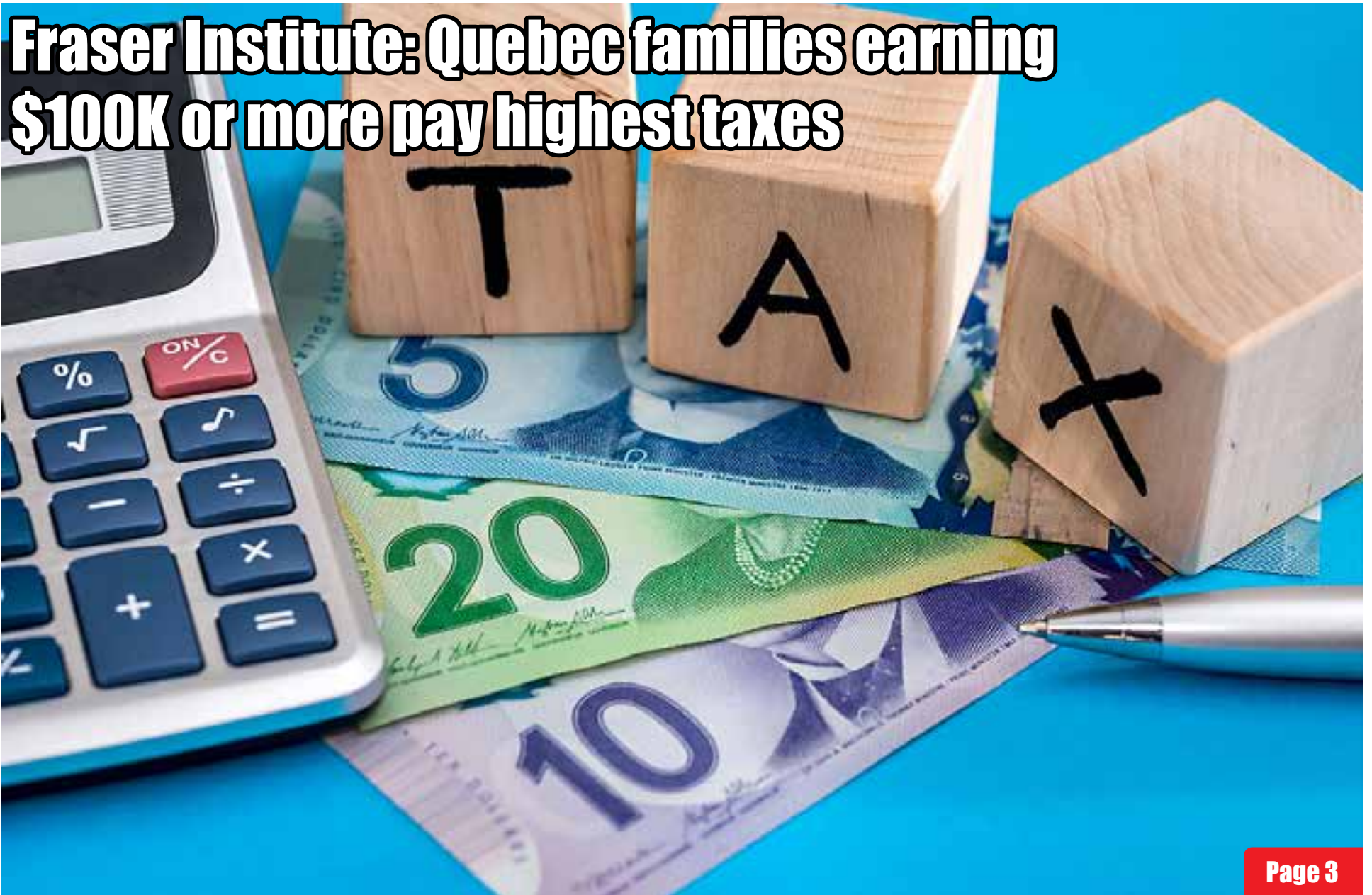
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## Fraser Institute: Quebec families earning \$100K or more pay highest taxes




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# The new front-line access line gradually being rolled out in the Laurentians

**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The Laurentians Integrated Health and Social Services Center (CISSS) announces the gradual opening of the **front-line access line** (GAP) for people waiting for a family doctor.

The GAP des Laurentides is a telephone service that allows the population to have access to a professional in the event of a health problem. The GAP team works closely with its partners and the region's health and social services to provide people without a family doctor with an assessment of their situation and direct them to the first-line service adapted to their needs.

Ms. Rosemonde Landry, President and CEO of the CISSS des Laurentides, testifies that the

GAP is a priority for the establishment in order to offer a single gateway to front-line services for people without a family doctor. "I am very happy that the GAP is already deployed in our region. This one-stop shop will become a service

of great importance for the population of the Laurentians and will certainly facilitate access to care," she declared.

## Registration for GAP services

To ensure gradual deployment in the Laurentians region, letters are sent on a priority basis to people on the waiting list for a family doctor.

The population of the Laurentians without a family doctor is invited to update their file or, if they have not already done so, to register on the waiting list at [quebec.ca/sante/trouver](http://quebec.ca/sante/trouver) -a resource/registration-with-a-family-doctor.

## End of services in designated medical clinics

Considering the establishment of the GAP service, the activities of designated clinics for patients without a family doctor, set up temporarily in the context of a pandemic, ended on March 31 2022.

The CISSS des Laurentides in its press release exalted the great contribution of its teams and doctors for the services offered to the population at these clinics.



# CISSS des Laurentides advises caution

*As the 6th wave of covid passes through Quebec*



**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The Public Health Department of the Integrated Health and Social Services Center (CISSS) of the Laurentians reminds the population that it is important to maintain the various health measures in force and to remain vigilant in the face of the new increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 observed throughout Quebec.

Due to age or immunosuppression, some vulnerable people are more susceptible and at risk of developing complications from COVID-19 infection. Therefore, they must be extra careful in order to protect themselves.

"We are monitoring the evolution of the epidemiological situation very closely. While the entire province is experiencing an upsurge in cases of COVID-19, we encourage Saint-Laurent residents to remain cautious in order

to help them preserve their health and that of their loved ones. Remember that vaccination against COVID-19 remains the best way to protect yourself," said Dr. Éric Goyer, director of public health for the Laurentians.

Complying with the measures in effect various health measures for visitors and caregivers are still in effect in the living environments and hospitals of the CISSS des Laurentides. It remains crucial for the entire population to continue to respect them in order to protect the most vulnerable people as well as the staff in place. For the most recent measures, residents can consult the COVID-19 section of the website [www.santelaurentides.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.santelaurentides.gouv.qc.ca).

If citizens experience symptoms similar to COVID-19, they must isolate themselves and avoid visiting vulnerable people. Taking a rapid screening test is essential and free. If the test result is positive, it is important to follow the isolation instructions that apply to each patient's situation. For more information on isolation instructions, visit [Quebec.ca/coronavirus](http://Quebec.ca/coronavirus). A self-assessment tool is also available online.

# Intergenerational housing project of Rosemere

**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
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Responding to a need for more housing options for seniors in Rosemere, for the past year, a small group of citizens from the area, have been collaborating on a housing co-op project that they would love to see take place in Rosemere.

Though the project initially was conceived due to the lack of options the elderly have in the town once they are ready to sell their homes, the project expanded to also serve the citizens that are affected by the increase of rent, ballooning house prices and the general inflation happening since the beginning of Covid.

The lack of affordable housing, even for the middle class, is starting to be a real problem in Quebec and in regions. According to a press release issued by the founding committee, it wants to reassure the Rosemere population that it is not considering the golf site for this project. They are having discussions with the town to identify land that would be able to accept such vision, while still respecting the will and sensitivities of the citizens of Rosemere.

The housing project aims at building a housing co-op offering an intergenerational and ecofriendly community living environment. The committee also wishes to bond with the community and promote the values of co-op living assistance, cooperation and respect of differences. The project is at the stage where it is important



to recruit members and collaborators, regardless of their desire to live in the project or not, in order to share the upcoming tasks. The creation of a co-op is done through the help of a technical resource group, in this case, Réseau 2000 +, but it is the members that get fully involved. « It is such an enriching experience. When we, the first 3 initiating members, started, we did not know a thing about how to go about it. But as we advance, there is a certain creative process and a feeling of building something important that we will bequeath to society" said Véronique Pierre who is the initiator of the project.

The committee is organizing an informative session on Wednesday April 20th, 7pm, right front entrance of the community center, right beside the church entrance. The community center is located at 202 ch. de la Grande-Côte.

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# Fraser Institute says Quebec families earning \$100K or more pay highest taxes

*National think tank critical of taxation rates here and in Canada's Atlantic provinces*



**MARTIN C. BARRY**  
marty@newsfirst.ca

According to findings in a new study conducted by the Fraser Institute, Quebec and eastern Canada have the highest personal income tax rates nationwide on individuals and households that earn \$100,000 or more a year.

## High earners in Western Canada

The report found that authorities in Western Canada, by contrast, tax high income earners at lower rates and have higher numbers of those earners.

"There is clearly an east-west divide in Canada, with Quebec and Atlantic Canada having the highest income tax rates on high-income earners, and the lowest share of high-income tax filers," said Alex Whalen, policy analyst at the Vancouver-based think tank, who co-authored the report.

## Few \$100K earners here

The study found that couples with no children, couples with one child, and couples with two children in Quebec had higher personal income rates than anywhere else in Canada. Single people in Quebec who made more than \$100,000 had the second highest personal income tax rate nationwide after Prince Edward Island.

Crucially, of the 10 Canadian provinces, Quebec had the seventh lowest percentage of

tax filers who earned \$100,000 or more a year in income, and again, the Atlantic provinces also were at the bottom of the pack for share of tax filers who earned more than \$100,000.

## Few high-income earners

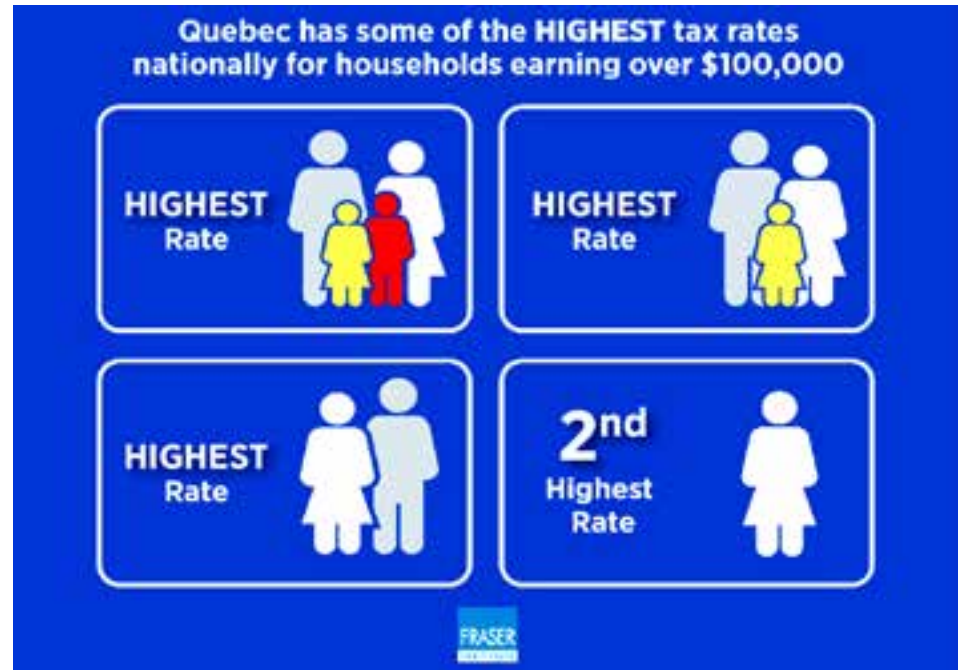
"The situation in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces is clear – the jurisdictions in Canada with the highest personal income tax rates on high-income earners also have the lowest share of high-income earners nationwide," said Whalen.

"Given that high income earners are often entrepreneurs, job creators, or other high performers, policymakers in Quebec and eastern Canada should consider personal income tax reform in order to make their tax regimes competitive with the rest of the country."

## Only Quebec was higher

In the report, titled 'High Tax Rates on Top Earners in Atlantic Canada and Quebec,' the authors said that when looking at couples with one child and income over \$100,000, Newfoundland & Labrador stood out as the Atlantic province with the highest rate, at 25.4 per cent. Only Quebec was higher at 26.5 per cent.

Some patterns and themes emerged in the report. Among other things, Quebec applies the highest effective personal income-tax rates in Canada, closely followed by Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.



## Atlantic Canada taxes

In their conclusion, the authors wrote, "The data presented show that the four Atlantic Canadian provinces generally impose higher effective personal income-tax rates than the Canadian average across various high-income thresholds and across various family types, including unattached individuals, couples with

no children, couples with one child, and couples with two children.

"In other words, Atlantic Canada's personal income-tax burden is consistently above average for Canadians earning high incomes. The region also generally has, along with Quebec, the lowest share of Canadians earning above \$100,000 compared to Central and, particularly, Western Canada."

# Images of the future Sainte-Thérèse arena unveiled

**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The City of Sainte-Thérèse presented the first conceptual images of its future arena, which will be built on the grounds of Collège Lionel-Groulx on Saint-Louis Street. As the planning stage for the project draws to a close, ground-breaking should take place in the fall.

Over the past few months, the engineering firm FNX-INNOV inc. and the firm TLA Architectes inc., established the plans and specifications for the new arena, in order to propose a building that meets the various criteria established by the City. Thus, the public call for tenders will be launched in the spring for the completion of the work.

## A contemporary and sustainable arena

The most recent sketches, produced by TLA Architectes Inc., show a building with a modern and uncluttered look, highlighting wooden elements. The use of this material gives a warm and welcoming atmosphere. On the other hand, the abundant fenestration on the facade leaves room for natural light, contributing to the comfort of users.

In terms of amenities, it is an infrastructure with one mirror and six locker rooms, including bleachers that can accommodate 336 people, as well as an entrance hall and various administrative, functional, and technical rooms.

"It was in 1950 that the construction of the first arena was launched at this location by the Séminaire de Sainte-Thérèse. For nearly 70 years, tens of thousands of Teresians practiced



their favorite sport there. Today, I am proud to present a new arena with lovely lines which, moreover, blends perfectly into its environment thanks to an interior stone wall reminiscent of that of Lionel-Groulx College," said the mayor of the city of Sainte-Thérèse, Mr. Christian Charron.

The new arena had to meet several objectives, in particular:

- The design of equipment to save energy.
- Researching best practices, greenhouse gas mitigation measures and energy efficiency measures.
- Universal access to the building.
- Use of it twelve months a year.

## Financial assistance

This project is made possible thanks to financial assistance obtained under the financial assistance program for recreational and sports infrastructures (PAFIRS). The maximum financial assistance is equivalent to 66.66% of eligible costs, or up to \$12,716,435, of which \$6,358,217.50 come from the Government of Quebec and \$6,358,217.50 from the Government of Canada.

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# OPINION & Editorial

## THAT'S WHAT I'M THINKING

Robert Vairo



## Inflation in Canada is 15%, not 5.7%

**L**ike many of you, I enjoy my espresso coffee, and it would be very difficult for me to switch to tea, as some of you are doing. But on a recent shopping trip to my favourite Italian grocery store (or what use to be my favourite), the price of my espresso was jacked up. Are you sitting down? The same pack increased by 60%. I honestly believed it to be a mistake. I contacted management and yes indeed, the supplier had increased their price. This resulted in the store itself is experiencing escalating costs, and all these spiraling expenses were simply passed on to the consumer.

We are told inflation is up to 5.7%. Who actually believes that? From gas to coffee, I have not seen any item on any shelf in any store up by a mere 5.7%. Accountants deal with and are mostly buried in numbers, so I would have to consider them experts in this area. When a forensic accountant told me the real inflation in Canada is at least 15%, that seemed much more realistic. We are told the principal reason for this outrageous escalation in the price of goods is due to the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. Yes, partly. It's true that 25% of world wheat exports and 16% of corn exports come from the two countries combined. At this time, the exports of those commodities have virtually come to a halt. There is no denying that. But also keep in mind the pandemic caused manufacturers to cut back on production and reduce, if not eliminate inventory. There is a shortage of people who want to work five days a week. A major factor lies in Ottawa and Washington's blow to the oil and gas industry. Drillers and transporters were cut off at the knees in Canada and the US by shutting down proposed pipelines, and any potential infrastructure that would have eliminated today's unrealistic ballistic price at the pumps. This was a colossal error committed by the green left movement, and we are paying for it.

In addition, there has recently been Canadian government spending the likes of which no generation has ever seen. So many were seeing their bank accounts swell by government deposits far exceeding what they normally earned. So all these factors have led to historically high prices. And then the needless Russian war happened. It reduced raw materials to the world, and disrupted oil and gas distribution in Europe, where they are now paying four times more to heat with natural gas. It is an understatement to say that these have not been the best three years of our lives.

These unconscionable increases in price are not only about supply chain factors, higher wages, and other pandemic related issues. These soaring prices are also about price gouging and corporate greed. The stock market is where the real numbers surface. No corporation is suffering. In fact,

many are brazenly boasting to shareholders that they are increasing prices, simply because they can.

In Canada, only some media and Conservatives inside and outside the House of Commons are shining a light on these outrageous prices, with leadership contestants Poilievre, Charest, and interim leader Candice Bergen leading the charge. In the US, some Congressmen have introduced the **COVID-19 Price Gouging Prevention Act**. It would give the Federal Trade Commission the ability to "seek civil penalties from companies that raise prices to unconscionably excessive levels". Although it's uncertain as to who is listening, or what results these actions could bring, but at least there are some courageous politicians making the effort to bring awareness to this unaffordable consumer dilemma.

## NOTES

The Russians are not so far away. They are at our border in the Arctic. Canada had better prepare for incursion if not assimilation of our Arctic property. And they are just a few miles from Alaska, the US border. Russia has already planted its flag at the North Pole.

If Québec refuses to allow a Canadian gas pipeline through its territory, willing Manitoba, the center of Canada is perhaps a better alternative and quicker route to Europe and Indo-Asia. Churchill, Manitoba is the solution to export our energy. It sits on Hudson Bay and according to Conservative Peter McKay, has the "potential to be a gateway to world markets." Unfortunately, it's not going to happen with the NDP in power in Canada, and the likes of Enviro Minister Steven Guilbeault who "rather than unify and invest in Canada, spends time virtue signalling."

How is it that while our allies are desperate, in fact rationing energy, the Canadian government is acting totally disconnected by using climate change to hobble if not destroy our number one industry, energy. It's a gift to Russia, Venezuela and the rest of the oil producing dictatorial nations. And it also means that more countries will increase the burning of the real polluter, coal. Eliminating fossil fuels is not an automatic entry to the green world.

Leger survey says Canadians overwhelmingly want vandals to leave John A. McDonald statues alone. No one learns from history by cancelling it.

That's what I'm Thinking

Robert Vairo

[robert@newsfirst.ca](mailto:robert@newsfirst.ca)



## #NewsMatters:

The National  
Assembly Report

By Raquel Fletcher

## Sixth wave of pandemic runs rampant in National Assembly Premier, MNAs, employees, QCNA columnist all have COVID

### Uptick in cases expected

The uptick in cases is in part, to be expected, after Quebec relaxed most of its public health restrictions earlier this month. The explosion of new cases has led to an increase in hospitalizations and admissions to intensive care, but nothing like what we have seen during past waves. For this reason, the health minister maintains that public health measures will not be reintroduced.

"It's true we're concerned about the increase in the cases and hospitalizations, but, at the same time, I'll remind you that it was foreseen," health minister Christian Dubé told reporters last Thursday. "What changes things a little bit – but again, I repeat, it was foreseen – is the rapid increase of the BA.2 variant in proportion to Omicron, which has in the last several days, exceeded 50 per cent."

Dubé insisted he is not concerned about hospital capacity, even in the regions, where this latest variant seems to be hitting the hardest. What this wave does seem to threaten is what many reporters have pointed out this past week: the National Assembly's ability to pass important legislation before the end of the session because

committee work is being held up due to the absence of so many MNAs.

### \$8.9 billion health care overhaul

This includes several pieces of legislation concerning health care, as well as the minister's \$8.9 billion plan to overhaul the health care system. Last Tuesday, Dubé announced the highly anticipated action plan, which includes major investments in home care, limiting mandatory overtime for nurses, improving access to data and the introduction of a single portal that will allow patients who don't have their own family doctor to book an appointment with a GP.

The 50-point plan, which is supposed to be in place by 2025, has been heavily criticized by health care professionals and opposition parties for not being costed, nor specific about targets.

"The fact is, they (the CAQ government) have not fulfilled their promise of 2018 and now they are trying, with a new slogan, with some new catchy lines, some marketing plan to make us believe that now, eureka! They have found the solution," said Québec Solidaire MNA Vincent Marissal.

► Continued on page 5

# Home support in Quebec

*The Health and Welfare Commissioner will examine the performance of home care*

(NEWSFIRST) As the population ages, more and more seniors are looking for home care. This represents part of the major shift towards home care that the government of Quebec announced on March 25<sup>th</sup> that it wants to deal with. The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, and the Minister responsible for Seniors and Caregivers, Marguerite Blais, announced that the Health and Welfare Commissioner (CSBE), Ms. Joanne Castonguay, will analyze the performance of government programs to improve home care and support services.

In a situation where the number of seniors will increase significantly over the next decade and staying at home is the aspiration of the vast majority, the government wishes to pursue the major shift towards home care. In order for the government to make the right choices there is a need for a commissioner whose mandate will be to draw a portrait of the current situation of home care and support services offered in Québec and to document the evolution of future needs in terms of home support. The Commissioner begins her mandate now and will submit her recommendations no later than December 2023, with an interim report in December 2022.

“The pandemic has highlighted significant challenges that we must address quickly to meet the needs of Quebecers and so that we never experience such a situation again. This is why our government wishes to improve its home support offer to allow people who wish



to do so to stay at home, in order to preserve their autonomy as much as possible. I have full confidence in the team of the Health and Welfare Commissioner, as an independent entity, to guide us on what we need to put in place to improve the way we take care of our clientele, especially the elderly.” said Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services

In Quebec, in 2020-2021, 397,702 people received home support services and 72% of them were over 65 years old. This represents a total of 24.4 million hours of services offered in this way. However, for the same period, more than 41,000 people were waiting for home support services.

## Quebec food autonomy gets a boost

(NEWSFIRST) The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr. André Lamontagne, announced the granting of financial assistance totaling \$7.1 million to three organizations involved in the food processing sector. First, the Quebec Food Processing Council (CTAQ) is getting \$750,000 to support its project entitled “Accompaniment and development of food processing business markets”. Second, the Quebec Duck and Goose Breeders Association (AECOQ) is receiving \$366,911 to help it carry out a similar project with companies in the animal protein sectors.

These two projects, with a total value of

approximately \$1.7 million including contributions from all the partners, essentially consist of meeting the needs of small, medium and larger agri-food businesses to support them in the development of their markets. They aim to provide food processing companies with the expertise, guidance and tools to promote and increase the sale of their products on the Quebec market.

This financial assistance is granted under component 2 of the biofood market development program of the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation.

In addition, the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Science/McGill University is granted financial assistance of \$6 million, for the fiscal years 2021-2022 to 2025-2026, to continue the work of the Consortium for Research and of innovation in food processing (RITA Consortium). Created in 2017, the RITA Consortium develops and supports research, innovation and technology transfer activities in all food processing sectors in Quebec. The project, worth \$11.273 million, including contributions from McGill University and those of partners and companies, revolves around the innovation of products and technological processes intended to increase the competitiveness of food companies and to support food self-sufficiency and sustainable food.

“To achieve greater food self-sufficiency, it is important that processing companies unite to participate in collective marketing, research and innovation initiatives. The government is supporting them on this path through various measures, including the Biofood Market Development Program and support for the RITA Consortium. The projects presented by the CTAQ, the AECOQ and the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Science/McGill University will contribute to increasing the supply of food from here on the local market while promoting the economic recovery of the regions.” said Mr. André Lamontagne, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

### ◀ Continued from page 4

One million Quebecers do not have a family doctor, up from 400,000 before the pandemic. The Liberal opposition says the plan does not actually address this main issue.

“The plan should be about having one person able to take care of you,” said Liberal Leader Dominique Anglade. “That one person knows your file, knows your history... and they can ensure a follow-up. And for chronic problems, this is really fundamental.”

### Quebecers deserve health care that works

Many Quebec commentators have pointed out that the population remains cynical about the province's ability to deliver on its promise to rebuild the health care system. Maybe I am just talking as someone who has not left my bed in a week, but after all we've been through these last two years, I'd say we can't give up now.

Quebecers deserve a functional health care system that puts patients first. They need to demand the government make that happen. The pandemic tested all our limits. It claimed thousands of lives. It brought our health network to the brink of collapse. It brought our health providers to the brink of exhaustion. It will all have been for nothing if we don't become stronger as a result.

**The vaccine isn't effective against this,**

**but it's very effective against COVID-19.**

**Québec.ca/COVIDvaccine**

**Vaccination remains the best protection.**

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# Thérèse-de Blainville PD PIVOT agents in training



**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

Traditionally, the police are called upon to intervene during events of a criminal nature. However, an increase in police interventions with so-called vulnerable people is upsetting this reality. To deal with this, the RIPTB has decided to invest in the training of “PIVOT agents” concerning intervention in mental health and with the most vulnerable citizens. Phenomena associated with disturbed mental states affect more than 20% of the population. These have contributed to the increase in police interventions with vulnerable people. Each year, the RIPTB receives a high number of calls concerning situations of crisis, homelessness, ageism, substance dependence, behavioral problems, or family conflicts. In 2015, the organization implemented several measures to equip front-line workers and ensure quality service, adapted to the needs of the vulnerable clientele encountered.

Thanks to their expertise, “Pivot” patrollers,

present on each of the work teams, are designated as a reference during calls involving vulnerable clients. As part of their interventions, the latter promote active listening, analysis of the situation and the establishment of a safety net around the person. The development of strategies aimed at raising awareness of a dysfunction is favored in order, ultimately, to engage the person in a resolving process adapted to their reality. “As part of our mission to protect life, ensure safety and maintain social peace, our police officers must intervene quickly and effectively when a vulnerable person requests an intervention in times of crisis or instability. We must also be able to provide effective intervention and adequate support to all citizens or relatives of a vulnerable person when they witness a person’s disorganization and are concerned for their safety or that of others. With the implementation of our “Pivot agents” and the training of our staff, we are improving our social intervention, and by the same token, we are enabling an effective transition between insecurity and balance for these people” said

Inspector Martin Charron of the Operations Support Division.

## PIVOT agents

Two patrol officers per team have been assigned the role of Pivot agent, perfected in intervention with vulnerable people. Their intervention strategies take the form, among other things, of active listening, analyzing the situation and setting up a safety net around the person. Through their actions, the police aim to raise awareness of a dysfunction in order, ultimately, to engage the person in a resolving process adapted to their reality. The pivot agent also informs the patrol officers of the other teams of the situation and the means put in place to help the person in need. If necessary, police officers apply the laws if an offense has been committed as well as if there is a serious and immediate danger for the person or for others. Finally, the Pivot agent writes a report of all of his actions which will then be forwarded to the Prevention and Community Relations section so that a medium-term follow-up can be carried out with the client and the stakeholders involved.

## Effective partnership with community organizations and institutions

“We no longer have to convince people of the need for partnership and collaboration. The police alone cannot fight new types of crime and solve public safety problems. This is why the establishment of strategic partnerships and training is one of the key elements. Our objective is for the Pivot agent to have the mandate to concretely carry out on the ground the existing collaboration agreements between the RIPTB and the partners of the various regional consultation fora. As a front-line worker, he will be able to reach agreements and subsequently, exchange directly with his team, our psychosocial worker, the CISSS social worker assigned to the RIPTB and the agents of the Prevention section who sit on the working committees and who participate in clinical meetings, proposing and implementing agreed solutions.” concluded Martin Charron



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# The Responsible driving sticker: a safe alternative offered to the Village of Sainte-Thérèse

**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The City of Sainte-Thérèse and the Groupement des Entreprises de Sainte-Thérèse (GEST) of the Thérèse-De Blainville Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCITB) are reminding customers of the Village's bars and restaurants of the availability of Responsible Driving stickers whose impaired faculties would make driving a vehicle illegal and dangerous.

Introduced in 2019, these temporary single-use stickers allow motorists who cannot drive their vehicle due to impaired faculties to leave it in one of the municipal parking spaces bounded by Turgeon, Dubois, Saint-Joseph and Blainville West streets. Placed in plain view on the dashboard, the Responsible Driving sticker authorizes the vehicle to be parked in a restricted space during the night and during the day until 6 p.m., on the date indicated on the sticker, without being exposed to the issuance of a ticket.

For her part, Marie-Chantale Desjardins, president of the GEST and owner of the Prohibition Beer Bar, emphasizes the responsibility of customers: "If they are planning a festive evening with us, most of our customers have a designated driver or do not take their car. I am impressed by their awareness. The sticker is mainly offered when a customer had not planned to consume beyond the legal limit for driving," says the instigator of the project. "Nearly 200 stickers have been issued over the



past three years. So that's the same number of people that we may have prevented from driving while impaired. I am very proud that the City of Sainte-Thérèse and the establishments of the Village can offer this responsible alternative," she said.

"With the latest easing of sanitary measures, many customers are starting to visit the bars and restaurants of Sainte-Thérèse again. How nice

to find life again and see the Village come alive! But it is important to remember that several options are available to you when you are unable to drive, and the responsible driving sticker is one of them. I would also like to highlight the collaboration with the GEST in this matter, which allows us to place the safety of citizens and visitors as a priority," added the mayor of the City of Sainte-Thérèse, Mr. Christian Charron.

The sticker is available at participating establishments in the Village:

Brasserie Artisanale Le Saint-Graal, Hôtel Blainville, Cha Cha, Maison François, Restaurant Campagna, Deux, Prohibition Bar à bières, Arousse, Le Monte Cristo, L'Atelier Sushi, Le Cabaret BMO Sainte-Thérèse, Arousse, L'Atelier Sushi and Le Cabaret BMO Sainte-Thérèse



**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

For those readers of North Shore news whose list of favorite sports includes running the city has got you covered.

You can join other enthusiasts at Lorraine Park on Saturday, April 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., wearing your sneakers. Your love for the sport will be further energized by paralympic athlete Guillaume Ouellet who will be on hand at 10 a.m. to give a talk and share his passion for running. There will also be group training, the presentation of a five-week training program and a draw for a gift card. On the sidelines of Courir Lorraine, citizens are also invited to participate in the 10,000 km Challenge, which consists of accumulating together as many kilo-

meters covered by walking, cycling or running in the streets of Lorraine, during the month of May.

If you are a member of an organization, company, sports team or school, or you want to support a cause that is close to your heart you can take up the Team Challenge as a group and come run or walk 5 km for your team project or for your cause. Each team of six participants will have the chance to win the Uniprix Gaétan Couillard scholarship worth \$500.

"Members of the municipal council and I encourage people to participate in Courir Lorraine and related activities. This event is always a big party, in addition to giving the opportunity to move solo, with family and friends, while enjoying the great outdoors. We cross our fingers that the good weather will be there and we are waiting for you! », said the mayor of Lorraine, Mr. Jean Comtois.

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## Method Of Operation

**Q** I am having a problem in paradise. First of all, I am 22, he is 31. We have known each other for a little over a month.

At first, he was more affectionate than I was. He felt a little upset I wasn't moving as fast as he was affectionately. Not that he was trying to be sexual, he just wanted cuddling, hugging, and kissing.

For some reason he thought we were "two different people." He was unsure whether we should even talk anymore. I didn't see that! We had a long debate, and everything was good after that.

Last Thursday he came to my birthday party, and everyone thought he was very attentive. I sat on his lap, we held hands and hugged a lot. He brought me a bottle of merlot wine, burned a CD with my favorite songs on it, and gave me a card.

In the past he told me I am special, and it would be a loss if I wasn't in his life. After the party I emailed him a thank you. I called Saturday afternoon to see if he wanted to go dancing and left a message on his answering machine. He didn't call back, so I assumed he was busy. No big deal.

Next day I called again. He said he had plans all day. I asked if he wanted to do something later, but he said he was starting a new job on Monday. I've called or emailed four times since.

Maybe I'm being paranoid, but I've gotten no return call, no email, no nothing. My friends and I can't figure out what's going on in his head.

I'm trying to think of the best way humanly possible to handle this situation delicately. I don't want to lose him, and I sure don't want to give up easily.

Elise

**A** Elise, you want a delicate solution. I can give you the solution, but it lacks delicacy.

In your mind your boyfriend wasn't trying to be sexual, but cuddling, hugging, and kissing are the prelude to something more. He didn't get what he wanted. Then he withdrew, perhaps as a way of moving you along. Along the way he decided he was done with you.

Bill Clinton gave Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass" to Hillary while they were courting. He also gave the same book to Monica Lewinsky. Who knows how many other women received the same treatment. It was just his method of operation.

A bottle of merlot, a CD, and a note may well be just part of your ex-boyfriend's modus operandi. He does it by rote. It doesn't mean anything. What has meaning is the way he is treating you.

Pursuing him makes you vulnerable, and opens the possibility he might try to use you for his own ends. He's a player. Don't play unless you want to be hurt.

Wayne & Tamara

## No Shortcut

**Q** My daughter is the single mother of two children. I know this sounds harsh, but it has gotten to the point where her father and I are estranged from her. Basically we want a "divorce" from her and would like visitation with our grandchildren. Is this possible?

Betty

**A** Betty, focus on your daughter, not on your grandchildren. Your relationship to those kids is through her. If someone tried to circumvent you to get to your children, imagine how you would react.

If there is a way to help your daughter, or even placate her, that is more likely to be productive than legal remedies. Getting between a mother bear and her cubs can raise the amount of discord to a level beyond what you can now imagine.

There's one major problem with giving grandparents legal access to their grandchildren. People who inflicted verbal, physical, and sexual abuse on their children are then given access to inflict trauma on yet another generation.

Wayne & Tamara

Wayne & Tamara Mitchell are the authors of YOUR OTHER HALF ([www.yourotherhalf.com](http://www.yourotherhalf.com))  
Send letters to: Direct Answers, PO 964 Springfield, MO 65801-0964 or email: [DirectAnswers@WayneAndTamara.com](mailto:DirectAnswers@WayneAndTamara.com)

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# Removing the victims of the emerald ash borers

*Rosemère to cut down dead ash trees in Charbonneau Park*

**MARIA DIAMANTIS**  
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
 For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The Town of Rosemère wishes to inform the public that ash trees will be cut down in Charbonneau Park starting April 4. More specifically, the purpose of this work is to cut down ash trees that are dead or that present a safety hazard to residents.

The work will be carried out over a two-week period and will be concentrated mainly in the waterfront area of the park. "Over the next few months, the Town will also begin work to redevelop the shoreline of Charbonneau Park. These operations will involve planting a variety of trees, shrubs and plants that are suitable to the environment and necessary for the protection and restoration of this ecosystem of great ecological value," explained Mayor Eric Westram. "By cutting down the ash trees, we will be able to make the site safer and plant the greenery needed to protect this biodiversity-rich environment."

As it may be recalled, emerald ash borers were detected on Rosemère territory in 2014 and they continue to proliferate. In 2017, the Town therefore implemented an integrated action plan against emerald ash borers, which includes the planting of replacement trees on public property. It also encourages residents to pay special attention to trees on their private property, by identifying EAB-related symptoms and acting accordingly.

## The emerald ash borer

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is one of hundreds of beetles belonging to the Buprestidae family. Although some of these "jewel" beetles are native to Quebec, the EAB is an invasive pest from Asia. Its presence was first confirmed in Rosemère in 2014. By the following year, specimens were found in most of the EAB traps set by the Town. Their population has spread quickly throughout the area and is killing a growing number of ash trees with each successive year. The EAB poses a serious threat to Rosemère's urban forest, which contains over 10,000 ash trees, approximately 1,800 of which are located along our streets and in our parks, with the remaining 6,000 to 8,000

found on private property. This does not include the ash tree population in the wooded areas in our community. Natural Resources Canada figures put the mortality rate of EAB-infested trees at 98% within five years of initial detection in the surrounding area. It is therefore very important to do everything we can to protect the remaining tree canopy.

## Support for managing ash trees on private property

To support their efforts to manage their ash trees and take action to preserve our urban forest, the city of Rosemère has adopted a Policy on the Replacement and Treatment of Private Ash Trees. The policy takes a three-pronged approach: Treat – Plant – Cut Down. The aim of this approach is to slow and control the spread of EAB.

## Treat

Rosemerites can curb the spread of EAB using a low-impact insecticide known as TreeAzin®. The current treatment recommendation is to apply TreeAzin two years in a row, take a break the third year, and resume on year four. Financial assistance from the Town is available to property owners to treat their trees. However, since the infestation in Rosemère is at an advanced stage, very few untreated trees qualify under this program. It applies mostly to trees that have been treated over the past few years and are still healthy.

## Plant

Residents are encouraged to replant new types of trees to diversify the urban forest. Potted trees are distributed twice a year, and a grant toward the purchase of new trees is available to help residents meet their replanting obligations.

## Cutting trees

If residents have any diseased ash trees on their property, they are responsible for having them felled. A permit is required and can be obtained from the city free of charge. The city advises the residents not to wait until they become a hazard to remove them. Town by-laws stipulate that ash trees in declining health must be cut down in a timely manner for safety reasons. Rosemère has also scheduled extra branch pickup dates between April and November to make it easier for you to dispose of felled trees.



Photo provided by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



# HOROSCOPE

Week of **APRIL 10 TO 16, 2022**

The luckiest signs this week:  
**SCORPIO, SAGITTARIUS AND CAPRICORN**



## ARIES

At work, you'll have to handle many emergencies and unsatisfied customers. Fortunately, you'll have a positive outlook and easily diffuse any tense situations.



## TAURUS

You'll accomplish a brilliant feat. You'll be applauded for your actions and placed on a pedestal. You may also save someone from a disaster.



## GEMINI

If you live with other family members, you may get into a disagreement. Establish and explain the rules of the house to keep the peace.



## CANCER

You'll speak your mind and verbally express what others are thinking. Your new phone will take some getting used to and may be more difficult to use than your old one.



## LEO

Make certain to look over your invoices and receipts to ensure there aren't any errors. If there are, you'll be able to prove there was a mistake and get your money back.



## VIRGO

Patience may not be your greatest virtue over the next few days. Your financial situation will improve over time. Sit back, and let things sort themselves out.



## LIBRA

You'll feel very tired and need to rest. You'll have a revelation that allows you to reach your professional goals.



## SCORPIO

You'll organize fun activities for a group. Stress may wear you down, and you'll need to take time to rest before the end of the week to keep your spirits up.



## SAGITTARIUS

Much to your surprise, you'll fill in for your boss this week because they're suddenly absent from work. Trust yourself, and demonstrate your great leadership skills.



## CAPRICORN

When dealing with a foreign client, you may worry about speaking in another language. Don't worry, you'll surpass your own expectations. You may also participate in a short training course to become more fluent.



## AQUARIUS

If you're considering a career change, you may decide to go back to school. Your patience and determination will get you out of a precarious financial situation.



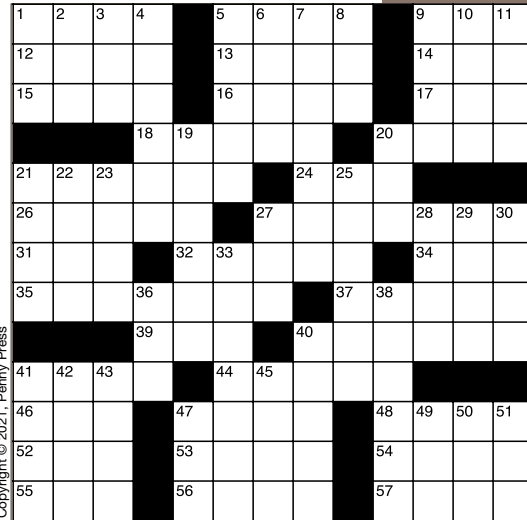
## PISCES

You're not the kind of person that hesitates when faced with an important decision. However, this time you need to weigh the pros and cons. You'll be given new information at the last minute.

# Coffee Break

## CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 119



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### ACROSS

1. President's \_\_\_\_ Office
5. Hunger
9. Felon's flight
12. Italian money, once
13. Drive away
14. Hatchet
15. River barriers
16. Period preceding Easter
17. Scramble (for)
18. Haste
20. Final
21. Jacket features
24. Certain poem
26. In flames
27. Former: hypn.
31. Kind of music
32. South American range
34. Uncooked
35. Clad
37. Cream of the crop
39. Pod dweller
40. Springs up

### DOWN

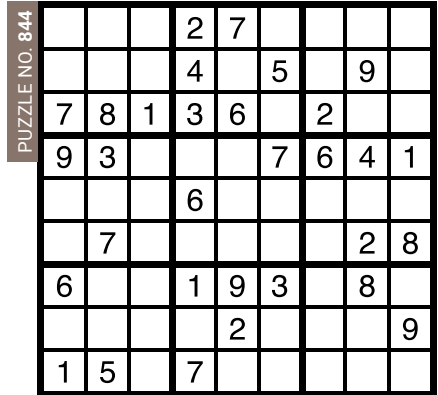
1. Out-of-date
2. Passing through
3. Limb
4. Lower
5. The British \_\_\_\_
6. Biblical pronoun
7. Pardon
8. Spicy
9. Molten flow
10. Center of rotation
11. Tournament
19. Satisfy
20. Gave permission to
21. Fat
22. Long way off
23. Duct
25. Dry wilderness
27. Peculiar
28. Pupil site
29. Ship's officer
30. Female sheep
33. Least distant
36. Health haven
38. Pay attention
40. Mad
41. Window glass
42. Worshiped object
43. School session
45. Section
47. Public vehicle
49. Ripen, as cheese
50. Pull or haul
51. Wild donkey

# Sudoku

### HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: **You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.**



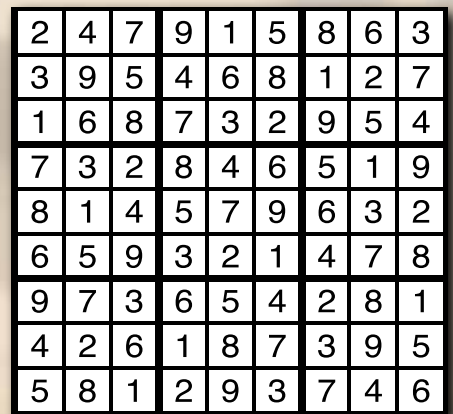
PUZZLE NO. 844

### Last Issues' Answers

## CROSSWORDS



## Sudoku



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