

alth services, I  
unty City Health  
a part to play  
cherished and  
rents want the  
mes though, life  
for them to be  
hat they would  
se our voice to  
e many services  
e to those who  
orts.  
t has a major  
eing of our  
hapes and sizes.  
ng has been  
our children.  
ildren achieve  
control they

plex" task:  
olutions. Each  
ren, mine  
enting experts'  
our sleeves,  
P" approach  
r parents. Triple  
' understanding  
's behaviour, and  
nent. Health  
on how to use  
our Family  
receive indi-  
ce. Parents may  
eld in various  
which are  
Peterborough  
Child and  
ple P for fami-  
years of age.  
t parent has  
ack of adequate  
cohol misuse,  
mily Health  
parents identify  
ies Healthy  
renatal women  
ildren up to  
or a public  
tor to visit in  
stablish per-  
with commu-  
stra supports  
other Health  
Development  
elp parents  
ratively with  
assist their spe-  
nd infant. The  
ogram provides  
snacks, and  
r parents of  
e. Discussion  
's topics of

raise a child!  
r of health for  
ity.



DOUGLHAN  
writer @doughan

BATTLEGROUND NOVA SCOTIA ENDS TONIGHT  
LIVE RESULTS TONIGHT 7 ET  
SUN NEWS

EXAMINER OCT 8 '13

## POINT OF VIEW

# Vital community, aging or not

**A** report that shows people in Peterborough feel more sense of community than the provincial norm also contains some interesting facts about the make-up of the city and county — positive and negative.

Vital Signs, one of 26 similar reviews of the state of being in Ontario municipalities, used a local survey and data from Statistics Canada and local social agencies to determine a number of facts — including that 74.5% of city and county residents feel a strong sense of community belonging. The provincial average was 63%.

The stats on aging and where it is happening are an eye-opener.

For the past several years the city and immediate four townships have bobbed up and down as the number one or number two "oldest" comparable community in Canada. The comparison is to other centres with 100,000 people or more.

A fair bit of angst has developed around those numbers, much of it misplaced.

The difference between "old" and "less old" communities is small. One or two percentage points between communities at the top of the list translates to 1,000 extra seniors out of a population of 115,000. And many of those seniors are in

perfectly good health.

Look a little deeper, as the Vital Signs report does, and another interesting fact emerges. Since 2001, the proportion of seniors in the City of Peterborough had been going down. Only in the county has it increased.

In the city the fastest growing age group is those between 25 and 34 years of age.

Many of the seniors who add to the county's population would be recent retirees attracted by cottage country lifestyle. They are not all hanging on, waiting for a hospital or nursing home bed, as those who warn about the impacts of an aging population might imagine.

One concern that comes out of the report is not new but is still . . . concerning. This area does not do as well economically as similar sized cities across Ontario. Average incomes are lower and the jobless rate is generally higher.

While the numbers are, again, not substantially different than in other cities, they mean some of that growing group of 25- to 34-year-olds could have a tougher time finding work.

Or not. Continued growth of that group suggests they are staying. It can't all be for the sense of community spirit.

Gates Founda  
Rice Research  
who develop  
millions of chi  
rice is a staple  
and dying due  
tems.

Greenpeace  
Golden Rice fr  
mental, practi  
argues the real  
supply people  
teach them to  
dismisses Golt  
food that will  
the biotech in

Moore left G  
when, he says,  
mental organ;  
logues who we  
anti-developm  
humanity as "s

Greenpeace  
world's poor ar  
tation, that Mo  
sector — he no  
consultant — a  
role in Greenp

But Moore is  
ronmentalists  
movement bec  
human."

James Lovelc  
that considers  
organism, has  
talists for their  
DDT in Africa t

Lovelock agr  
overused by ag  
but broke with  
the Third World  
millions of lives  
the quality of lif  
living in malar

In his book, 2  
describes the er  
DDT and simila  
informed act dr  
First World.

The inhabitar  
paid a high pric  
of their inability  
troller of malar

What these ar  
remind us is tha  
complex proble

The world car  
hats" who want  
hats" who want  
virtually every le  
ing campaign th

Stop the devel  
name of opposit  
and you may coi  
and early death.  
name of protecti  
may condemn r

Indeed, if we t  
than critically, al  
become the pur  
destruction we s

lorrie.goldstein@