

# Labour gap

Restaurants hit hard by cuts to immigration programs B1

# Team builder

Canada turns to proven coach for world juniors reset S1



PROUDLY CANADIAN OWNED SINCE 1892

# TORONTO STAR

WEATHER HIGH -2 C | SNOW | MAP A16 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2025

## Delivering holiday cheer

Anonymous donor's Christmas gifts brighten spirits at Scott Mission A6



Clothing and other gifts from a mystery donor were handed out from a U-Haul near the Scott Mission on Thursday.

ARLYN MCADOREY/TORONTO STAR

## Raids in Mexico linked to Canadian fugitive

Former Olympian wanted by U.S. on drug trafficking, murder charges

FRÉDÉRIK PLANTE  
STAFF REPORTER

Mexican authorities announced the seizure of dozens of high-end motorcycles, Olympic medals, drugs and ammunition in a series of raids that appear linked to the manhunt for Ryan Wedding, the former Canadian Olympic snowboarder now accused of running a vast international drug operation.

Law enforcement did not name Wedding, 44, but described the target as “a former Olympic athlete who is among the 10 most wanted fugitives by U.S. authorities.” Mexican news outlets have identified Wedding as connected to the raids.

In a news release Wednesday, Mexico’s Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection said four homes were searched in Mexico City and the nearby state of Mexico, where officers found methamphetamine, marijuana, 62 high-end motorcycles, two other vehicles, artwork, two Olympic medals, ammunition and various documents.

It is unclear to whom the medals belong, as Wedding placed 24th in men’s parallel giant slalom when he represented Canada at the 2002 Winter Olympics. He was added to the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation’s most wanted fugitives list in March.

SEE RAIDS, A5

## City shifts course as market slump threatens co-op development

VICTORIA GIBSON  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING REPORTER  
MAHDIS HABIBINIA  
CITY HALL BUREAU

A multimillion-dollar land sale city hall is banking on to help fund Toronto’s largest new co-op development in decades has been delayed in getting across the finish line.

Toronto is now crafting backup plans to ensure the marquee housing project in Scarborough doesn’t get derailed.

The plot of land that city hall hopes to sell is near Kennedy GO station, where just last month, officials gathered to mark the groundbreaking of 612 new affordable and market-priced co-op homes.

To help fund the co-op, the city had planned to sell off a portion of its land to a private entity with plans to construct condo units.

But a motion at city council last week by Scarborough Centre Coun. Michael Thompson revealed the sale has not progressed as quickly as hoped, stating that “due to current market conditions,” the intended buyer — CW Kennedy LP — was “not in a position to complete the purchase ... in a timely manner.”

SEE HOUSING, A8

Scarborough project emblematic of shakeup in Toronto’s affordable housing strategy

## Panes-takingly preserving the past

Toronto stained-glass artist traded corporate job for delicate craft

DAYSHA LOPPIE  
STAFF REPORTER

If Dylan Ford isn’t careful, a wrong twist of his hand could shatter nearly a century of Toronto history.

Ford restores stained-glass windows — some more than 100 years old — in homes across the city’s west end. After returning to Toronto from a lonely secondment in the

U.S., Ford turned a hobby he learned through YouTube into a business he now calls Sunday Projects.

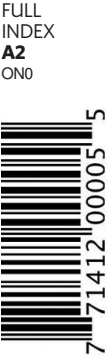
As buildings are torn down across Toronto, he’s joined a small community of stained-glass artists keeping the city’s architectural past alive, pane by pane.

“We take our time. We make things beautiful,” Ford said.

The 27-year-old grew up in London, Ont., and eventually settled in a tall, red-brick home tucked deep in the High Park neighbourhood. Ford’s first sign promoting his business stands on the front lawn.

He often works in a shed behind the house. It’s surrounded by pylons, plywood and tools.

SEE GLASS, A9



## INSIDE Calls for peace



Pope Leo delivers first Christmas message from St. Peter’s A3

Soulpepper CROW/S

TORONTO'S #1 HOLIDAY MUSICAL!

BAD HATS THEATRE'S

# NARNIA

EXTENDED DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND! MUST CLOSE JAN 4

BOOK NOW! | SOULPEPPER.CA | (416) 866-8666 | AGES 6+

“BRINGS MAGIC TO THE STAGE”

TORONTO STAR

Tickets start at \$45 includes FREE Distillery Winter Village admission

★★★★★

CRITIC'S PICK!

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS