

OTTAWA CITIZEN

ESTABLISHED IN 1845



YOUNG GUN, OLD COURSE

Rory McIlroy, 21, ties lowest round in major championship history **SPORTS, B1**



IT'S TOXIC, BUT 'COOL'

'Jurassic Park' hogweed in Ottawa yard for 25 years **CITY, C1**

Federal buying policy raises alarm

Government unwittingly helping to create monopolies, procurement ombudsman says

BY KATHRYN MAY

Fewer and fewer companies are getting federal government contracts because of a policy requiring departments to use standing offers to buy many of the goods and ser-

vices they use the most, according to the government's procurement ombudsman.

That means the government could be "inadvertently" helping to create monopolies by giving the right of first refusal to firms that top

the list of winning bidders for its mandatory standing offers.

Procurement ombudsman Shahid Minto said market dominance by few firms may be an "unintended consequence" of the government's 2005 decision to make stand-

ing offers mandatory for the routine goods and services bought by government.

"The government has inadvertently created the conditions (for monopoly)," he said. "It's not what the government intended to do and that's why

we think a review would be beneficial to see what the impacts are, including the unintended effects," said Minto.

The ombudsman recently released a study on the government's use of standing offers and supply arrangements

that showed the government doesn't have a complete handle on how they are working.

See **BUYING** on **PAGE A6**

Contracts: Consultant repays \$303,737 following audit, **A3**

Osgoode rallies around family of missing Mountie

Search under way along Yukon river

BY NICKI THOMAS AND BRADLEY BOUZANE

A village south of Ottawa is rallying around the family of an RCMP officer who went missing this week when his police boat capsized in a Yukon river.

Const. Michael Potvin's family travelled from Osgoode, about 40 kilometres south of Ottawa, to Mayo, a small town 400 kilometres north of Whitehorse, to be present for the search and to support his pregnant wife. Potvin, 26, and his wife are expecting their first child.

The family is well known in Osgoode, where the officer's father, Mark Potvin, and younger brother, Sean Potvin, are volunteer firefighters.

Paul Hutt, sector chief for Ottawa Fire Services' rural division, said he visited Mark and Patty Potvin Wednesday morning before they set off for the Yukon with Sean.

"They're certainly very upset," he said. "I couldn't even imagine what they're going through right now."

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RCMP PHOTO

Const. Michael Potvin was travelling in a police boat on a Yukon river on Tuesday when it capsized.

EVICITION NOTICE TURNS COTTAGE LIFE UPSIDE DOWN ON MISSISSIPPI LAKE



JANA CHYTILOVA, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

Roger and Carmen Doyle spent \$170,000 to convert their Mississippi Lake cottage into a four-season home for their retirement. 'I really don't think I can do this,' Carmen says of following through with their eviction order.

Losing paradise

A group of cottagers on Mississippi Lake have been told they have until next September to get off land they've been leasing for years. The homeowners are devastated by the thought they have to leave their pieces of paradise behind. 'It's rather simple,' says the landowners' lawyer. 'If you rent, that's what happens.' The Citizen's **KRISTY NEASE** reports.

Roger and Carmen Doyle bought their waterfront cottage on Mississippi Lake in 1998 and, after spending a total of \$170,000 to make it livable full-time, had been enjoying retirement at the home since.

The home they own outright, but

it sits on land owned by someone else.

In late May, Roger, 76 and Carmen, 70, were served with an eviction notice from the new owner of the land they've been renting for more than a decade.

The Doyles have one year to pick

up and start again somewhere else. Seven other homeowners on Birch Point Lane in Mississippi Mills are also affected by the eviction.

"I really don't think I can do this," Carmen said at her dinner table, while Roger sifted through documents across from her. "I'm on medication for nerves. Yesterday, I was still taking it for panic attacks. It's not good for me."

"And I don't like to sit here and look at my husband break down, and that's what happens. It's a tough, tough situation for both of us. That's why I say, I don't know how to do this. If I have to do it, I don't know how."

See **EVICITION** on **PAGE A2**

Alzheimer's cases could grow by 15% with new diagnosis

Benefit of guidelines under consideration 'will be in identifying interventions that will lead to a cure'

BY PAULINE TAM

Doctors are likely to soon change the way they diagnose Alzheimer's disease, leading to detection of the illness years before the first signs of memory loss — but also more expensive tests and perhaps anxiety for people diagnosed with the disease who might never show symptoms.

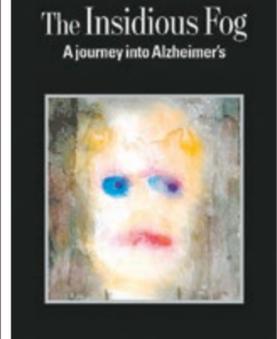
The changes mark the first time in 25 years that the criteria for diagnosing Alzheimer's have been updated.

"It's long overdue," said Anthony Phillips, scientific director of neuroscience, mental health and addiction at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The new diagnostic criteria, presented earlier this week at an international Alzheimer's conference in Hawaii, would mean emerging technologies such as brain scans and spinal taps could be used to detect the disease even when a patient's memory is still intact.

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ONLINE



To read the Citizen's award-winning Alzheimer's series, go to ottawacitizen.com/alzheimers

PUBLISHED BY THE PROPRIETOR
Ottawa Citizen, a division of Postmedia Network Inc., 1101 Baxter Road, Box 5020 Ottawa, Ont. K2C 3M4



\$1.19 plus applicable taxes at retail

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TODAY'S WEATHER
Variable clouds.
High 28, low 20.
Sunrise: 5:30 a.m.
Sunset: 8:46 p.m.
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