

ST. THOMAS/ELGIN WEEKLY NEWS

## **Turn right at the lacy knickers**

Play combines laughs with economic reality

If there was ever a play that strikes close to home, it's 'Knickers: A Brief Comedy,' now playing at the Port Stanley Festival Theatre.

A town's major industry pulls out leaving hundreds out of work (remind of you anywhere?). Politicians hype tourism as the answer to the problem (remind you of anywhere?). A kitschy roadside statue is erected to attract attention (remind you of anywhere?).

The play may be set in Elliston Falls in Northern Ontario, but you could substitute Elgin County without a problem. And even though politicians, red tape and the inhabitants themselves create obstacles to the town's recovery (remind you of anywhere?), a group of enthusiastic women inspire the community to pull together and turn things around. Maybe there's hope for us too.

But doom and gloom aside, this is a comedy played for laughs to the hilt.

Written by Sarah Quick and directed by Simon Joynes, the PSFT production has a great set by Eric Bunnell and the talents of four superb actors: Susan Johnston Collins, Liz Gilroy, Danielle Nicole and Martha Zimmerman.

**The play has the delicious gossipy attitude of 'The Women,' the outrageous money-making scenario of 'Calendar Girls,' and the hilarious climactic finale of 'The Full Monty.'**

Bring a gaggle of girlfriends and enjoy a great night of girl talk with a decidedly Canadian slant.