

# Merry Christmas!

from  
**Kyle Seeback, M.P.**  
**Dufferin-Caledon**



Kyle and his volunteers participate in the 2021 Orangeville Santa Claus Parade (November 13, 2021).

## A Message from Kyle:

### *It's Christmastime in Dufferin-Caledon!*

You can already feel the tremendous Christmas spirit everywhere you go. It's my favourite time of the year and not just because of the beautiful lights and decorations or the lovely, festive music. It's my favourite time of the year because it's the season of peace, joy, and goodwill. The season brings out the best in everyone, as we share in the hope and optimism this magical season brings this time each year. It's an opportunity to catch up with family and friends and to remember those who are no longer with us. We fondly reflect back on the beautiful Christmas memories we made with them and the lasting happiness they brought and continue to bring to our lives.

It's also my favourite time of the year because it's the season of giving. Few holidays compare to the generosity that's witnessed at Christmas. When we spread joy, we receive joy back. As we look forward to spending time with loved ones again this Christmas, it's important to remember those who are less fortunate and needing a little extra help. Dufferin-Caledon is known for its generous heart and supporting each other. Let's ensure everyone may have a Christmas to remember!

I encourage anyone who has the means to do so to make a contribution to any of the many outstanding local charities and community groups we're so fortunate to have in Dufferin-Caledon. They work incredibly hard year round to ensure the needs of our community are always met.

*From my family to yours, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy 2022!*

Sincerely,  
Kyle Seeback, M.P. Dufferin-Caledon



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**Website: [www.kyleseeback.ca](http://www.kyleseeback.ca)**  
**E-mail: [kyle.seeback@parl.gc.ca](mailto:kyle.seeback@parl.gc.ca)**

## SOME OF THE AMAZING CHARITIES & COMMUNITY GROUPS IN DUFFERIN-CALEDON

Here's just a few of the exceptional charities and community groups serving Dufferin-Caledon. If you're able to make even a small contribution this Christmas season, it can help ensure critical services are delivered in our community.

Caledon Community Services & The Exchange

Salvation Army New Hope Community Church

Shepherd's Cupboards Food Bank

Orangeville Food Bank

Family Transition Place

Caledon Animal Shelter

Headwaters Health Care Foundation

Hospice Dufferin

Bethell Hospice

Caledon Meals on Wheels

Choices Youth Shelter

Community Living Dufferin

Ontario SPCA

Orangeville & District Animal Centre



## HOLIDAY EVENTS IN DUFFERIN-CALEDON

### Nov. 10 – Jan. 2 - ARTFUL GIVING SHOW

Alton Mill Arts Centre



1402 Queen Street West, Village of Alton  
Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Dec. 1 – 12 HOLIDAY TREASURES ARTS & CRAFTS SALE

Museum of Dufferin

936029 Airport Road, Mulmur

Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

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### Dec. 1 – 23 CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH THEATRE ORANGEVILLE

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### Dec. 3 – 31 CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

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**PARTY LIKE IT'S 1821** - Volunteers dressed up in Victorian Era clothes for the night as Bolton community groups put on the Ye Olde Tyme Christmas event, a celebration of Bolton's bicentennial. Along with the Christmas tree lighting, there were photos with Santa, carollers, and a market with 60 vendors. For more, see Page 6. **PHOTO BY ROB PAUL**

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## Waste collection strike to impact majority of Caledon

**BY ROB PAUL**

Due to a labour dispute between Emterra Environmental—one of Peel's waste collection contractors—and its employees, some residents in Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga will experience temporary changes to their curbside waste pickup.

The service disruption could impact more than 150,000 households.

The disruptions began Monday, December 6, with no clear end date.

On Monday morning, after voting against

management's most recent offer, upwards of 175 Emterra Environmental workers left the job.

LiUNA Local 183, who represents the waste collectors, is calling on Emterra to immediately come to the bargaining table with the same terms of employment offered by the Region's other waste management firm.

"Our members are very proud to serve their communities and apologize for any impact that this may have on Peel Residents," said Jack Oliveira, LiUNA Local

183 Business Manager. "We were forced to take these measures after Emterra has refused to provide fair and equitable compensation for all of its workers. Our members continued to provide an essential service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It is simply not fair for two workers with the same duties to have such a disparity in wages. Our members want to get back to work serving Peel residents, but Emterra has to come to the table with a fair offer for our members."

Continued on Page 7

*Did you Floss?*



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**As Town moves towards fireworks ban, CNFA says that won't solve the problem**

**BY ROB PAUL**

Last week, Caledon Town Council passed a motion to accept the recommendation of a staff report regarding fireworks. Though no by-law was attached to the staff report, this could pave the way for firework use being banned in Caledon in 2022.

In early 2022, it's expected that Council, with input from residents, will craft and pass a by-law that would effectively

make the use of fireworks in Caledon illegal. Exceptions would be made for events and theatrical pyrotechnics but would need to be selected for approval by the Town.

The potential banning of fireworks stems from complaints of firework usage at late hours, danger as result of safety protocols not being followed, damaged property, and the negative impact on the environment.

Continued on Page 5

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**TOWN OF CALEDON**

**TOWN NEWS** See Page 7

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# Six-year-old Caledon girl seizure-free thanks to medical cannabis

## Changed the way Neurology Centre of Toronto's medical director views medicine

BY ROB PAUL

Right around her second birthday, Quinn, from Caledon, began experiencing debilitating seizures. Now, six years old, she has been seizure-free for over a year after being treated with medical cannabis.

Approximately four years ago, Quinn and her mother, Carrie, were referred to Dr. Evan Cole Lewis, Medical Director, Neurology Centre of Toronto and Chief Medical Advisor, JMCC Group, a specialist in paediatric and adult epilepsy.

Quinn was diagnosed with epilepsy by Dr. Lewis and prescribed a standard anti-seizure drug.

During Quinn's first year of treatment, Dr. Lewis tried several standard medications, none of which stopped Quinn's seizures.

Approximately one in every 100 Canadians has epilepsy and one third of people with epilepsy will continue to have seizures despite taking anti-seizure drugs and approximately 42,000 children/youth in Canada are living with epilepsy.

When a child is experiencing the frequent epileptic seizures that Quinn was, Dr. Lewis says it can quickly lead down a path that stunts development and leads to long-term effects beyond the seizures themselves. That was the biggest fear when they weren't seeing the prescribed medication work for her.

"In 2017, when Quinn came to me and we made the diagnosis of epilepsy, we went through the standard treatment with anti-epileptic drugs for her type of epilepsy and it didn't work," said Dr. Lewis. "About 30 per cent of patients have what we call drug-resistant epilepsy and that means you have failed two or more medications. What started to happen with her—we sometimes see this in young kids who develop really bad epilepsy and have ongoing abnormal brain activity—she started to lose her developmental skills. It's called regression, if a child is able to walk, they start to stumble or they can't use their hands as well as they had been, or their language starts to deteriorate; we started to see that with Quinn. It's due to excessive electricity in the brain that doesn't allow the brain to communicate with itself and it starts to lose its skills and prevents a child from learning new skills. That was the real big concern."

Eventually, Carrie broached the subject of

treating Quinn with medical cannabis oil and Dr. Lewis agreed to try it.

"It came out of my own research and before my daughter was diagnosed with epilepsy, I was aware that CBD was being used in the medical world," said Carrie. "I always did have it in the back of my head when she was diagnosed but being new to epilepsy I wanted to follow the guidance of the doctor and I think we just got to the point where we weren't seeing success with the typical AEDs that are prescribed to kids with epilepsy. I didn't view medical marijuana in a negative light, it didn't have a stigma to me, it was an opportunity and a potential way to control seizures, so why not try it?"

Having dabbled in medical cannabis before with patients, Dr. Lewis was well-versed in the topic enough to commit himself to understanding what it could do for a kid like Quinn, which ultimately led to him and Carrie agreeing to go down that path.

"Really it was Carrie who first brought up using cannabis; concurrently, I had been working with cannabis for some patients over the last few years prior to that but had never really gone out and prescribed cannabis to a lot of people," said Dr. Lewis. "For me, it was a bit nerve-racking as well. I didn't have a big sample of patients that I had used it on. Carrie and I had a few conversations about it and she had done a lot of work on it and knew a lot about it at that point. We went through the risks and benefits of starting it at that time and ultimately concluded that the other medications weren't working. Given all the data we knew at that time and that I had explored with my colleagues, we opted to try it for Quinn."

After one week of starting CBD-dominant medical cannabis, Quinn's seizures stopped, and she steadily began to walk normally with no falls—something she hadn't done in nearly two months.

"Obviously we were super emotional making that decision because it wasn't the case where we were able to take her off her other drugs right away, you have to kind of do a slow wean and just doing that and with the addition of CBD, her having the ability to walk—which we hadn't seen for weeks—was an, 'oh, my God' moment and just solidified for us that we made the right decision," Carrie said.

Dr. Lewis and his colleagues realized quite

quickly that medical cannabis was working for Quinn and that it exceeded their expectations with the positive results and ultimately had a greater effect than the regularly prescribed medication for epilepsy.

"There are variations of responders, some patients are robust responders and respond very quickly while some take a lot of time. For Quinn, she responded to this within a couple days," he said. "In terms of reduction of seizures, it happened nearly right away and within one week her seizures stopped completely. Not only that, but her clumsiness and inability to walk normalized and she returned to her normal movements, language, and cognition. Even more so, we tested her EEG before and after cannabis and the EEG—which measures the electro activity—became normal within six weeks of starting cannabis. That's not normal, we don't see that a lot—there's very few epilepsies that you treat with a medication and the EEG comes back normal when it's that bad. That was one of the biggest things because the more your EEG is normal, the better chance you have for your brain to develop properly."

However, Quinn's seizures returned one year later and Dr. Lewis suggested adding THC (or Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) to Quinn's treatment, as THC can work with CBD to stabilize the endocannabinoid system—a system that is believed to play a role in the development and/or exacerbation of some epilepsies.

"She's over a year seizure free and just had her sixth birthday in November," Carrie said. "She's a twin, so when she had the diagnosis, we just wanted to ensure her milestones were on pace with her sister's—that was our baseline. Throughout everything she continued to hit her milestones and her development was never significantly impacted in a long-term way. She's just a regular kid."

Seeing firsthand what medical cannabis can do, Carrie wants people to understand that it's not just the drug it's been stigmatized, as it's so much more, and because of it her daughter is able to live a normal life.

"The stigma is there simply because marijuana is a drug and it's a drug that was historically used to get high recreationally," she said. "There's certain associations people have with marijuana and the negative connotation of getting high, and I think it's a generational

stigma. Now, I think it's more readily acceptable in my generation and younger, especially now that it's been legalized. I think it's the way that it was always portrayed and the association of what a person who smokes marijuana looks like."

Dr. Lewis has treated a couple individuals with medical cannabis, with Quinn being the most prominent in terms of positive results. It's fully changed his outlook on medicine and has led him to committing himself to research in that realm.

"It was a paradigm shift for me," he said. "It has defined my medical career, it's defined where I'm going, and it's completely changed how I've looked at medicine and how I was taught medicine. I'm not exaggerating, there were things leading up to Quinn, but then certainly thereafter and where I am today has to do with my experience with Quinn and what I was privy to in having that opportunity to work with her. It has shifted everything for me."

As for how he sees the stigma, Dr. Lewis doesn't see it going away in his lifetime, but he's hopeful with stories like Quinn's being told, it will lead to a wider acceptance in the medical world because it can have a difference on someone else's life the way it did for her.

"At this point in time, there's certainly a trend towards destigmatization and broader acceptance. I would say that's the case both due to surveys that have been published and my own personal experiences with colleagues," he said. "I don't think we'll ever eliminate the stigma through the next two generations, I think it will take a real change of the guard for this to be completely destigmatized, it's hard to eliminate that when people were born in a culture where this stuff was vilified completely. It's going to take time, but if I were to classify it right now, I'd say there's a relaxed stigmatization. It's still there but there's a relaxation around the stiffness of the stigma and there's a big more openness to it now. You have a greater number of individuals now who are willing to listen rather than shut it out before they've even heard it."

In 2021, Dr. Lewis published a paper in the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences on Quinn's case and four others with pediatric epilepsy who responded to the addition of THC to their regimen of CBD-dominant medical cannabis—all with promising results.

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\*Some restrictions apply. Pictures taken prior to Covid-19.

## Shoebox Project returns for sixth year

The holidays are a time to give back, and with an ongoing housing crisis that has only been worsened by COVID-19, giving back this holiday season is more important than ever. On Monday (Dec. 6) The Shoebox Project announced its partnership with Allstate for the sixth consecutive year, to raise funds and support those affected by the housing crisis – specifically the thousands of Canadian women impacted by homelessness. Continuing its mission to fill shoeboxes with gifts, basic essentials and messages of support for women, this year The Shoebox Project will also be offering "virtual gifts" in the form of donations and gift cards. In fact, for

this week only (Dec 6 - 12), all donations will be matched by Allstate (up to \$25,000), with funds directly going to local chapters including Orangeville and shelters serving Indigenous women in remote regions.

Locally, Family Transition Place, Catholic Family Services Dufferin-Peel, and Salvation Army Family Resource Centre will be receiving the shoeboxes to distribute to women in need.

Those looking to create a virtual shoebox can visit: [shooboxproject.ca/virtual/ca-en/home](https://shooboxproject.ca/virtual/ca-en/home) or if you want to make a physical shoebox and drop off it in person, go to [www.shooboxproject.ca/ways-to-give/make-a-shoobox](https://www.shooboxproject.ca/ways-to-give/make-a-shoobox)

### Public Notice



#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE NO. 2 COLERAINE DRIVE GRADE SEPARATION, SOUTH OF OLD ELLWOOD DRIVE, TOWN OF CALEDON MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY

The Region of Peel is conducting a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for a grade separation of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) on Coleraine Drive in the Town of Caledon (see map). The purpose of the study is to consider grade separation improvements of the CP Rail line on Coleraine Drive, south of Old Ellwood Drive.

The Study is being conducted in compliance with Schedule 'C' of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Municipal Engineers Association, as amended in 2015), which is approved under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE NO. 2

Due to the current COVID-19 guidelines, the Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held in an online format to present the evaluation of alternative design concepts and recommended preliminary design.

To provide your input/comments you can:

- Visit the Project Website from December 16, 2021 to January 21, 2022 to review project details through an interactive PIC portal and provide your feedback online. The PIC is available via the project website at: <https://peelregion.ca/pw/transportation/construction/environmental-assessment/coleraine-drive.asp>

The Project Team will review and consider the feedback received at the PIC and confirm the recommended preliminary design. The next steps of the study include the preparation of an Environmental Study Report (ESR) to document the planning, consultation and design process. At the end of the study, the ESR will be made available for public review for a minimum of 30 calendar days and at that time, a Notice of Completion will also be issued.

If you have any questions or comments on the Study, please contact either of the following Project Team members:

Tareq Mahmood  
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10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite B, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
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The Region of Peel is committed to ensure that all Regional services, programs and facilities are inclusive and accessible for persons with disabilities. Please contact the Project Manager if you need any disability accommodation to participate in the study.

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record

Follow [Peel Public Works on Twitter](https://www.facebook.com/peelpublicworks) for service updates and changes.

This notice was first issued on December 2, 2021

# Drive-by Santa Claus Parade a success for second straight year in Bolton

BY ROB PAUL

Usually on the first Saturday in December, there's upwards of 10,000 people crowding Highway 50 in Bolton as they embrace the holiday cheer of the annual Santa Claus Parade.

In a normal year, the whole community is out, there's bands playing wondrous tunes, and of course, ol' Kris Kringle himself riding atop one of the 50 floats.

This isn't a normal year though, but that didn't stop the Kin Club of Bolton from putting together the Santa Claus Parade, even if it looked a little different.

Due to COVID-19, for the second straight year, Santa Claus visited the homes of Bolton in a convertible as the drive-by parade ran through the community.

It was a 24 kilometre trip for Father Christmas than ran from 11 a.m. just past 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 4. It allowed the kids of Bolton to see Santa Claus, despite the restrictions not allowing for a full-blown parade.

The Santa Claus Parade, whether it be a drive-by or the real thing, is something the Kin Club of Bolton takes pride in bringing to the Town each year because they know how much it means to the community.

"Especially during COVID, it's nice to do something, because there hasn't been much to do," said John Stegeman, Chair of Bolton Kin Santa Claus Parade. "We had a great turnout, and the kids were out there and got to see Santa and in a couple cases some kids dropped off a letter for him. For the little ones, it's the

highlight of the year. That's why we want to do it, it's an important part of the culture of Bolton. It's been around for almost 50 years and anyone that lives in Bolton knows that the first Saturday of December is when Santa comes to Bolton. It's something we really look forward to doing, too, because we know it's important to the kids."

The added difficulties of doing the drive-by parade have been mitigated by the help the Kin Club of Bolton has received from community leaders and organizations, but one of the biggest changes has been the inability to have Santa physically in a float.

"We've been really lucky because the OPP and the Town have helped us tremendously," Stegeman said. "The biggest issue for us is that because we're not closing down road, and it's a share the road permit, we still have to follow the rules of the road. That means, we can't use our official Santa Claus 40-foot float because to use a float on a road where we're sharing it with other vehicles, Santa has to be in a seat belt. So, since we can't use the float, we put him in the back of a convertible.

"The biggest issue is probably that we can't use our official float and people don't understand that we have to follow the rules and we don't make up the rules. This year, we were fortunate because we had the OPP lead the pack and a big firetruck and Santa and our sound system. We've had a lot of help from Dave Campbell with the Town, the Mayor, Councillors Annette Groves and Tony Rosa, and Fines Ford has come through tremendously the last two years with the con-



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIN CLUB OF BOLTON

vertible." Having done the parade since 1973, the Kin Club of Bolton has been able to grow it into the must-see event in Caledon each year, and Stegeman has already begun prepping for what he hopes is a normal parade next year.

"Over that course of time it's gotten bigger and bigger to the point that before COVID we

probably had something in the neighbourhood of 11 or 12 bands and 50 floats," he said. "I've already booked the bands for next year assuming that there's going to be a parade. We will have a parade next year in Bolton if the Region of Peel allows us to close down Highway 50. The last two years we were prepared to do a parade, but because we use Regional Road No. 50 and it's under Peel's control, if they don't allow us to close it, then we can't have a parade.

"No other streets in Bolton can be closed to have a parade. I'm hoping and assuming—we've already booked bands and sent out emails to participants to let them know we're planning to go ahead—that next year it will be back. Normally by the end of the summer I really get into it, we start thinking about floats and start to fundraise. We fundraise within the Town, we ask business to help to pay for the road closure, floats, and bands. A lot of businesses help us out and fundraising goes right through until the week before the parade. It's a yearlong process for the parade and with a full parade going down Highway 50, there's probably 10,000 to 15,000 people out because we've been able to create a special event for families."



PHOTO COURTESY OF KIN CLUB OF BOLTON

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## YOUNG DRIVERS CHARGED WITH RACING

Officers from the Caledon OPP stopped several stunt drivers resulting in vehicle seizures and roadside license suspensions this past weekend, December 3 - 5, 2021, in the Town of Caledon.

"On Friday, December 3, 2021 at approximately 10:50 p.m., an officer observed two vehicles travelling side-by-side at extremely high rates of speed northbound on Coleraine Drive, north of Mayfield Road, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Both drivers were stopped when they stopped before entering the round-about at Emil Kolb Parkway."

Two 18-year-old drivers from Caledon have been charged with:

- Race a Motor Vehicle

At the time both drivers were operating vehicles owned by their parents. Race a Motor Vehicle, like Stunt Driving, results in a 14-day vehicle impoundment and 30-day driver's license suspension.

The charges have not been proven.

Shortly after this incident, an officer was conducting speed enforcement on Dixie Road near Old School Road, at approximately 11:25p.m., when a vehicle was detected at a high rate of speed. The vehicle registered a speed of 160km/h in the 80km/h speed zone.

A 28-year-old driver from Tottenham was charged with:

- Stunt Driving

The charge has not been proven.

On Saturday, December 4, at approximately 7:10 p.m., an officer was patrolling Highway 10 in Caledon Village when a vehicle was stopped for 104km/h in the 60km/h speed zone.

A 23-year-old driver from Brampton was charged with:

- Stunt Driving

The charge has not been proven.

If convicted, the accused drivers face a minimum of \$2,000 fine and/or a 6-month period of incarceration. A further driver's license suspension can be imposed by the court as well.

All drivers are scheduled to appear before Caledon Provincial Offences Court in January 2022.

## COLLISIONS LEAD TO IMPAIRED DRIVING CHARGES

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment investigated two motor vehicle collisions leading to drivers being charged with impaired driving.

"On Friday, December 3, 2021 at approximately 1:30 a.m., members of the OPP Caledon Detachment responded to a single vehicle collision at the intersection of Old School Road and Mississauga Road in the Town of Caledon," say Police.

"During the course of the investigation the driver showed signs of impairment and was arrested."

Matthew Quesnelle, 20, from Tiny Township, has been charged with:

- Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Impaired
- Operation of a Motor Vehicle - Over 80mgs

The charges have not been proven.

"On Sunday, December 5, 2021 at approximately 8:00 p.m., members of the OPP Caledon Detachment responded to a single vehicle collision on the Caledon/King Townline south of Castleberg Side Road in the Town of Caledon.

"During the course of the investigation the driver showed signs of impairment and was arrested."

Edgar Cahuec, 32, from Brampton, has been charged with:

- Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Impaired
- Operation of a Motor Vehicle - Over 80mgs

The charges have not been proven.

Both accused received a 90-day driver's license suspension and vehicle impoundments for seven days.

Both accused are scheduled to appear in Orangeville Provincial Court in February 2022.

"The Caledon OPP Detachment encourages drivers to plan ahead if they choose to consume alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, cab, rideshare, public transit or stay overnight. Any amount of alcohol or drugs can impact your ability to make sound judgements. There is no excuse for impaired driving."

## IMPAIRED CHARGES

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment responded to the report of an erratic driver resulting in the driver being arrested and charged.

"On November 29, 2021 at approximately 8:25 p.m. officers were dispatched to The Gore Road north of Old Church Road, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "A motorist observed another vehicle driving in an erratic manner and out

of concern contacted police.

"The vehicle was intercepted and stopped by officers who investigated the driver resulting in an arrest at the scene."

Reese Simpson, 24, from Caledon has been charged with the offences of:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle
- Operating a Motor Vehicle with Over 80mgs of Alcohol in Blood
- Driving a Motor Vehicle with Liquor Readily Available

The accused is scheduled to appear in Orangeville Provincial Court in February 2022.

The charges have not been proven.

"The OPP Caledon Detachment would like to encourage motorists to report potential impaired drivers. Motorists can call 911, or \*OPP (\*677) on their mobile device and be put in contact with an emergency dispatcher. Using a mobile device to report a potential impaired driver will not result in a charge for using a hand-held communication device."

## POOR DRIVING CONDITIONS NO EXCUSE FOR POOR DRIVING: POLICE

On Monday, December 6, at approximately 5:49 p.m., officers responded to the intersection of Olde Baseline westbound at Highway 10 for a multi-vehicle personal injury collision.

There were no serious injuries in the collision.

"During the course of the investigation one involved driver showed signs of impairment and was arrested," say Police.

Randy Giblin, 63, from Caledon, has been charged with:

- Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Impaired
- Operation of a Motor Vehicle - Over 80mgs
- Drive Motor Vehicle with Open Liquor

Upon being charged, the accused received a 90-day driver's license suspension and vehicle impoundment for seven days.

The charges have not been proven.

"The Caledon OPP Detachment encourages drivers to plan ahead if they choose to consume alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, cab, rideshare, public transit or stay overnight. Any amount of alcohol or drugs can impact your ability to make sound judgements. There is no excuse for impaired driving."

"In addition to this collision members of the OPP Caledon Detachment have responded to numerous collisions. In some cases, drivers had not yet made their vehicles ready for the winter driving conditions. It is suggested that drivers prepare their vehicle for winter weather by using winter tires which can provide traction in snow and ice conditions. Even with winter tires though, proper focus to the road and weather conditions is required to have a safe journey. Plan ahead, clear all the snow from your vehicle, leave early, slow down and leave an increased distance between vehicles to ensure time to react."

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## The Citizen CROSSWORD

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15				16					
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### CLUES ACROSS

- Polish city
- Very eager
- Identifies a specific person or thing
- Tennis great Naomi
- One concerned by professional advancement
- PGA Championship reward
- A fashionable hotel
- Norse mythology afterlife location
- Stood up
- Car mechanics group
- Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
- Broken branch
- Astronomy unit
- East Asian nursemaid
- "Airplane!" actor
- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- "Batman" villain
- Downfalls
- Philippine province
- Once-vital TV part
- Valley
- Tax
- Classic Scorese film
- Subway dwellers
- Book part
- Taxi
- Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- Swiss river
- Founder of Babism
- Have surgery
- Withdrawal from a larger entity
- Lot's father
- Greek war god
- 2,000 lbs.
- Lemur

### CLUES DOWN

- Quarrels
- Right away
- Comedian Carvey
- Egyptian unit of weight
- A Brit's mother
- Tropical tree
- One who speaks Gaelic
- NHL legend Bobby
- Vacation spots
- Military personnel
- Shakira's don't lie songwriter
- Wimbledon champ
- Teletypewriter
- Mistakes
- Whale ship captain
- Thus
- From end to end
- Kids love him
- One and only (abbr.)
- Fencing swords
- Taxis
- Basics
- Refuse of grapes
- Go quickly
- French ballet dynasty
- Most open
- Popular soap ingredient
- US time zone (abbr.)
- Items of food
- Backbones
- Infrequent
- Blood type
- "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- Dutch colonist champ
- Pike
- Egyptian sun god
- A cardinal is one
- From a distance
- Bolivian river
- N. American student organization (abbr.)
- River (Spanish)
- Chinese life force
- Chinese surname

No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.

# As Town moves towards fireworks ban, CNFA says that won't solve the problem

Continued from FRONT

The staff report states that the discharge of fireworks for personal use will not be permitted, there will be a formal ban on the sale of low-hazard consumer fireworks, maintain minimum safe distances of 300 metres from all vulnerable occupancies, set acceptable times to discharge fireworks from dusk to 11:00 p.m., unless otherwise approved, and a permit system for the discharge of fireworks for community events and other displays for motion picture and theatrical pyrotechnics will be implemented.

That would ensure large fireworks displays are discharged by a Licensed Display Supervisor, have sufficient insurance for liability purposes, inspections are required to be conducted for safety purposes, include acceptable times and locations, and this includes community groups that would like to put on displays in settlement areas and villages.

This process began at a General Committee meeting on May 18, when Council asked staff to consider and develop a separate set of standards for the use of fireworks within urban centres and to ensure distance from livestock, while implementing a permitting system for community displays.

Staff also recommends that community events follow the following requirements if a fireworks by-law is passed: be held on Town property, hold a minimum \$5 million liability; the display be conducted or performed by a licensed display supervisor; require a security deposit; take into consideration other Town departments that may be impacted, including Parks and Recreation.

The purpose of the report was to provide options for consideration regarding the direction received and also to outline concerns with respect to the impact of the use of fireworks within the community. The other options outlined in the report included permitting the discharge of fireworks on properties that are a minimum of half an acre in lot with other safety measures in place and banning all fireworks sale and discharging of fireworks within the Town of Caledon.

Perry Logan, Executive Director of the Canadian National Fireworks Association (CNFA), wrote a letter to Council detailing his disappointment with the potential decision to ban easy access to fireworks in Caledon and to reiterate that disappointment while delegating at the meeting.

"We are disappointed that the Town of

Caledon staff has submitted a report recommending an essential ban on an industry that legally sells over 4,000 products in Canada under the Explosives Act as legislated by the Federal Government under the Department of Natural Resources Canada," he said. "Fireworks are used by hundreds of thousands and enjoyed by millions in our country, and it is proven that 99.9 per cent follow the safety regulations. The reason this topic is before committee is because of the less than .1 per cent that don't respect their community or can't be controlled by rules and regulations.

"There is already legislation under the Explosives Act for enforcement to act on illegal use and yet we are seeing another staff report that highlights concerns and very little in the way of solutions. A fireworks ban has never been successful in any community in Canada because the decision makers don't understand what the problem with misuse of fireworks really is. Banning fireworks will not stop delinquent use as proven in other communities. Better education and public awareness campaigns at the retail location is proving to be successful. The CNFA asks that committee defer this report back to staff to allow them to engage the industry on deliverable solutions that benefit everyone in Caledon, and not just a few."

In response to the CNFA highlighting the ineffectiveness of by-law enforcement for fireworks bans, Mayor Allan Thompson raised concerns about the education not making a difference either.

"The education isn't working either," said Thompson. "The litter and mess we've had this year is the worst we've had yet and it's just from total lack of regard on discharging fireworks. Firing under school buses and under people's cars—the damage to property has been unreal. I'd welcome it if we can get the education, but the education is so far behind. I will tell you, what we've seen so far has been a mess. What do you do to prevent? It's not burning down the neighbourhood but it's the next thing to it. If we can somehow show that fireworks can be discharged in a group setting in a controlled manner in a safe way, I'm all for it, but right now, it's the wild west."

Earlier this year, a survey in Toronto found that 70 per cent of fireworks purchases are done by people that are unaware of the rules and the CNFA wants to focus on removing that as an excuse through training.

Aleem Kanji, who represents the CNFA, doesn't see a way that a by-law could possi-



bly be enforced and only sees this as a way of removing the potential safety education that could be in place.

"We believe that the CNFA believes very strongly in the power of education at the point of sale through vendors and through retailers and through the CNFA's Vendor Certification and Employee Training Program and through the CNFA's Be a Good Neighbour program, we see the results of that across the country around what education can do to make people aware of what the rules are around fireworks," said Kanji. "The limited resources that by-law, fire, and municipalities have, in our experience, show that bans simply do not work."

This isn't a new problem either, says Kanji, but it is one that the CFNA believes was highlighted as a result of the pandemic and the way forward is not to ban fireworks, it's to put a more connected effort forth in education.

"It's not unique to Caledon, municipalities across the country, across the continent, and across the world have seen an increase in fireworks as a result of the pandemic. Restrictions on sales and use are impossible to enforce in any community and COVID has made this an unusual year, with unusually high levels of complaints and earlier lockdowns meaning people were going outside to light fireworks, in some cases as a mental health break to provide some enjoyment to kids and families," said Kanji. "It's impossible to enforce due to very limited resources of municipalities in terms of by law enforcement, fire, and police."

Even if the ban does go forward, it's the CFNA's belief that it will only dig the municipality into a deep hole because they will have enacted a by-law that they cannot police.

"A ban is unenforceable, you're creating a bigger problem by implementing a ban that cannot be enforced," he said. "Delinquent users account for less than one per cent of all fireworks users and they're often gone after they've used the product nefariously. How do you go after people? They (Council) said putting the ban in, the mere threat of it, will stop people from using them. What we say is, well, let's see if that does in fact happen then. We are more than happy to work with Council on solutions as time goes on and as they revisit the notion of the ban being completely ineffective. I feel that's going to happen after the next May 24, after the next Canada Day, after the next Diwali, after the next fill in the blank.

"They'll see that they've just created a bigger problem, the phone calls that they've received are only going to grow stronger because people will expect that a ban will be enforced and as we know, the limited enforcement power that municipalities have will show very clearly that the ban is not working."

With the staff recommendation in the report passed by Council, the next steps will be for public engagement to get feedback from residents with a final by-law to be ready for consideration sometime in the first quarter of 2022.

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# Ye Olde Tyme Christmas in Bolton took the community back to 1821 for the holiday season

BY ROB PAUL

On the evening of December 3, if you wandered down the streets of Bolton, you would have felt like you were in a time machine with plenty of folks dressed up in Victorian era threads in celebration of the Ye Olde Tyme Christmas event that was put together by the Bolton Community Crew, Downtown Bolton Task Force, and Downtown Bolton BIA.

The event wasn't only to kick off the Christmas season, but it was a way to commemorate Bolton's bicentennial by bringing residents back to 1821.

The Olde Tyme Christmas had everything from the tree lighting to pictures with Santa Claus and a live reindeer, and a vendor's market.

Most years during Christmas in downtown Bolton, there's just tree lighting ceremony, but community groups wanted to bring the residents even more this year with 2020 being a challenging holiday season.

"Generally, we do the tree lighting ceremony, and just the tree lighting ceremony at Christmas time," said Bolton Community Crew Chair Sarah Leslie. "But since we weren't able to do it last year because of COVID and, on top of that, we wanted to celebrate Bolton's bicentennial so we thought we should give the community something huge and something to look forward to participating in. We came together (the Bolton Community Crew) with the Downtown Bolton Task Force and Downtown Bolton BIA, and the three of us groups worked closely together to accomplish what everyone saw on Friday."

In a common year, there would be plenty of preparation and planning time for the Christmas tree lighting, but due to the uncertainty of COVID leaving everything up in the air, the behind-the-scenes work was done in a short period of time.

Leslie credits the teamwork of the three organizations for getting everything ready in time.

"Usually when we do the tree lighting, we like to start planning it a couple of months in advance, just to make sure we have everything covered," she said. "With this particular event, we did it in under four weeks. When we're working with different people and organizations, it's really important



Along with the Christmas tree lighting, right, there were photos with Santa, above, carollers, and a market with 60 vendors.

PHOTOS BY ROB PAUL



that whatever task is given to everyone, that they follow through with it. This was a huge team effort; everyone was given a responsibility, and everyone came through. There was lots of strong communication, tons of Zoom calls and emails to make sure everyone knew where to be and at what time. The team mentality is how we accomplished this one."

The idea was always to celebrate the bicentennial in some way, but when a local resident stepped forward with the plan and resources to actually take Bolton all the way back to its beginnings, everyone jumped at the opportunity to incorporate the pageantry to have some extra fun.

"We have a local resident named Bruno Vecchio and he came forward with the idea of bringing Bolton back to a Christmas 200 years ago," Leslie said. "He happens to be in the entertainment industry, so he had access to Victorian wardrobes, and we had different actors there—a blacksmith, old military people, etc.—he was part of helping us bring that to reality. I think we had about 28 volunteers who were dressed in Victorian wear and walking around downtown Bolton, and, of course, we had the old carollers dressed in wardrobe. It was a group effort, and everyone came together to bring this idea to life. I think it was so well received by the community, they loved

experiencing Bolton in the Victorian time. Downtown Bolton in itself is quite historical and so I think the whole evening went the exact way we wanted it to."

Given the success of the night and positive feedback from residents, Leslie is hopeful big events like this will continue throughout the year for Bolton as they try to reenergize the community and economy as the pandemic's impact wavers.

"The vendors were incredibly successful, and I don't think anyone walked away unhappy," she said. "The community definitely was out to support local business and got a lot of holiday shopping done. We heard from quite a few residents asking if it would happen every weekend! Obviously, it won't, but it just goes to show that the community would love to have events like this more often than they are right now. It's something we're looking into for the New Year; we're going to try and bring even more events to the downtown core. People were so happy, kids were excited to see Santa and his reindeer, it was just so much fun and so nice to see everyone back out and enjoying the company of one another after a long time of not being able to do anything. It was really nice to see."

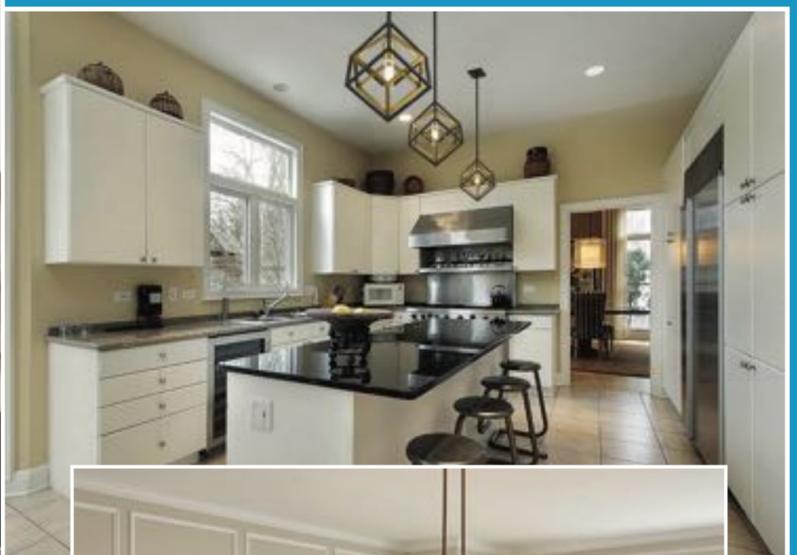
With over 60 vendors at the market, not only was the event for the community, but Leslie says it was a great way to help get

more local businesses attention during the holiday shopping season.

"When we do these types of things, not only is it to bring the community out, but it's also to help support our local businesses," she said. "When there's new residents coming to Bolton, they don't necessarily know what businesses we have here, but if we bring them out for an event like this, it allows for them to learn about new businesses. The businesses along Queen Street on Friday night were slammed the entire night, and I love to see that they're busy and the mission was successful."

With the Town of Caledon focused on the Downtown Bolton Revitalization Plan, Leslie sees events like this as a good way to spark residents' interest in what Bolton can be as it trends towards a facelift as the hub of the community.

"The partnership we had working on this event was amazing and it just goes to show that when you work together, good things can happen," she said. "With the revitalization, it's baby steps, things are starting to change downtown and there's a lot of potential for things like this to happen, so this was a great way to get people down there and taking a look around to see what downtown has to offer."



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## Waste collection strike to impact majority of Caledon

Continued from FRONT

With Emterra Environmental and LiUNA Local 183 unable to agree to terms on a deal, Emterra Group believes a settlement can be reached in the near future, but, for the time being, they ask residents to be patient and work with the Region to ensure the waste that can be collected during the disruption is collected.

“Emterra Group is proud to serve the residents of Peel Region as one of its recycling and waste management partners, since 2016,” said Brad Muter, Chief Operations Officer, Emterra Group. “We value all our employees and the work that they do. We remain committed to our customers and business partners and are doing our best to minimize the impact during this labour disruption. Any updates to collection service are provided on the Region of Peel’s website at [www.peelregion.ca/waste](http://www.peelregion.ca/waste). For additional service-related questions, residents may also contact the Region of Peel.

“A fair and competitive, fully recommended deal was presented, and we ask that the union reconsider its actions given the impact this disruption could have on residents in the community, the environment, as well as our employees and their families. Our pledge is to do our best to minimize the impact on our valued residents, customers and business partners and thank them for their patience and understanding as we work towards a fair settlement.”

The Region asks that strike-affected residents during their garbage week continue to put garbage and organics at the curb on your scheduled garbage collection day. Residents may experience collection delays but are asked to please leave garbage and organics at the curb until further notice, even on the weekend—no bulky items will be picked up during the labour disruption.

The strike will not affect waste collection in apartment and condominium buildings or other types of multi-residential units. Regular waste collection will continue for multi-residential complexes.

As for strike-affected residents during recycling week, due to the labour dispute, recycling will not be picked up. Residents

are asked to hold onto their recycling until further notice—organics will not be collected on recycling week, only during garbage week.

Yard waste collection will also not be picked up for strike-affected residents during the labour dispute. Residents are asked to hold onto their yard waste until further notice.

“We thank everyone for their patience as we work to support waste collection during this labour disruption,” said Norman Lee, Peel Director of Waste Management. “Keeping public health and safety top of mind for our communities, we’ve temporarily changed the collection program to allow collection crews to focus on our first priority of picking up garbage and organics from homes affected by the strike. We encourage residents to visit our website or social channels often for updated information.”

Without much warning that the strike would happen, Mayor Allan Thompson says he is unhappy with the lack of communication regarding a potential labour dispute and encourages Caledon residents to connect with the Region if they are unsure of the interim process for waste collection.

“This is a frustrating situation for our residents and for me as Mayor as we had no indication talks were breaking down,” said Thompson. “The Region has taken quick action to set up a strike response plan and affected residents can ask questions and get information by calling 905-584-2216 or by email: [wasteinquiry@peelregion.ca](mailto:wasteinquiry@peelregion.ca).”



## First COVID-19 Omicron variant case detected in Peel Region

BY ROB PAUL

As the Omicron variant of COVID-19 continues to impact countries across the world since it was detected in South Africa a few weeks ago, the first Omicron variant case has now been found in the Region of Peel.

The individual had close contact with a travel-related case identified in Halton Region. The individual is currently isolating at home. Peel Public Health has investigated this case and risk of further spread is low.

“With variants like Omicron emerging around the world, residents must continue to mask, socially distance, and get tested and isolate when sick,” said Dr. Lawrence Loh, Peel’s Medical Officer of Health. “More importantly, I encourage you to get two doses of the vaccine as soon as possible. Those eligible for a third or booster dose are encouraged to get their additional dose as well.”

With the threat of the Omicron variant increasing, the Government of Ontario is extending its pause on the lifting of capacity limits in remaining higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required while the province continues to monitor trends in public health and health care indicators and learns more about the Omicron variant.

“While an increase in the number of cases was always expected as we entered the winter months, with the emergence of the Omicron variant we must continue following the measures we have in place that have been working for us,” said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health. “Over the coming weeks and months, we need to stay the course on reaching those who have not yet been vaccinated. If you have not yet received the vaccine, please do so today and if you are eligible for a booster dose, please book your appointment to provide yourself with an extra layer of protection. Achieving the highest vaccination rates possible remains our best defence against COVID-19 and variants.”

To increase protection against the Omicron variant, the Ontario government is also accelerating COVID-19 vaccine booster dose eligibility to Ontarians aged 50 and over and additional high-risk individuals, providing an extra layer of

protection against COVID-19 and its variants.

Starting Monday, December 13 at 8 a.m., individuals 50 and older will be eligible to schedule their booster dose appointment. Beginning in January, Ontario will further expand eligibility for booster doses based on age and risk, with an interval of six to eight months from the second dose.

“If you are eligible for a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, please book your appointment as soon as you can to provide yourself with an extra layer of protection,” said Dr. Moore.

“If you have not yet received the vaccine, please do so today. This includes vaccinations for children aged five to 11. Achieving the highest vaccination rates possible remains our best tool to protect us, reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, and fight the significant surge of new cases and the new Omicron variant.”

As for vaccination efforts in Peel, 75.3 per cent of all residents have two doses of the vaccine and 79.4 per cent have at least one. 86.6 per cent of adults (18+) in the Region have both doses while 90 per cent have at least one—89.9 per cent of those 12 and older have at least one dose and 89.9 per cent have both.

In total, the Region has administered 2,618,715 doses of the vaccine. 1,342,927 have at least one dose, 1,219,377 have two doses, and 56,411 have received a third dose.

Since last week, Peel has seen 525 new COVID-19 cases, over 200 more than the previous week, bringing the total to 119,843. There were also two more deaths in the Region to bring the total to 1,033.

In Caledon, there were 28 new cases to bring the Town’s total to 5,007. The death count remains at 22.

To book a vaccine in the Region of Peel, visit [www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment/](http://www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment/). To schedule a third dose booster, visit <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/>.

To download or print a copy of your proof of vaccination, visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccine-booking-support#proof-of-vaccination>.

To learn more about the official QR code system Ontario has implemented and to access yours, visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/get-proof>.



News

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## FUTURE CALEDON

OUR OFFICIAL PLAN

### Virtual Open House

Join us for the second Public Open House for Future Caledon, the Town’s New Official Plan.

The Official Plan serves as a road map to responsibly and strategically manage growth and change over the next 30+ years.

We’re looking for your input. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to:

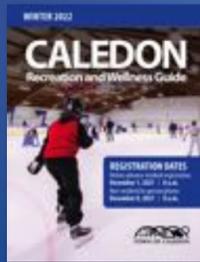
- Learn more about the project, updates, the overall timeline and opportunities to get involved.
- Hear about what we’ve learned from our research and how it will impact the future of Caledon.
- Provide input on where growth will occur in the Town.

The Town is committed to engaging in a way that is open, transparent, accessible and inclusive. We need your feedback to help identify community needs and priorities as we prepare for the future. This is the chance for you to learn about opportunities to get involved, ask questions and provide your input.

**VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE DETAILS**  
Monday, December 13, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

Registration required: [caledon.ca/calendar](http://caledon.ca/calendar)

## Winter 2022 Recreation and Wellness Program Guide



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## Coming Soon IN DECEMBER

- 8 Committee of Adjustment, 1 p.m.
- 14 Council Meeting - Budget, 6 p.m.
- 24 Town Hall holiday closure, noon

## Your voice helps shape our future

Here is a list of projects currently open for your input. Get involved, share your opinions and ideas. Your voice counts. Be sure to register so you’re notified of new projects.

### Old Bolton Fire Station Renovations

Learn more and provide feedback on renovations to the old Bolton Fire Station.

### Visitor Management Plan

Caledon is a popular destination. How do we manage the impact of increased visitor traffic?

### Caledon Votes

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**Brock's Banter**

# Maintaining personal bandwidth amid uncertainty

BY BROCK WEIR

It seems like a lifetime ago when, just before Premier Ford made the call to put Ontario into shutdown mode during the first wave of COVID-19, I left the office feeling it would be the last time I would be back there, at least for a while.

Back up the stairs I went on that late-winter Friday to pack up as much as I thought I would need to keep my end of the paper going on Monday, Tuesday, and however long the uncertainty might last. After all, as you'll undoubtedly recall, it was a shutdown that was only slated to last a few weeks.

It turns out that was an underestimate of the highest order.

As those weeks turned into months, it was a matter of finding things to maintain the feeling of productivity, even when there was very little to do – or, rather, could be done – outside of the home.

To give myself a bit of a routine, I opened up the back of my notebook and made a longhand chart. Its purpose was to track the daily case counts to quickly see any trends in the ebb and flow of new cases of the virus. Hardly ground-breaking stuff, but it helped break up the feeling of monotony while at the same time replacing it with the vague sense of purpose.

The red pen was deployed for days that saw a bump in the numbers, while the green pen had its moment in the sun on those merciful days where a decline was recorded.

Late winter turned inevitably into early spring and the early spring into summer, it was wonderful to have the red pen packed away more often than not.

As more people were getting outside into the warmth of the sun, our collective case numbers were going down and we were able to cautiously resume some of our regular summer activities.

Then, as the sun faded into the fall and the holidays were once again on the horizon, the green pen was given a begrudging break.

We were on the rise again as the cold drove people back into the artificial warmth of close quarters and, just in time for the holiday season, we were in lockdown again. A silver lining for my colourful writing instruments was they were dusted off and put to work again, but, truth be told, I would have been happy if they never saw the light of day again.

Yet, desperate times call for desperate measures, and the tracking began again, this time spiced up by looking for any new trends as vaccines were rolled out.

The second time around, the novelty ran out quickly and the pens went away. As light appeared at the end of our collective tunnel, it seemed like an exercise in futility – not that it wasn't already – and instead, vaccines were the much happier stat to track.

Until they weren't.

As glad as I was to see the most vulnerable members of our community get jabbed, for many of us there was the added layer of keeping track

of ever-evolving timelines on when certain demographics would reach eligibility for both ourselves, our parents, and our other loved ones.

When our loved ones' times came, it became even more complex as the hunt for vaccine appointments before their full expansion to pharmacies and doctors' offices was almost like volunteering for the Hunger Games. A full day of online refreshing could sometimes come to naught and you were forced to start the whole process the next morning, just hoping for a bit of luck.

Thankfully, that extra level of stress soon dissipated as supply came closer to reaching demand and we were able to enjoy a summer and fall that came closer still to the ones we enjoyed in 2019 and prior.

It gave us time to decompress – while hopefully not letting our guard down – and store up some extra mental bandwidth for the season ahead.

And now, as we know, we certainly need it.

We're back in this seemingly never-ending cycle. Numbers are rising again both due to people more inclined to stay indoors than brave the coldness of the season and, of course, with the question mark that remains the Omicron variant.

As eligibility for booster shots – or, a "third dose" as we're now being encouraged to call it – expands, we're chomping at the bit, ready to begin hunting down time slots for our loved ones and ourselves, just hoping it won't be as dog-eat-dog as the last go round.

Sometimes it feels like we're on a go-round that is far from merry in that we're all travelling the same path but making few strides forward.

It can be frustrating and, in some cases, infuriating, but what choice do we have?

A lot has been asked of us over the last 21 months or so, some of which was unimaginable on that Friday evening in March of 2020, but we have come this far and we can't simply stop doing our part just because we're tired of the hassle or just plain weary over the constant uncertainty.

We don't yet know what Omicron will bring to us, but we weathered Delta.

We've made it through the "tough mudder" that was finding appointments for our first and second shots before it became a free-for-all.

We made it, for better or worse, through socially-distanced family gatherings during the winter season.

And we will weather this as well – as long as we collectively keep our eyes on the finish line.

If there is another silver lining to come out of COVID's winter doldrums, it might just be that we've learned – or re-learned – the importance of decompressing, recognizing the limits of our own personal mental bandwidths (and adjusting what we do accordingly), and finding ways to find and keep the joy in our lives.

But, as winter approaches, I am curious as to how you're keeping yourselves in check.

Send your thoughts, tips and tricks to brock@lpcmedia.ca.



## Worry and anxiety detrimental to our health

by Mark Pavilons



– Corrie Ten Boom

Living in the modern age, we take worry and stress in stride. It's part of our daily life and it's something we've come to expect.

It comes in all shapes and sizes, from trying to open one of those tiny butter containers in a restaurant, to misplacing your debit card.

As William Inge once pointed out, "worry is interest paid on trouble before it comes due." Throughout my high school and college days, I was your typical "worrywart." I was taken aback when I discovered that synonyms for this condition include "doomsayer, killjoy" and "prophet of doom."

Prophet of misfortune or disaster, really? I can say that I tend to be skeptical, but that's a good quality, especially in my profession.

But I've never been a killjoy. Heck I spread joy everywhere I go, ask anyone!

Worrying is a normal reaction to the stresses in our lives. Worrying unduly is where the problem arises.

As curious creatures, we're constantly asking ourselves, what if? That's great if we're testing new scientific theories, but not so good if we can't get out of bed in the morning.

I've experienced both.

When we face a stressful situation, we perceive it, rationalize it and sometimes experience the "fight or flight response." This means our bodies gear up for a confrontation that sees a surge in adrenaline, muscle tension, increase heart rate, etc.

Of course, this came in handy when our ancestors were running away from sabre tooth tigers. But not so much today.

Most of us know that worry and stress aren't good for us. Chronic worry and emotional stress can trigger many health problems. Too much worrying and anxiety results in excessive hormone release which can spike blood sugar levels and blood fats. You can feel dizzy, suffer headaches and fatigue.

When the excessive fuel in the blood isn't used for physical activities, the chronic anxiety and stress hormones can have serious side effects such as a suppressed immune system, digestive disorders, and even heart issues.

The number of us who suffer from depression know these things all too well. I "came out" with it following a job loss and searching for work. Who wouldn't be depressed after such a thing?

One of the first symptoms of my anxiety was

that famous "heart flutter." It's not a heart flutter at all, but muscle spasms in the chest. Sure, if they're strong enough, it can feel like you're having a heart attack.

Our bodies are pretty cool little gizmos. We don't often notice what's going on inside, but believe me, millions of things every second keep us breathing, smiling, thinking and engaged. Even if we don't recognize a problem, our body does and tries to fight it.

Often, this conflict results in physical abnormalities. I see it like a pressure cooker, that slow-release valve that lets the steam out.

I find that in my case, it often blindsides me when I least expect. There's no one trigger or event, just a build-up over days or weeks.

My brain also compensates by giving me very vivid, if not odd, dreams on a nightly basis.

I also enjoy a glass of Crown Royal, but we know that's not the solution.

Every time the Bob Marley classic Three Little Birds comes on, it makes me smile and often stirs me to start wiggling. Hey, I'm past my jiving days. Here's his good advice:

"Don't worry about a thing 'Cause every little thing gonna be all right ..."

Oh, how I long to get up every morning to the sound of tropical birds, ocean waves and breezes.

As strong as we seem on the surface, we are all fragile at times.

Mood and anxiety disorders are the most prevalent mental health problems in Canada.

The number of Canadians who say they're experiencing high levels of anxiety has quadrupled since the pandemic began.

Sure, a lot of this is related to COVID-19, and an optimism is gaining ground with the majority of Canadians now being vaccinated. But recent travel restrictions and the unknown Omicron variant have thrown us another curve ball. Most of just want to know when all of this will be over. More shots on the way?

Heading into the holidays, maybe we'll have a little more glee and become a bit more joyful and triumphant.

It's been a long time since families could share a special occasion together. This year will be an important one, indeed.

Our boats may be leaking a bit, but as long as we have an oar and part of a rudder, we can help each other steer.

There is strength in numbers and sharing the pain can help.

Whether you're an academic or hands-on fixer, head work is an entirely different realm.

Each person, and every brain, is as unique as each snowflake that lands on your eyelashes.

I've always found laughter is the best medicine and I have the laugh lines to prove it.

Sure, I laugh inappropriately at times, but again, it's that release valve letting out the steam. For those brief few seconds, or minutes of laughter, the weight slides off our shoulders; our woes seem less horrible and the sun peaks through the clouds.

I can't think of a more fitting piece of advice than from this tidbit from Regina Brett:

"Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks."

### Our Readers Write

## Minimizing damage is right path forward for 413, reader agrees

I wanted to comment and offer 100 per cent support to the recent note to the Citizen from Skid Crease.

While most Ontarians prefer quiet and solitude, myself included, we need to recognize that transportation infrastructure must be modernized, not only for the next few years but for the next 100.

The argument that we are paving Caledon at the cost of agriculture is a weak one.

Look no further than at the shelves at Zehrs

and Walmart and calculate the distance travelled and you will know that the old argument is lost.

That said we should urge the Ontario leadership to ensure the 413 is built to minimize environmental damage and to encourage use unlike the debacle that is the 407.

This is the path forward in my humble opinion.

GED SEGUIN  
PALGRAVE

LETTERS CONTINUE ON PAGE 17

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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Distributed throughout the Town of Caledon, the Citizen is published Thursdays by Caledon publishing Ltd.

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# Let's make 2022 a reason to celebrate

There is no place I would rather be during the Christmas season than right here in Caledon.

Caledon Villages and Hamlets are beautifully decorated and our rural areas and rolling hills make the perfect backdrop for a Country Christmas!

Local volunteer groups, service clubs and organizations have become very good at adapting. They have worked hard to organize

and support Christmas and holiday events in every corner of Caledon. A big thank you to the many community champions and volunteers who are helping to make the season extra special this year.

In the spirit of giving please also consider a donation to one of our deserving local charities such as: Caledon Community Services Santa Fund, Bethel Hospice and Caledon Meals on Wheels.

2021 has been an interesting year, to say the least. We went from the grips of pandemic to the successful rollout of a huge vaccine program and then to the slow and careful re-opening of businesses and gatherings. As this year comes to an end, I want to say again and again how incredibly grateful I am for our front-line workers.

I'm so proud to serve the residents of our community of communities and thank all of

you for stepping up to support each other and our resilient local businesses and services. We're making our Town better and stronger so let's keep it going and together we will make 2022 a year to celebrate!  
Stay safe and warm.

**ALLAN THOMPSON**  
MAYOR'S VIEW



# An Ode to the Unsung Volunteer

While I will readily admit there's a bit of a personal twist to this article, a particular event that sparked this conversation, as I spoke with others at various events around town, it appears there's a common thread amongst us all.

As I suspected, this story might not be so personal after all. I found that on the topic of the "unsung volunteer" many families share an experience much like my own. Perhaps you'll agree. This column is an ode to the unsung volunteer.

You will never see an unsung volunteer. They aren't looking for the limelight and often any attempt to shine a light on them is rebuffed at every opportunity. They are the folks who donate food during a neighbourhood parade or a holiday craft market because it's a good thing to do. The hockey team or school that run food drives and the local businesses who help them deliver the food. More than anything, they are the people who quietly collect that food, sort it out in their garage late on a cold and blustery wintry night and then pack up the boxes and form a train of volunteer cars to deliver them to The Exchange with little fanfare. Thank you to everyone, for helping to feed Caledon families.

The unsung volunteers are the families who take their children to a local store with money they've saved up, and then watch as their child picks out an item they would cherish but which they will instead, willingly donate so that another child can enjoy the holiday season. Thank you for teaching your children the value, and true meaning, of charitable giving.

Unsung volunteers are the people behind the scenes in the homes of many of our community volunteers who do so much. They are the spouses who watch the children while the other can attend a planning meeting, spend time at an event or who cook dinner because the front-facing volunteer has been too busy. They are the spouses who drop everything when you suddenly realize the window of the convertible you volunteered to drive in the holiday parade (and from which Santa is supposed to be happily waving) is stuck in the "up" position and then spends their afternoon literally re-wiring the car so the window will go down. They are the spouses that raise the tents, help you fix a glitch on the computer that holds the entire league's soccer schedule or who drive across town to pick up a "Santa Mailbox" that another volunteer has quietly

constructed and painted in their "spare time" for a school to use. They are the friends or family that drive or pick up your kid from school, or hockey practice or anything really, because you can't get there due to a Board meeting for the non-profit social service agency you volunteer with. Thank you for sharing your particular talents and skill sets for the benefit of the whole community who will often never know the vital role you played in an event's success.

They are your children! Ask any volunteer about why they do what they do and most will respond with two thoughts: it's to help the community in which they live to be the best it can be AND it's to set an important example for their children about helping others. These are admirable. Often, the lessons become real when the children are pressed into service behind the scenes with requests to "help stuff these envelopes," or "help sort and stack these boxes full of (insert team sport) uniforms," and "we just have to make two quick stops on the way home to pick up items for next week's (insert special charity event here.)"

Our children might be tired from a long day at school, hungry, facing exam stress

or a myriad of other thoughts and feelings, but they sit alongside you and help you stuff those envelopes anyway! Our children are the ones who might miss out on bedtime stories or family time around the dinner table so that you can do what you do. Thank you for modelling volunteerism to your children and thank your children for giving you the time and space to help others.

I know that many of you will relate to these thoughts. I'm sure you can think of many times your family has sacrificed time with you so that you can volunteer. It might be your picture in the Annual Report of "X" charity but there's an entire team of unsung volunteers behind you that has not only helped you to be there but probably also donated some of their own time, skills and expertise too – just quietly, behind the scenes. At this time of year in particular, when so many need our support to help them manage through the holiday season, thank you to all the volunteers who make things happen and all the unsung volunteers who support them.

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# Assessment Centre reopens at Headwaters after “all-clear” Wednesday

BY SAM ODROWSKI

Headwaters Health Care Centre declared its Code Grey (Loss of Essential Services) “All Clear” yesterday (Wednesday), with all of its systems now restored.

Headwaters COVID-19 Assessment Centre reopened last Wednesday (December 1), after being closed due to the Code Grey being declared on November 25, following unauthorized access to the hospital’s systems.

As a preventative action, Headwaters shut down all of its internal systems and access to internet on

November 25 after the Headwaters Information Technology (IT) System and team noticed suspicious email activity.

Kim Delahunt, Headwaters President and CEO, had several suspicious emails come from her account to hundreds of contacts, primarily being staff members of the hospital on November 25. The email’s header reads “Welcome to Lorenz” and the email says all the files across Headwaters entire system has been encrypted, which includes private medical data.

The email continues, “We will publish all the contents of your

company on our site,” noting that this includes, “All your confidential medical history, employers information, documentation, catalogs, reports, configs, mail, database’s, invoice’s, signature’s etc.”

The email says to prevent the publishing of this data, visit its website and follow its instructions which entails downloading a TOR browser and paying money to recover the files.

Lorenz is a new variant of Sz40 ransomware, which is designed to encrypt data and demand ransom for decryption. This means Lorenz renders affected files inaccessible

and then asks for payment to regain access.

In a press release from Dec. 8, Headwaters said cybersecurity experts continue to support the investigation into what happened and whether any sensitive data was exposed.

“This process is complex and will take some time. We are committed to being transparent and will notify individuals if we learn that any personal information has been exposed,” said the press release.

Access to Headwaters’ health information system and reports have been delayed to community part-

ners and primary care physicians as a result of the security breach.

The hospital continues to provide excellent patient care despite the recent challenges, said Delahunt in a press release from Headwaters on December 3.

Surgeries and outpatient clinics have continued as scheduled at Headwaters and Emergency Department remains open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for urgent care.

Now that the Code Grey is declared over, the hospital will not be providing any further updates on the matter.

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# SPORTS

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## Admirals and Bombers fall, Golden Hawks get one on the board

BY ROBERT BELARDI

In an eventful hockey week, as per usual in the Town of Caledon, all three junior hockey clubs faced tough tests.

Beginning in the Ontario Junior Hockey League with the Caledon Admirals the boys have had quite the year of adversity since moving their operations to Mayfield Arena from Brampton throughout the pandemic.

Last week, up against the North York Rangers and the Mississauga Chargers, the Admirals dropped both games, extending their losing streak to nine games.

Following a scoreless first period, the Rangers opened up the game in the second. Zach Ophoven got the Rangers on the board and Alexander Dimitriadis and Anthony Piccinino added two more to make the game 3-0.

In the third period, Sebastian Bulovs scored short-handed just less than four minutes in, but Dimitriadis put the game out of reach. Bulovs got a second on the board with four minutes left to go.

Despite the loss, the Admirals stymied the seventh best power play in the OJHL making the Rangers go 0-5 on the man advantage.

The next game was a similar story in the 2-0 loss to the Chargers. The Admirals almost shut down the Chargers power play completely forcing their opposition to go 1-6 on the man advantage.

The Admirals had no shortage of effort firing 36 shots on goal but Mansoor Egbali stood on his head to earn his first shutout of the year.

Things got very chippy in the third period and myriad penalties were handed out.

Bulovs earned himself an unsportsman-

like conduct penalty before earning himself an abuse of officials call. Admirals defenseman Parker Petruniak was given a checking from behind penalty and game misconduct in the period as well and Chargers defenseman JP Moreira was awarded an unsportsmanlike penalty as well.

Over in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League the Bombers fell on the road to the Kitchener-Waterloo Siskins 6-4.

It was the game of a few firsts for the Bombers as Jayden Seguin and Mauro Bisutto each scored their first goals of the season.

Heading into the third period down 4-2, the Bombers found some life with a goal from Myles Yearwood potted home his third of the year.

But just under three minutes later, Carson Maybury spoiled the party and while Bisutto got his second of the game just over a minute later. Ryan Fritz sealed the deal with just under five minutes to play.

And over in the Provincial Junior Hockey League, the Caledon Golden Hawks earned a win and a loss last week.

Following an 8-0 loss on the road to the Alliston Hornets and being outshot 59-31, the Golden Hawks knew they needed to redeem themselves.

Driving up to Midland to take on the Flyers, the Hawks took home the win with a 5-3 victory.

All clubs are back in action this week. The Admirals take on the Wellington Dukes at Mayfield Arena at 8:00 p.m. this Thursday night, December 9. The Bombers head off to Ayr to take on the Centennials the same evening and the Golden Hawks head north to Orillia this Saturday to take on the Terriers at 7:30 p.m.



## Pacific FC win Canadian Premier League title

BY ROBERT BELARDI

Pacific FC brought home their first ever Canadian Premier League title after silencing all of Tim Hortons Field last Sunday.

Pacific ended up winning the match 1-0 in a shut-down performance and did-so while only controlling 30 per cent possession of the ball.

The first real opportunity came almost 20 minutes into the game when a cross from Kwame Awuah found the head of Kyle Bekker but the 31-year-old Oakville native sailed it wide.

Almost ten minutes later, a ball whipped into the danger area found an open Omar Browne.

Acrobatically, he tossed the ball on target with an overhead kick and upon the blocked effort, plenty of Forge FC put their hands in the air protesting for a hand-ball. No hand-ball was given.

For the majority of the first half it was all Forge FC.

Molham Babouli, Emery Welshman and Bekker, for a second chance, should have had a goal each but the half ended at 0-0.

At the beginning of the second half, Browne scuffed a left-footed effort wide as he dragged the ball across the top of the box before hitting it.

But in the 59th minute, the moment of magic arrived. A free-kick whipped in by Gianni

Dos Santos was headed home by Alessandro Hojabrpour at the near post to give Pacific FC the lead.

Just a minute later, Tristan Borges found himself open at the penalty mark and skyed the ball above the net, summarizing Forge FC's day.

Pacific could have had a second goal as Josh Heard smacked the ball off the post.

That one goal proved to be enough as Pacific FC held on to defeat Forge FC 1-0 and give the Langford, B.C. club their first ever title.

This was also the first title for their manager Pa-Modou Kah.

The Banjul, The Gambia native came over to manage Pacific FC after being an assistant the year before with FC Cincinnati in the MLS.

Surely the right move to bring him over and what a start to his CPL career.

This was also the first championship for former York United midfielder Manny Aparicio.

The free-kick magician last year in the Island Games for The Nine Stripes played an integral role in Kah's midfield to help capture the title.

Keep an eye out for more news as there could be more exciting stuff following this recent championship. Commissioner David Clanachan hinted at the possibility of more expansion clubs to come earlier last week.

Stay tuned.



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**OBITUARIES**

**NIEZEN, Elbert Lambertus**  
April 23, 1946 - December 3, 2021

Early Friday morning Bert was promoted to heavenly glory after a 5 month battle with cancer. Beloved husband of Diane (Alberdina) Jonker. Father of Brian & Nancy-Jo, David & Melanie, Ed & Katherine and Chris & Hilda. Opa of Alyssa & Tim, Caleb, Miranda & Evan, Dawson, Joel & Chantal, Claire, Tim & Jewel, Carter, Kaitlyn, Levi, Mark, Wesley, Declan, Brenna, Kierra, Shaina, Kendra and Ryan. Great Opa of Kaycia, Rory, and Adeline. Brother of Nellie & Russell (+) Farrell, Arie (+) & Reina (+) Niezen. Brother-in-law of Harold (+) & Grace Jonker, Luke & Ena Jonker, Albert (+) & Ali Jonker, Hilda and Tom (+) Overbeek, Peter & Henrietta Jonker, George & Henrietta Jonker, Mary and John VanEerde, John & Diane Jonker, Jenny & Jon Groen and Grace Jonker. Bert was an active member of Maranatha Canadian Reformed Church and spent many years serving there in the capacity of elder. Bert was the founder of Orangeville Building Supply and after 30 years of service will be missed by many staff, employees, customers and suppliers. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate donations to Anchor Association at www.anchor-association.com. Visitation was held on Monday, December 6, 2021 at Maranatha Canadian Reformed Church, 600 Belsyde Ave East, Fergus. A service was held on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 1:00 pm at church. www.grahamgiddyfh.com

**HUOT, Arlene Marion**  
January 28, 1936 - December 5, 2021

Arlene passed away peacefully on Sunday December 5th, 2021 at the age of 85. She is now reunited in Heaven with her loving husband, Emile "Tex". Cherished by her children, Michael, Ken (Jackie) and Nancy. Proud grandmother to, Melissa (Robert), Jason, Joshua, Benjamin (Monica) and Eric. Arlene will always be remembered by her brothers, Karl, Lou and Paul and joins in Heaven with Murray, Kenneth and Leslie. She will be held dear in the hearts of her family, relatives, and many friends. Arlene spent 37 proud years teaching for the Dufferin/Peel Board of Education. If so desired, donations in memory of Arlene may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Private Family Funeral Services will take place. The family thanks all family and friends for their love and support during this difficult time. Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com. In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Huot Family.

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**Peel's Chief of Staff responds to "concerning" comments**

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**JAMES DOUGLAS  
CHIEF OF STAFF  
OFFICE OF THE REGION CHAIR**

**Caledon Chamber  
Concerts bring  
classical music into the  
community**

BY ROB PAUL

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"You don't have to travel far," said Jan Reed, of Caledon Chamber Concerts. "You can drive around the corner to Caledon East. It's right here in town. Yes—the Caledon Chamber Concerts presents some of the most gorgeous classical music five times per year between September and May. Concerts are presented in an intimate setting at the St. James' Anglican Church. These artists are professional and high end. These events are so popular within the musicians' circle, that musicians now call the Caledon Chamber Concerts in hopes of booking a concert with us. Some of the artists we've featured have been classical guitar with flute accompaniment; piano and violin; string trios and more. Our next concert is February 26, 2022, featuring Ben Cruchley on piano."

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"The idea for this series was inspired by the in-house Palgrave concerts that for several years were hosted by Russell and Verna Linney," said Reed. "The Linneys' departure for the west in 2003 left a gap in the classical music life of Caledon residents that Morton sought to fill. Although it is difficult to reproduce the intimacy of the Linneys' home-based concerts, the quiet, tasteful surroundings of the Great Hall at St. James' Anglican Church in Caledon East, provides a warm, comfortable setting for this classical music series. After the show, the guests may meet and talk with the artists. (Due to COVID health restrictions, the serving of refreshments has been suspended. All COVID protocols are in effect.)"

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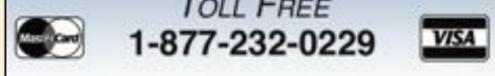
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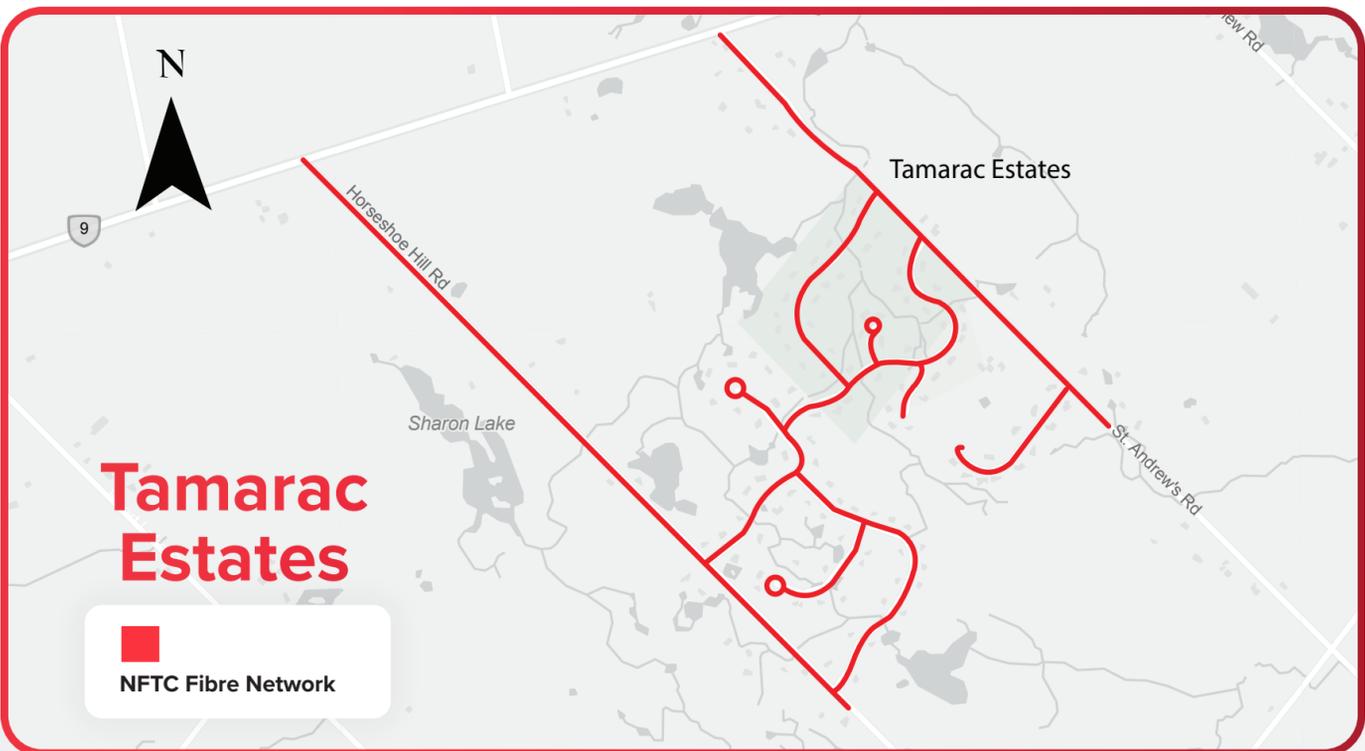
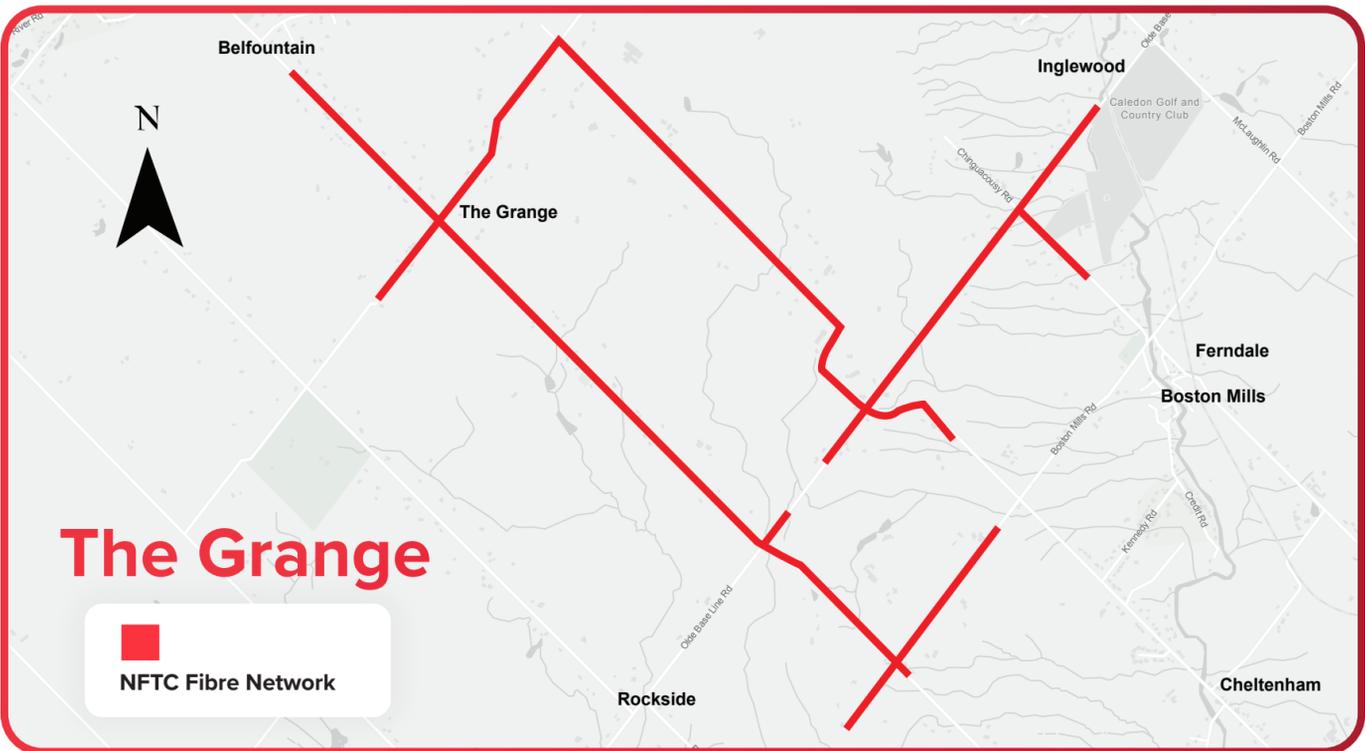
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