

Bolton is a GTA Next Hot Neighbourhood

Looking for a half-decent house in a nice area with good schools?

According to Toronto Life Magazine's The Next Hot Neighbourhoods, Bolton is among the top 20 places to buy now. Prettier and cheaper than Brampton, Bolton offers rustic small-town life with the convenience of the big city, the article states, and an average house price of \$830,254.

It's great to see Bolton getting the credit it deserves, Mayor Allan Thompson said. What I really like about Bolton is its blend of urban and rural. And with its mix of multi-generational families, newcomers, modern amenities, energetic startups and successful multinational businesses, it still retains that friendly neighbourhood feel.

Toronto Life recently compiled a list of 20 spots where it's possible to buy (and live well) for less than a million in the GTA. Bolton ranked 15th on the list.

Bolton, the densest chunk of Caledon, has a small cluster of restaurants and cafés that quickly give way to an expanse of strip malls and big-box stores, the article said. The housing stock is largely made up of newer homes on narrow lots, and while it's a bit further from Toronto than Brampton, it's both prettier and cheaper. Among the area's most enticing rural charms: the Bolton Fall Fair, an agricultural expo with midway rides, giant gourds and a tractor pull.

What they all have in common is that precious alchemy of affordability and livability, of good schools and great amenities, of established tradition and buzzy new momentum, it stated. They're the last best hope for the desperate house hunter and the neighbourhoods everyone will be jockeying to buy into 10 years from now.

Schomberg, in nearby King Township, ranked fourth on the list.

Schomberg looks like something out of Gilmore Girls: the total population is just 2,691, and the main street is peppered with gingerbread storefronts like Sugar and Spice (a bakery and café), the Scruffy Duck (a pub) and Grackle Coffee (self-explanatory), the article stated. Schombergers have an active town calendar: events include the agricultural spring fair (held this year for the 167th time) and the Christmas Farmers' Parade of Lights, when local growers deck their tractors out with rainbow lights and roll down the main drag. The living is a steal compared to other York Region locales, with homes in newer subdivisions selling for well under a million. For upsizers, there's also a healthy stock of regal century-old farmhouses on huge lots.