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**LET THE MUSIC PLAY** — Meaghan's Music Room, which aims to "enhance the lives of those with physical and mental challenges through music," received a significant boost last week from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. On hand in Bolton to show their support for the initiative were MPP Sylvia Jones, Director Howard Phee, Regional Councillor Annette Groves, and Robert Ward, Chair of Meaghan's Music Room. For more on the initiative, see Page 5.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Illegal dumping on Boston Mills Road part of Caledon-wide issue: Residents

Neighbours also concerned about speeding vehicles, roadside alcohol and cannabis use

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Ongoing instances of "undesirable behaviour" on Boston Mills Road have the street's residents concerned.

At Caledon's March 22 General Committee meeting, Boston Mills Road residents Cynthia Wood and Alexis Fraser appeared as a delega-

tion to ask for Council's support in eliminating the problem.

The pair brought with them a petition they and 31 of their neighbours signed, as well as a letter to the Town of Caledon. In the letter, residents state they've seen the following activities taking place on Boston Mills Road: Dumping of hazardous materials, household waste, organic waste and general refuse; speeding and reckless driving; and increased stopping and idling on the road to loiter, litter and participate in undesirable activities such as drinking alcohol, smoking cannabis and "bush sex."

In their letter, residents claim some people participating in such activities have become hostile when asked to leave.

This has, in turn, made residents feel unsafe. To mitigate the problem, the residents are asking the Town to implement the following changes on Boston Mills Road between Highway 10 and Airport Road: The addition of "no stopping" signs; the reduction of the speed limit from 60 kilometres per hour to 40; additional "no dumping" signs; and other means of deterring the parking of cars such as road-narrowing.

Continued on Page 7

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### Golden Hawks ousted in first round by Cougars

BY ROBERT BELARDI

The Caledon Golden Hawks were eliminated from the first round of the PJHL playoffs, falling 4-1 at home against the Schomberg Cougars last Friday in Game Six.

Following their 4-2 victory in Game Five on the road in the Trisan Centre, thanks to a heroic performance from goaltender Mason Kameka, the Golden Hawks returned to Mayfield Arena, a rink that has not favoured them kindly this series.

In their previous home games, the boys lost 7-1 and 9-3 respectively, in Games Three and Four.

With their season on the line against a Cougars team missing Christian Taylor and Luke Miehm, the Golden Hawks simply could not gain the edge over the Cougars. The boys were outshot 46-29 on the night.

In the first period, it didn't take long for the Cougars to get on the board. Cameron Kokelj rifled his fourth post-season goal past Kameka to open the scoring on the power play.

Continued on Page 10

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**TOWN OF CALEDON**

**TOWN NEWS** See Page 7

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# Caledon lifts mask requirements under Ontario’s new rules

BY MARK PAVILONS

Caledon has lifted its mandatory mask rules, following Provincial and Regional health directions.

Councillors repealed its mask bylaw and COVID-19 emergency order after hearing from Peel’s Medial Officer of Health, Dr. Lawrence Loh, during a special virtual Council meeting Monday night.

While masks are optional, Town staff will keep up the rigorous cleaning and disinfecting of all facilities.

Caledon CAO Carey Herd noted staff will still be asked to carry masks, and “mirror” the choice of residents who come into the administration centre.

Mayor Allan Thompson was also assured that community vaccination and booster clinics will remain in place. Dr. Loh said the Ministry of Health encourages the continuation of clinics, to serve those who are not fully vaccinated.

Loh said the Region will likely include other services, such as traditional, historic vaccines.

Ward 1 Regional Councillor Ian Sinclair was leery of dropping the mask mandate at this time in the face of COVID surges in other parts of the world.

Dr. Loh said while these cases are concerning, Canada’s vaccination rate is much higher than those impacted countries.

He admitted that masking has been effective in reducing the spread, and those who are at risk should still wear them. Certain situations and environments still require masks, and Dr. Loh said as a matter of courtesy, he plans to wear his in places like movie theatres.

Ward 1 Area Councillor Lynn Kiernan wanted to know whether we’ve exited the pandemic, and entered an endemic stage. Dr. Loh said we’re approaching that stage. He also told the Councillor that our vaccinations are sufficient to combat the newest Omicron variant.

She lauded Dr. Loh for his team’s service

and dedication through the pandemic.

Mayor Thompson wanted to know whether the Township can get rid of the plexiglass barriers and Dr. Loh said the job now is preventing COVID’s severity, not its spread. It’s up to the municipality to make the call and be flexible.

Dr. Loh said the efforts now are concentrated on those who have not been infected or fully vaccinated. He recommends that everyone be tripled vaccinated.

“Please don’t become a statistic,” he said of those who aren’t fully vaccinated.

Mayor Thompson also praised Dr. Loh’s efforts, noting he “really stepped up. You got us through it, and you never forgot Caledon.”

Working on our side is the approaching warmer weather; that hinders the spread of the virus.

The virus may resurface or get worse later this fall, but until then, we need to remain vigilant.

While no longer mandatory, “now is not the time to throw away the masks,” Dr. Loh said.

The Omicron variant has waned in Peel and Caledon and Loh observed that given our strong track record, it’s always important to “make the right decisions at the right times.”

The early measures and quick response to the virus made all the difference and Peel has fared better than other municipalities. Dr. Loh praised local public health staff and local political leadership.

“We have attained a strong population-wide immunity and even if it returns, the risks are far lower for the majority of citizens.”

Dr. Loh said Peel Public Health staff are taking time to “recover” from the hectic workload over the past 800 days. The reality is, he said, it may take years to recover from, and restore, service levels to those before the pandemic.

CAO Herd added that as the Town rolls back requirements, capacity limits and so-

cial distancing will all change.

More information will be coming after most remaining restrictions are removed March 28.

She noted the hybrid format of Council meetings will continue, but members of the public are welcome to attend meetings in the Council chambers.

The hybrid work model for staff will also continue and Herd vowed that their number one priority is customer service and staff

will continue to be available to the public.

She acknowledged the contributions of staff through the pandemic.

Thompson echoed those sentiments, noting everyone from emergency personnel to every staff member “stepped up and did their part.”

He asked the public to remain patient during the transition, but he assured residents that work is getting done.



Honda Canada has announced it will invest \$1.38 billion in its Alliston auto plant over the next six years as it gets ready to start producing hybrid-electric vehicles. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Ontario Minister Vic Fedeli, and Federal Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne, toured the plant on Wednesday, March 16, and announced both governments will provide conditional funding to the project.

PHOTO BY BRIAN LOCKHART

## Honda will invest \$1.3 billion to prepare for electrified future

BY BRIAN LOCKHART  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Honda of Canada announced that it will invest \$1.38 billion over six years to upgrade its Alliston manufacturing plant in preparation for an electrified future.

The Federal and Provincial governments announced that each government will provide a conditional contribution of \$131.6 million to the plant.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Francois-Philippe Champagne, Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, and Vic Fedeli, Ontario’s Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, visited the Alliston automaker on Wednesday, March 16.

After touring the facility, they held a press conference in the plant.

The investment in the plant will allow the Alliston manufacturing facility to become the North America lead plant for the all-new 2023 CR-V Hybrid crossover.

“This represents an important milestone for Honda as we move forward in our ambitious vision to make battery electric vehicles represent 100 per cent of four North America vehicle sales by 2040,” said Jean Marc Leclerc, President and CEO of Honda Canada.

“HMC is home to a team of remarkably talented associates who build some of Honda’s most popular and fuel-efficient products. This investment not only ensures our product and manufacturing competitiveness within Ontario, Canada and abroad, but also significantly bolsters our ongoing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help Canada attain its overall climate targets.”

Honda’s overall fleet emits the lowest greenhouse gas emission among internal combustion engine manufactures in Canada and new hybrid products will reduce GHGs by 30 per cent compared to traditional gasoline powered vehicles.

By retooling both productions lines, Honda will secure thousands of well-paying, high-quality jobs in Alliston and throughout Honda’s extensive Canadian supplier net-

work.

“Today, we’re investing in workers, in communities, and in our future,” said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

“Building hybrid-electrics will support thousands of good jobs here in Alliston and grow the economy, all while cutting pollution and keeping our air clean. By helping Canadians build, and then drive, cleaner vehicles, we’re delivering on our plan to build a better future for all.”

Premier Ford emphasized the fact that Ontario is a great place for a manufacturing base.

“Today’s announcement is more proof that there is no better place for auto manufacturing than right here in Ontario,” Premier Ford said.

“We are home to the most skilled workers anywhere in the world, we have all the necessary natural resources, and we have created the best environment for jobs to grow and businesses to flourish. We are so pleased that Honda has made this investment in Ontario and that the cars of the future will be built here in Alliston and all across Ontario for decades to come.”

The fact that Honda is going forward with next generation vehicles is a major factor in the government’s decision to invest in the re-tooling plan.

“Ontario is proud to support Honda’s major investment to retool its Alliston plant to manufacture the company’s next-generation models, including hybrid versions,” said Minister Fedeli.

“By reducing the cost of doing business in Ontario by nearly \$7 billion annually, our government has created the economic conditions necessary to attract yet another important investment that further positions Ontario as a North American leader in developing and building the car of the future.”

Honda of Canada has the capacity to produce more than 400,000 vehicle and 190,000 engines annually, including the Honda Civic, Canada’s best-selling passenger car for 24 consecutive years.

Approximately 100,000 Canadian-built Civic and CR-V units are sold annually in Canada.

### COMMUNITY events

*This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 if you wish to have an announcement published.*

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ON 1344 Bolton – Real People, Real Weight Loss is a non-profit group. We meet weekly on Wed. evenings in the basement of Bolton United Church. Weigh-ins are 6:15-6:45 followed by a meeting. The initial annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is \$59, and monthly dues are only \$15. If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and your first meeting is free. Come join us! Now that the COVID19 protocols are starting to ease, it's a good time to make any necessary changes to your eating habits. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or see [www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org). Online memberships are also available.

North Peel Community Church presents: EndeavHER  
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Keynote Speaker: Dr. Brenda Rowdy  
Virtual on Zoom  
Date: Saturday March 26, 2002  
Time: 1 pm – 3 pm  
For further information contact: [SphereNPCC@outlook.com](mailto:SphereNPCC@outlook.com)  
Nerrissa Myers @ 647-972-7035

The Bolton Al-Anon Group has recently moved the regular meeting location to the Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street (across from Bolton Post Office). We still meet every Thursday at 8:30 pm. We welcome anyone who is/has been affected by someone who has problem with alcohol. If you have any questions please come any Thursday evening or email: [boltonalanon@gmail.com](mailto:boltonalanon@gmail.com).

Caledon Chamber Concerts presents:  
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# Amendments proposed for Encroachment, Clean Yards bylaws



Rock landscaping around a tree on a Caledon boulevard on March 23, 2022.  
**PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN**

**BY ZACHARY ROMAN**

Minor encroachments on some Caledon boulevards may soon no longer be prohibited. Municipal staff are in the process of amending the Town’s encroachment and clean yards bylaws as they relate to municipal boulevard use and maintenance.

In the Town’s proposed amended bylaws, boulevard is defined as “the portion of a highway which may be paved, unpaved, grassed or landscaped with other materials, and is situated between the curb or edge of pavement and the adjacent property line on both sides of a highway.”

At Caledon Council’s March 22 General Committee meeting, the Town’s Building and Municipal Law Enforcement Director Mark Sraga presented on the bylaws to Council.

In his presentation, Sraga said current bylaws prohibit all encroachments on boulevards adjacent to Caledon residents’ properties, which is very restrictive. Further, he said many minor encroachments have no negative impact from an operational or safety perspective and, in fact, improve streetscapes, benefiting the community.

An example of a minor encroachment would be the planting of flowers on a boulevard, or the placing of mulch or tree ring edging around boulevard trees.

In the past, due to the current encroachment

bylaw, Town staff have had to tell people to remove such beautifications despite them not really being a problem, said Sraga.

Changes to the encroachment bylaw would allow Caledon residents to make these sorts of minor aesthetic improvements to boulevards adjacent to their properties, while still prohibiting anything deemed to be an operational or safety hazard.

Those wishing to make a major encroachment will need to go through a permit process.

Site plans and a \$500 fee will be required for a permit application to be reviewed by Town Operations and Engineering staff. If the permit is approved, proof of insurance, necessary security deposits and sometimes, an encroachment agreement would need to be submitted to the Town.

In speaking about the Clean Yards Bylaw as it relates to boulevards, Sraga noted most Caledon residents choose to maintain municipal boulevards adjacent to their properties, despite the lack of rules requiring them to do so.

An amendment to the Town’s Clean Yards Bylaw would make it so residents would be “responsible to maintain the grass portion of boulevards that are immediately adjacent to their property excluding rural/agricultural properties,” according to Sraga’s presentation.

Town Operations staff will continue to maintain all the boulevards they already do, Sraga added.

He said the Town has had some instances where property owners, as well as property owners of vacant development properties, have not been maintaining their adjacent boulevards, leading to complaints. The amended Clean Yards Bylaw would provide the Town with a better tool to enforce that maintenance, Sraga said.

Maintaining adjacent boulevards, under the amended bylaw, would mean keeping them free of refuse and tall grass.

Councillor Lynn Kiernan asked Sraga if the Town was responsible for maintaining the adjacent boulevards in the case of a non-compliant property owner. Sraga said the Town’s contractor would do that work, then the cost of it would be put back on the non-compliant property owner in their property taxes.

Kiernan said she’d been asked by Caledon residents if edible plants would be allowed to be grown on boulevards. Sraga said not

all edible plants would work, since there are restrictions on height and proximity to the road and sidewalk for minor encroachment plantings.

The Town held an open house on March 3 regarding the amendment of its Encroachment and Clean Yards Bylaws. It also opened an online survey about the bylaws, which was still open as of March 23.

According to Sraga, next steps in the by-law amendment process include compiling results from the survey and open house. Then, a report will be brought to Caledon Council at its April 19 meeting. Should the bylaw amendments be approved, communication with residents to inform them of changes would begin.

Encroachment complaints received by the Town up until Council’s decision on the by-law amendments will be investigated.

However, no action will be taken unless there’s an immediate safety issue. This is because any possible enforcement required may change based on which version of the bylaw is in effect after Council votes.

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### SHOPLIFTING ARRESTS

The Caledon Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) and uniformed members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) executed a search warrant and laid charges in relation to eight separate shoplifting incidents between January and March 2022.

“The first theft was investigated on January 4, 2022,” say Police. “Seven additional incidents were reported by two Caledon businesses, the last one being on March 8, 2022 when an employee was assaulted. A suspect was identified and a search warrant was sought and executed on March 18, 2022.”

As a result of the investigation, Michael Celenza, 24, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Theft under \$5000 - Shoplifting (8

- counts)
- Robbery with theft

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on June 2, 2022, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

If you witness a crime, report it. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at [www.peelcrimestoppers.ca](http://www.peelcrimestoppers.ca). When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2000 upon an arrest.

### FATAL HOUSE FIRE IN ALLISTON

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a house fire on Albert

Street in Alliston.

“On Sunday March, 20, 2021, at approximately 7:20 p.m., police received a call of a structure fire,” say Police. “Police arrived on scene along with New Tecumseth Fire Department and Simcoe County Paramedics Services. Upon arrival, first responders observed a home fully engulfed in flames. New Tecumseth Fire rescued one female from the residence who was assessed on scene by paramedics and transported to a local hospital.”

The female was later air lifted to a Toronto area trauma centre.

The rescued female, 69-year-old, Nancy Stevens of Alliston has since succumbed to her injuries at hospital.

“The Ontario Fire Marshall’s Office was notified and attended the scene on March 21, 2022,” say Police. “At this time, the Ontario Fire Marshall’s Office has deemed the fire to be non-suspicious. The investigation is ongoing with regards to the cause.”

responding to 60,544 road crashes.


Collisions involving commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) were also up, with 7,215 crashes marking a 17 per cent increase. The OPP also saw a 26 per cent increase in CMV collisions that resulted in fatalities in 2021, with 72 people losing their lives in these crashes.

Motorcycle fatalities were down 17 per cent, with 35 people losing their lives last year.


### MARINE

The OPP responded to 23 fatal marine incidents last year which took 27 lives and marked a 16 per cent decrease in fatalities over 2020. The majority (24) of the deceased were not wearing a lifejacket. With capsized vessels and falling overboard cited as the primary causes in all but four of the fatalities, the data speaks to the critical role of a properly worn lifejacket when boating or paddling.


Almost half of the vessels involved in the incidents were non-motorized (e.g. canoe, kayak, stand-up paddle board).





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### ROAD DEATHS LINKED TO AGGRESSIVE DRIVERS REACH 10-YEAR HIGH

Speeding was among the more prevalent behaviours to wreak havoc on Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)-patrolled roads in 2021, contributing to the loss of 81 lives and marking a 10-year high in speed-related road deaths, say Police.

### ROADS

A total of 315 people died on roads last year, up three per cent over 2020. Alongside speeding, fatalities linked to inattentive drivers were up 29 per cent, while alcohol/drug-related deaths decreased by close to 50 per cent. Seatbelt-related deaths were also down last year over the previous year.

Collisions were up eight per cent in 2021 over the previous year, with OPP officers

### OFF-ROAD

22 people died in off-road vehicle incidents last year, down marginally from 2020. Alcohol/drugs were a factor in just over one third of the fatalities. Only half of those who died were wearing a helmet.

The OPP is reminding Ontarians that everyone has a role to play in reducing the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries. Whether you are driving a car, off-road vehicle or paddling in a canoe, always operate your vehicle/vessel safely, always wear your seatbelt when you hit the road, your lifejacket on the water and your helmet while off-roading.

Please do your part to keep you, your loved ones and those with whom you share our roads, waterways and trails safe. By doing so, Ontarians can collectively and significantly reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries.

# PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

## The Citizen CROSSWORD

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. One who regrets  
5. Time zone  
8. Subway dweller  
11. Bend in a river  
13. Alias  
14. Isodor \_\_, American Nobel physicist  
15. Very (music)  
16. Zero  
17. Phil \_\_, former CIA  
18. Competitions  
20. Unwell  
21. Puts in place  
22. Gets rid of  
25. Allows light to pass through  
30. Climbed quickly  
31. We all have it  
32. There’s a North & South  
33. Emaciation  
38. Supervises flying  
41. Very dark colors

43. Unwanted  
45. Grants  
48. Three visited Jesus  
49. Wife of Amun  
50. Broadway actress Daisy  
55. A Spanish river  
56. I (German)  
57. French opera composer  
59. Six (Spanish)  
60. Last letter  
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation  
62. A curved shape  
63. Make a mistake  
64. Tall plant

### CLUES DOWN

1. Computer memory  
2. “Et \_\_”: “And wife” (Latin)  
3. Ancient Syrian city  
4. College army  
5. Cassava

6. Talented  
7. Capital of Estonia  
8. Finger millet  
9. In a way, assists  
10. Men’s fashion accessories  
12. Misery  
14. Skin disorder  
19. Selling at specially reduced prices  
23. Good friend  
24. Stationary portion of a generator  
25. Expression of disappointment  
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet  
27. Where birds fly  
28. Midway between north and northeast  
29. Chaotic states  
34. Comedic actress Gasteyer  
35. Kids’ dining accessory

36. Snakelike fish  
37. Midway between south and southeast  
39. Assign lifelike qualities to  
40. One who cites  
41. Midway between east and southeast  
42. North wind  
44. One or the other  
45. Cavalry sword  
46. Of the Hungarian language  
47. Life stories  
48. Flat tableland with steep edges  
51. Swiss river  
52. Plant that makes gum  
53. French cleric  
54. One point east of northeast  
58. Free from

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



# Council mulls new name for old Bolton Fire Station



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

Building will be renovated to become a community hub with Council supporting “Humber River Centre” name change

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

“The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub,” as a new name for the old Bolton Fire Station, was determined to be a bit of a mouthful.

According to a motion passed by Caledon Council at its March 22 General Committee meeting, Humber River Centre is a better name for the old fire station at 28 Ann Street that’s to be renovated to become a community hub.

A report to Council from Community

Services Director Heather Savage regarding the name change noted Town of Caledon staff worked with the Downtown Bolton Revitalization Task Force — which includes stakeholders from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority — to come up with a new name.

According to the report, the task force met monthly beginning in May 2021 to discuss potential names.

“Much consideration has been given to equal representation of Caledon’s history, geography and community,” reads the report.

After initial task force discussions were inconclusive, a working group was formed and a shortlist of potential names was created: The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub; Humber River Centre; and Jigaajwan Centre.

The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub was the task force’s top choice and thus recommended to Council in Savage’s

report.

However, Councillor Tony Rosa was concerned with the recommendation and said the name was “quite a mouthful.” He said when he thinks of a new image and use for the facility, he likes the Humber River Centre name better.

“We’re trying to create spaces like makerspaces and innovation centres... the more I think of that, the more I think of a centre,” said Rosa.

Councillor Annette Groves said she agreed with Rosa, adding not many communities are fortunate enough to have a major river running through them.

“We do need to emphasize the river as a huge attribute,” she said.

In opposition to the Humber River Centre name was Mayor Allan Thompson, who preferred the name recommended in the staff report.

He said the fact the community hub will be in an old fire station is unique.

More support for the Humber River

Centre name came from Councillor Nick deBoer, who noted the old fire station isn’t actually that old. If it was really old, he said he’d agree with the Mayor’s name preference for the historical reference.

Rounding out the backing of the Humber River Centre name was Councillor Lynn Kiernan, who agreed with Rosa that The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub name didn’t roll off the tongue.

“If I was to say to my husband, ‘I think we should go and see that event tonight at the Old Bolton Fire Hall’ versus ‘I think we should go to the Humber River Centre,’ I know where he’s coming with me,” said Kiernan.

Town staff’s recommendation to Council about the new name was amended to replace “The Old Bolton Fire Hall Community Hub” with “Humber River Centre” in all instances.

Then, the motion to name the building Humber River Centre was carried unanimously.

# Meaghan’s Music Room receives \$30,000 grant to provide music therapy locally

BY ROBERT BELARDI  
AND CHAIR ROBERT J. WARD

The Meaghan Zaremba Music Room, also known as Meaghan’s Music Room, has received a \$30,000 grant from the Government of Ontario’s Community Building Fund – Operating Stream.

This grant, delivered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, supports the organization’s operating expenses during a challenging period for fundraising and sponsorship revenues.

“Meaghan’s Music Room has continued to find innovative ways to offer music therapy and instruction of music for special needs individuals in our community,” said Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon.

“This Community Building Fund - Operating stream grant, delivered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, will help ensure that Meaghan’s Music Room can continue to support their students who depend on music therapy.”

Meaghan’s Music Room delivers therapeutic and recreational music sessions to a racially diverse group of local autistic and special needs individuals, helping many to participate in affordable music programs, and overcome financial hardship and isolation. These sessions make a significant impact by helping to generate confidence, social skills, and increased mobility for the participants.

During the pandemic, Meaghan’s Music

Room saw reduced funding from traditional sources, while the costs of rent and other expenses remained. At the same time, the organization incurred new expenses in adapting programs for safe delivery during COVID. This funding will greatly assist in covering costs during 2022, as the organization continues to adapt its programs for safe delivery, refine its fundraising strategy, and meet the needs of the community.

“The impact of this grant cannot be understated,” said Robert Ward, Chair of Meaghan’s Music Room.

“As a Charity that relies on donations and corporate sponsors to support our program, this grant has allowed Meaghan’s Music Room to continue to provide a unique and vital music program during difficult fiscal times. Our program has become an important, therapeutic part of the daily lives of special needs individuals from many local organizations such as White Birch Day Program, Brampton and Caledon Community Living, Growing Opportunities For Adult Life Skills, and St. Michael Secondary School, among others. Physically and mentally challenged individuals from a variety of cultures and races regularly take part in programs that strive to create the confidence and capability for them to integrate into society through participation in a service that is otherwise unavailable in the region.”

Meaghan Zaremba suffered severe brain

damage from a tragic car accident at the age of five.

Faced with a grim prognosis that she might never be able to care for herself, those around her knew her spirit was strong and, after countless surgeries, she began to blossom into an amazing young woman.

She credits the power of music therapy as a catalyst to her progress.

In 2013, Zaremba, served as the inspiration for those around her to create a program that could be a resource in the Bolton community for individuals with special needs challenges.

Over time, awareness of the program grew, creating steadily increasing demand for participation from additional groups that saw the improvement in the lives of participants. By 2017, the waiting list for participants was more than what the organization could handle.

“So, in 2018, a group of community-minded leaders and advisors worked together to transform MMR into the Not-for-profit Charitable Organization it now has become,” Ward said.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations. Last year, nearly \$112M was invested into 1,384 community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario’s non-profit sector. In 2020/21, OTF supported

Ontario’s economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit [otf.ca](http://otf.ca) to learn more.

More information about Meaghan’s Music Room is available at [www.meaghansmusic-room.ca](http://www.meaghansmusic-room.ca).

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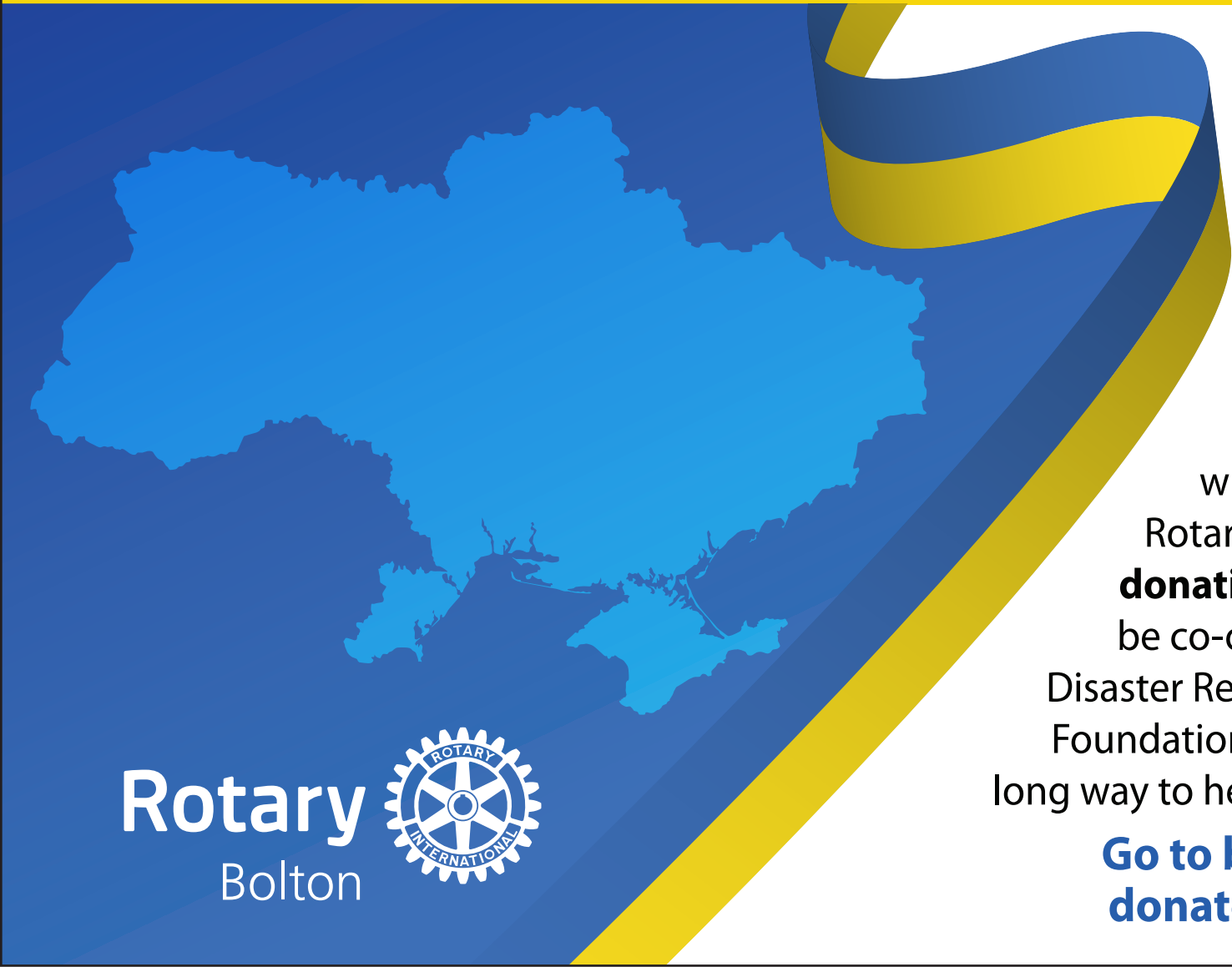


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Today, our thoughts are with our fellow Rotary members and others in Ukraine coping with these tragic events. The Rotary Club of Bolton will **match donations up to \$5,000** that will be co-ordinated by the Ukraine Disaster Response Fund of the Rotary Foundation. Your support will go a long way to help these people in crisis.

Go to [boltonrotary.ca](http://boltonrotary.ca) to donate before April 7th



# Releasing second novel during the pandemic has been strange for Caledon author

BY ROB PAUL

When Suzanne Hillier retired from being one of the most prominent divorce lawyers in Ontario—known in Brampton as “the Barracuda”—she decided to dive back into her true passion: writing.

Now 89-years-old, the Caledon resident has had two books published in the last few years with more on the way.

Her most recent novel, *My Best Friend Was Angela Bennett*, came out on June 6. It’s a story that revolves around love, friendship, and survival set in Newfoundland during World War II and has been praised as a harrowing journey, engaging, and unforgettable while looking at how friendships endure through the most difficult of times.

From Newfoundland herself, and the daughter of the former Attorney General of the province, she used her early experiences as inspiration for the novel. Only resuming writing 12 years ago, after finding her love for it nearly 70 years ago, she strives to write in a pro-feminist style and incorporate parts of her own life into her work.

The pro-feminist style of her writing has been influenced by her firsthand experience as a single-mother who decided to become a lawyer in her late 30s and was just one of five women in a graduating class of 150 people at the University of Toronto. Later in life, a cancer diagnosis changed everything for her.

“I was a practicing lawyer for 32 years and I never loved practicing law, that just wasn’t me,” she said. “I was a people person and I always loved my clients. I had strong relationships with my clients, and they’re the ones that made me appreciate it because when you’re getting a divorce you really want someone to love you and be supportive. I found that I always wanted to write, but my husband died at 44 and I had three teenagers and I was teaching high school and we needed money. I thought I would do better financially in law, and it was more of a practical decision, but I did it because I really like people and enjoy helping them. After 32 years of burning myself out, I got a Leukemia and that’s when I started to write.”

Releasing her second novel during the pandemic wasn’t easy and it’s been a strange experience for Hillier as someone who loves to get out there and mingle with readers and talk about her book in person.

“It’s a hell of a time to bring out a book because I love to mix with people and I’ve got



Author Suzanne Hillier

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

all my old divorcees—I’ve divorced half of Brampton—and when I’m down there they all come around and they all want to see how I am and talk about the book,” she said. “I’m very fond of my old clients and they all keep in touch with me, so it makes promoting a book great fun, but I haven’t been able to do anything with the pandemic. It’s impossible to really be out there promoting a book right now. You can’t do it in-person and I just don’t like to do it over Zoom because it’s not personal enough. I did have a discussion over Zoom with the Orangeville Library that was pretty fun, but everything is just very awkward. They aren’t having signings right now at places like Chapters and even a terrific store like BookLore (in Orangeville) isn’t able to have people come in like that right now because it’s just too scary right now.”

The experience has been far less enjoyable for her with the human interaction aspect of the book release removed, but she understands why it can’t happen with the danger of COVID-19.

“There’s no fun with releasing a book when you can’t go out and meet with people and

connect with them,” said Hillier. “I’ve got the kind of book that’s a real kind of women’s book with an edge that some people love and it’s an easy book to promote—all you have to do is sit there and wave it around and say it’s a bit of a dirty book. Getting out there and meeting with people always attracts them to buy your book but you really just can’t be doing that right now. Everyone is being cautious right now and we don’t want to be drawing too many people to one place.”

Though things are different with her second novel release, the response has been positive, but there have been issues with the availability of the book online due to the impact the pandemic has had on the supply chain.

“I’ve gotten a lot of five-star reviews, and I know they’ve ordered more at BookLore,” she said. “It wasn’t for sale in the U.S. for the longest time and didn’t have it at Amazon because they said due to COVID they were having distribution problems. So, it didn’t go smoothly at times due to that, a lot of people tried to get it and couldn’t so there were some annoying problems. It wasn’t an easy process like my previously published book

that bashed hockey (Sonja and Carl) where it was all over the place—imagine writing your first book and focusing on the negative side of Canada’s favourite! So, the two books I’ve had published bash the sport of Canada and the other is one I’d never want my grandchildren to read! That’s why my latest book is perfect.”

With a handful of unpublished novels, she hopes to get out in the coming years, her most recent book is the one she is most excited about getting published and out to the public.

“It’s called *Real Connections* and I don’t have a publisher for it yet, but it’s the best thing I’ve done and at least I’m not bashing hockey or torturing someone sexually,” she said. “It’s more of a childhood trauma with an interesting custody battle. It’s not a bad book and I’m almost proud of it. Sometimes you write something and think, ‘Jesus, why would I write that?’ But this is something I’m looking forward to. I worked on it for about six months and now it’s done. I’ve got four or five more books I’ve written that I want to get out and published because they’re just sitting around and looking at me.”

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Brock’s Banter

Certainly not the road less travelled

BY BROCK WEIR

I’ve never necessarily been one to always want to go first.

Sure, there’s nothing wrong with blazing a trail when the situation calls for it, but there are other times when sitting back and having time to reflect before speaking or acting can do us all a world of good.

Or maybe, speaking strictly from a personal perspective, that is just learned behaviour.

Despite everyone’s best efforts, I was never an athlete. During our school track and field competitions, with one exception that was purely a fluke, I never merited more than a purple participant ribbon.

For the same reason, I was rarely not one of the last people picked when it was time to break into teams in gym class.

On the one hand, it was an embarrassing and all-too-regular occurrence. But, on the other hand, not being team captain, the amount of blame I had to shoulder pending the outcome of the game was rather minimal.

As one got older and more and more opportunities for public speaking, to pick one example, came about, there was another dilemma that quickly uncovered its horns: you never really wanted to go first as you wouldn’t have time to suss out your audience. Yet again though, if you didn’t either go first or near the beginning of the roster what you had to say ran the risk of getting stale by the time they got to you.

In the news industry, it is almost universally beneficial to get a story off first, but that is not always the case. Taking the extra time to piece together background and context can present an altogether different story than what can be slapped together and posted in just a simple effort to be first.

While living in the so-called “information age” – is that still what we’re calling in this era? – has exacerbated the appetite to be first or consume first, it’s far from a new phenomenon.

We often see at the municipal level, for instance, the desire for one Ontario municipality to be the first out of 444 to start a movement, whether it is for or against something, sometimes for the sake of being first rather than taking the time to fully examine and evaluate the short-term and long-term consequences.

In the upper levels of government – and, the lower tiers are not immune to this either – there is usually an appetite amongst the elected to note trends in public discourse and be the among the first to hitch their wagons to the movement, whether through a speech or a motion to do something concrete about it.

There’s nothing bad about any of this, mind you, but it’s a trend that shows no signs of slowing down. Perhaps most recently we’ve seen this political appetite to be the first among [fill in your own blank] to see the end of the global pandemic by lifting restrictions province by province from coast to coast, pretending as if by a stroke of the pen and an arbitrarily chosen date on the calendar that we’re closing the chapter on COVID and somehow moving onto a “post-COVID” world.

“With continued improvements in trends,

Ontario will remove the mandatory masking requirement for most settings on March 21, with the exception of select settings such as public transit, health care settings, long-term care homes and congregate care settings,” said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer for Ontario, in a statement just a few weeks ago before the curtain was allegedly brought down on a virus still wreaking havoc.

“As a society, we must remain kind, considerate and respectful toward those who continue wearing a mask. We must also expect indicators, such as cases and hospitalizations, to increase slightly as Ontarians increasingly interact with one another. However, thanks to our high vaccination rates and natural immunity, as well as the arrival of antivirals, Ontario has the tools necessary to manage the impact of the virus.

“I want to thank Ontarians for their ongoing resilience and commitment to community as we navigated this global pandemic together. Your sacrifices and collective actions have made a difference. While this does not signal that COVID-19 has disappeared or that the pandemic is over, it does mean that we have come to a place where we know what we need to do to manage this virus and to keep each other safe.

“We need to remain vigilant. We need to stay home when sick. And, most importantly, we need to get vaccinated and boosted.”

Speaking as a vaccinated and boosted individual, I’m getting rather tired of having to remain vigilant, and I’m sure I’m not alone here.

It seems like every time we have positive trends in the fight against COVID-19, there’s a collective mindset that it’s a sure sign that it’s safe to go back to a pre-COVID lifestyle, the same approach that has put us in lockdown after lockdown, a cycle which seems to be a never-ending one.

I’m not going out of my way to be a downer here; I’m simply looking at other jurisdictions that lifted the bulk of their public health restrictions some weeks ago seeing data curve more in the direction of the start line than anywhere else.

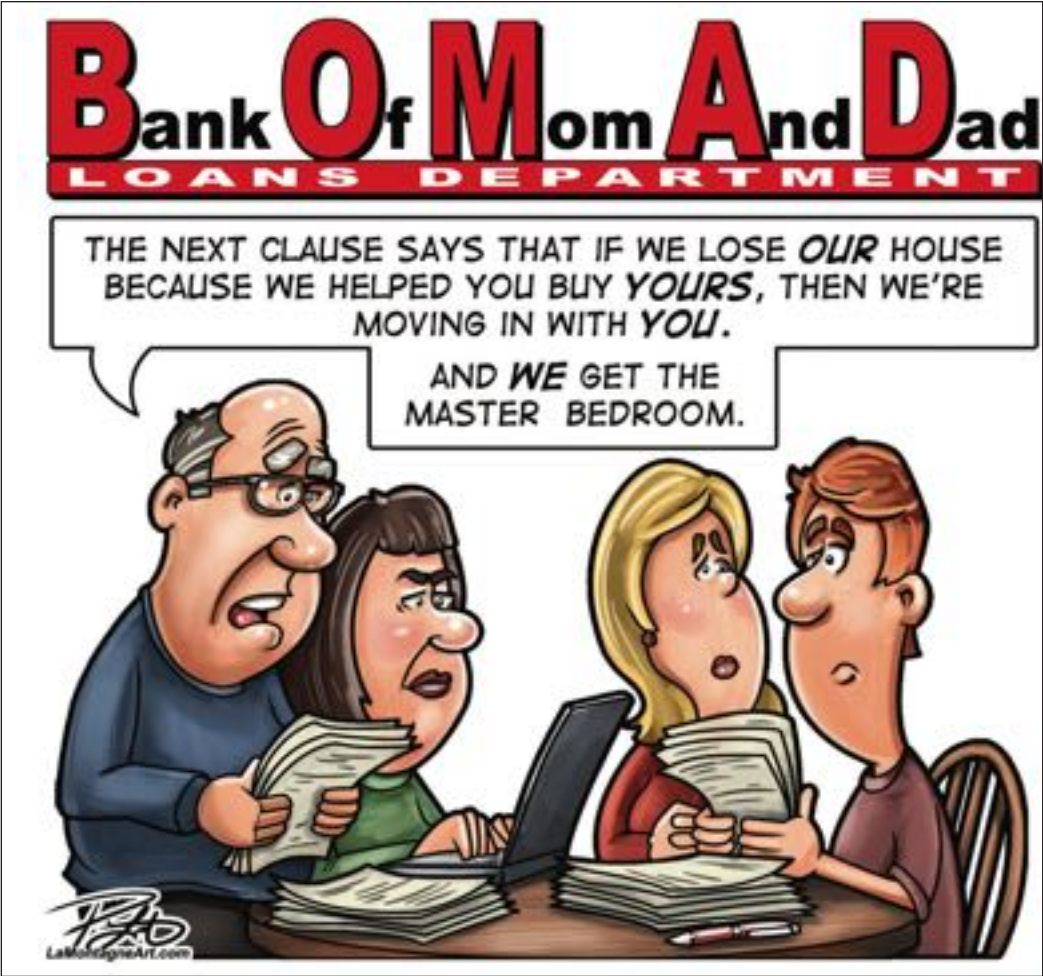
Also, referring to the global pandemic in past tense, even in a thank you to Ontarians who “navigated the global pandemic” doesn’t exactly inspire confidence.

We’ve seen some of these landmarks on this road before and it’s not exactly nostalgic to see them again.

While I look forward to the day when I personally will feel comfortable hanging up the face masks for good – even though I’ve picked up a few along this two-year journey that have become more fashion than anything else – I’m more than comfortable hanging back for a little while longer.

I’m woefully tired of stepping into any indoor setting with a mask on and battling through the fog on my glasses to see two steps in front of my face, but it seems like a small price to pay for my own peace of mind.

Speaking strictly for myself, as a matter of personal choice, I’ll keep my mask on for just a little while longer, not only out of respect for the immunocompromised in my circle and community, but because this road feels strangely familiar.



Immortality may already be part of our DNA

by Mark Pavilons



The complex tug-of-war between life and death has plagued humankind from the very beginning.

Looking up at the stars in the night, even our cave-dwelling ancestors wondered about “what’s next.”

Humans have been driven to uncover the answers, through gods, various religious texts, even the search for the fountain of youth and Shangri-La.

I will admit it, death scares the hell out of me.

But iconic rockers Queen warned us of the pitfalls of wanting to live forever:

“This world has only one sweet moment set aside for us ... Forever is our today.”

Be careful what you wish for – because forever is a very long time. Time itself may last forever, but biological beings don’t. Science may extend our lives, but immortality may be always out of reach.

“Always; for everlasting time; eternally” are some definitions of forever. And our lexicons are quick to point out that no one can live forever. An interesting entry and reminder.

And yet, science is continually finding fault with that accepted fact.

If an insect, embedded in amber for 100 million years, can be revived, well that changes everything. Okay, science isn’t there yet, but hope remains. And then we’re in store for many more Jurassic Park scenarios.

There is also an argument that we can live longer in space, without the stresses of gravity on our bodies.

But the biggie in terms of forever is whether space is infinite. Does it go on forever? If not, where and when does it end? What’s on the other side? These are mind-tripping thoughts.

Some also argue that energy can’t be created or destroyed, so the energy contained in our bodies when we pass has to go somewhere. It doesn’t just cease to exist.

Does it float up to the heavens, join with all other human souls who have ever lived and died? Do we become one with the universe? That would be really cool.

We don’t even fully understand the miracles associated with human creation and life itself. From microscopic cells, the unbelievable journey of conception/fertilization creates a new, unique human being. That in itself is crazy complicated and yet oh, so simple. It’s still a miracle if you ask me.

Some important texts indicate that “the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.”

Our Readers Write

GO announcement was “cheap publicity stunt”

(Re: Province commits to building Caledon-Vaughan GO Rail Line in new transportation plan, March 17)

This so-called announcement was just a cheap publicity stunt intended to help the Doug Ford Conservatives get reelected in the June election.

It contained no explanation on how a GO Train to Bolton would be financed.

A 2010 Metrolinx feasibility study estimated the cost at almost \$400 million. Similarly, there were no details on what arrangements can be reached with Canadian Pacific, which owns the rail tracks going through Bolton, to allow commuter train service. At some point in the future, there will be GO train service. But that is not going to happen for a few more decades.

What is on the immediate horizon, however, is the Conservatives’ plan to build the economically ruinous and environmentally destructive mega-style Highway 413. There are a number of ways Caledon residents can take to express their opposition, including placing a Stop Highway 413 sign in front of their properties. (To order one contact; danoreilly@sympatico.ca)

They can also join a growing campaign to take this battle to the doorstep of Canada Pension Plan Investments, the Crown Corporation which oversees and invests funds to and held by the Canada Pension Plan. Although many people may not be aware of it, CPP Investments is a 50.01-per-cent majority shareholder of Highway 407ETR.

Continued on Page 11

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# Hope “Springs” Eternal

As I write today, I am bathed in brilliant sunshine. Walking the dog this morning did not involve dodging massive snow drifts; enormous puddles made by melting snow drifts, or skating across frozen surfaces caused by melting then freezing snow drifts. I’m sure you catch my drift. It’s a beautiful day, the kind of day that many might still find a bit on the chilly side, but one where you’ll also find some hardy Canadians wearing shorts. Why? Because it’s that time of year when we collectively stick our heads up out of our burrows, run outside to stare at the weird bright light in the sky and have hope – a hope that “springs” eternal every year around this time – hope that spring is finally here.

Were we an alien elementary kid’s science experiment, viewed under a bubble they’ve artificially created in order to watch us hatch, match, and dispatch, it’s this time of year that they must be laughing at us so hard. “Look,” they exclaim excitedly as the 24/7 cameras trained on us track our every move. “The

humans are running outside, they’re staring at the sun – one of them even has shorts on! Let’s release some more snow just for fun!” And so it continues. Whether you believe in God, Allah, Aliens or Science, there is one universal truth we must surely all agree on and that’s the naiveté of Canadians. Year after year after year we sigh contentedly on March 21 exclaiming loudly that spring is here, only to have our hopes madly dashed soon after by a significant dumping of snow or the overnight arrival of freezing rain, both turning our roads and sidewalks into skating rinks.

If that isn’t bad enough, here in Caledon, spring also heralds the arrival again this year of your new best friend and mine: the LDD month.

Apparently, nothing kills those little fiends – not even snow and ice. This spring, and even though they’ve been newly rechristened as the “Spongy” moth (a creative name it took a team of 50 scientists and forestry management people to come up with) they’re still as poised

and ready as ever to invade us yet again.

As an aside, if you are looking to blame someone for the sheer volume of caterpillars/ moths eating your foliage this year (it’s not the Town of Caledon’s fault), according to the Smithsonian, you can blame an amateur entomologist named Leopold Truevelot. The records indicate he was attempting to breed a hardier version of silkworm in the 1860s when several adult moths escaped his home in Massachusetts and now here we are.

This year, the first day of spring also heralded the arrival of the first day of no masks, or as some people refer to it, the first day of the next big “super-spreader event.”

I’m guessing all that fresh air and sunshine does a better job of killing COVID than any of us (even the experts at the science table) thought and therefore, what better time than the first day of spring to doff the masks and breathe freely! After all, some of y’all will be wearing shorts what with the temperature climbing above zero so perhaps it also makes

sense for you to feel the breeze both north and south of your waistline?

As for me, I might be temporarily blinded by the sun in the sky but I am not blind to the continued (perhaps even escalating) risk of contracting COVID. Just as my legs rarely see a pair of shorts, it’ll be a rarity that my smile greets the sun without a mask on. I might be hopeful that spring will eventually herald the arrival of actual good weather but I’m willing to wait and see for a bit longer.

Spring almost always disappoints us at least once. Despite the sun, I’m reasonably certain there will be a dumping of snow again soon and I’m anticipating a dumping of COVID related cases too.

Ahhh spring, the eternal harbinger of both raising – and crushing – hope!



**SHERALYN ROMAN**  
TALK CALEDON

# The mother of invention

If “necessity is the mother of invention,” then maybe innovation is the child of invention.

Or something like that.

It has long been considered that most, if not all, inventions have been thought of, created, and produced, based on a need for that product or tool.

Somewhere, at some time, someone realized if they had a tool or device to make a job easier, or an implement that they knew someone else would buy and use, then they could create that tool to make life easier.

Although many modern inventions have a tendency to stray from “need” to “would like to have” for no other particular reason.

Movies weren’t really created for a need. They were created for entertainment. Someone figured out if you took a series of photographs and flashed them at 24 frames-per-second, it would give the illusion of movement and live action. Pretty smart.

Video games are another example of something you may want, but don’t need. No one really needs a video game and playing Minecraft won’t make your life any easier. It was

the innovative process derived from the invention electronics that makes it possible for you to sink a battleship with a cruise missile or pilot a 747 on your computer from the comfort of your easy chair.

That’s pretty clever – and a lot of people have made a lot of money designing games for no other reason than someone will buy them for their entertainment value.

Necessity has of course, spawned most of the great inventions in society.

“If only there was a way...” must have been a thought in the minds of a lot of people over the eons.

Someone figured out you catch more fish with a net than you do dangling a single worm from a hook.

Someone figured out that attaching a sail to a boat will propel you through the water a lot easier than hanging over the side with a paddle.

And someone realized that if you took tiny little kernels of wheat, ground them down, added water, and baked, you could make bread and feed your family.

The curious thing is not all societies figured

out all the answers on their own – except for maybe one.

There are societies that had advanced writing systems and mathematics, yet never figured out the wheel.

In some places, the people came up with some very good solutions to raise crops and feed their people, and yet the concept of metals was non-existent.

There is one concept that seems to be almost universal and even the most primitive societies managed to figure it out: the bow and arrow.

From North America to Europe, Africa, Asia, South America, and even isolated island communities, they all managed to figure it out.

Many inventions have been shared between different societies. If one group came up with a new idea, sooner or later a visitor from a nearby region would see it and take the idea home with them.

And yet the bow and arrow was created in places where there was no shared information. The weapon is incredibly complicated when you think about it.

First someone has to come up with the idea

of propelling a pointed shaft at a target. An arrow head must be designed to slice through whatever you are shooting at.

A bow must be designed to have the right amount of curve, flexibility, and spring, to shoot the arrow with force.

And someone had to put enough thought into the project to realize that attaching a stabilizer to the rear of the shaft, in the form of feathers or something similar, will help guide the arrow through the air in a straight line.

I’ve done quite a bit of research trying to find out how a society that never invented the wheel, or never came up with the concept of a written language or mathematics, still managed to figure out the aerodynamics needed to send an arrow through the air in a stable fashion – and did it independently with no outside influence.

There seems to be no answer to that.

I guess if you really need something, someone will figure it out.



**BRIAN LOCKHART**  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



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– Deb

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# Kraft Hockeyville partners with Marie-Philip Poulin, nominations end April 3

BY ROBERT BELARDI

Following her Olympic triumph, Kraft Hockeyville has partnered with three-time Olympic gold medallist and captain of Team Canada Marie-Philip Poulin to share the importance of hockey in local communities.

“To be able to be on the Kraft Hockeyville campaign, is a privilege to be honest. I feel like I connect a lot there, obviously with community and hockey together,” Poulin said in a Zoom interview with The Citizen.

“It’s been since the start of my career playing hockey and, obviously, in my local rink since I started playing hockey. Being able to nominate your community until April 3, where you can win a prize up to \$250,000. So that’s pretty cool to be able to do that to renew your local rink. We all know that hockey brings people together. It brings community together [and I’m] very happy to be a part of it.”

According to a recent survey conducted by Kraft Hockeyville, 85 per cent of all Canadians believe that hockey is the catalyst in binding together communities.

Poulin has seen this since she began her career in a small rink in Beauceville, QC, and continued through her Olympic journey.

It really all begins from the grassroots level, she said. Youth who participate in the sport get to make friends and parents become friends with one another. In her eyes, hockey has shaped her into the person she is today.

Poulin expressed that it’s fascinating to see people get together in bars, restaurants and at home, to watch hockey games. The sport continues to bring Canadians closer together and that is what hockey is all about.

With nominations set to end on April 3, Poulin shared her opinion on how communities can approach this unique opportunity.

“It’s so exciting. Go on the website to



MARIE-PHILIP POULIN

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOCKEY CANADA

Krafthockeyville.ca to be able to nominate your local rink. Obviously, there’s going to be a couple of questions when you have the chance to do that. All the info is on the website,” Poulin said.

“Entering the nomination, just don’t be scared to nominate your local rink. Anything can happen. Really bring people together as you nominate your community. You can either win that prize or have an NHL hockey game in your local rink. I can’t imagine what it would be like, because if I look back at my career, in Beauceville, small town, if I had the chance to have two NHL teams playing there it would have been quite awesome, for sure.”

Also found in the survey, 50 per cent of Canadians believe the pandemic has impacted community connection. For those who are still adjusting to getting back to normal, getting back out there might not be something everybody is prepared to do just yet.

Poulin suggested for those who might not be comfortable going out in public to get involved online. She encouraged everyone to share the Kraft Hockeyville nomination page on social media. She also said people could get involved in their minor hockey teams virtually as well.


Since coming off a two-goal performance in the Gold Medal game against the USA in

Beijing, Poulin became the first-ever Olympian to score in four straight Olympic Gold Medal games.

Still feeling on Cloud Nine, in the Tim Hortons Heritage Classic between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Buffalo Sabres played on March 13, the women’s national team was invited to sing the Canadian national anthem in front of Tim Hortons Field in Hamilton.

Poulin said that moment was very special as it was her first time singing in front of a large crowd.

To sign up the community for a chance to win, head to [krafthockeyville.ca/](https://krafthockeyville.ca/) to nominate a local rink in the community.



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## Golden Hawks ousted in first round by Schomberg Cougars

Continued from FRONT

Just 46 seconds into the second period, Luke Camara scored his second of the series to tie things up.

But shortly after, it was the beginning of the end for the Hawks. Carlo Lioni, Thomas Tomlinson and Jonathan Calleja added three goals for the Cougars in the period to seal the win.

Despite losing the series, it was truly the Mason Kameka story for the Golden Hawks. In all five of his starts in the series, Kameka saw north of 40 shots every game.

The 6-foot-2, Orangeville native came over to the Golden Hawks, having previously played for the Mount Forest Patriots.

For the second PJHL season in a row, the Golden Hawks have failed to make it out of the first round. Two years ago, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Golden Hawks lost four-straight to the Penetang Kings when head coach Stan Kondrotas was at the helm.

Now, the Golden Hawks fell to Kondrotas and his new team, the Schomberg Cougars.


The next round is all set in the North Carruthers Division.

The Cougars take on the Orillia Terriers while the Alliston Hornets take on the Stayner Siskins.




Kameka robs Cougars forward Jordyn Palazzo, extending his trapper on the ice to keep the game even at one in Game Five at the Trisan Centre.


PHOTO BY ROBERT BELARDI




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# Caledon Town Hall Players present Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Caledon Town Hall Players (CTHP) opens this weekend with Norm Foster’s play “Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun,” a story about an unusual friendship that begins in a moment of crisis.

Holly and Robert meet on a bus. Robert is a 35-year-old man with the mental capacity of an eight-year-old, which does not mean he has no wisdom. Holly is a young woman unexpectedly pregnant and on her own. When Robert invites Holly home for dinner, she meets his mother Claire, who has worries and fears of her own.

The Script Reading committee of CHTP chose this play for the community theatre’s 2022 season.

“We’re pleased to take this on,” said director Amanda Dempsey-Laughlin. “It’s touching and beautiful – bring your Kleenex. When I read it, I immediately fell in love with the characters.”

Puneet Bajwa as Holly brings humour and emotion to every scene, Ms. Laughlin assured the Citizen. She added that the relationship between Holly and Robert, played by Ceirin Mettler, is very well-developed, believable and endearing.

“We had started our rehearsals in person until the January lockdown, then Zoom just to keep everyone connected. It has worked out well,” said Ms. Laughlin. “How Holly cares for Robert is evident. Their friendship is very visible; people will [appreciate] their chemistry.”

She went on to explain that Claire’s chief concern is for her son’s safety. A doctor has told her she has something wrong which can be controlled by medications. Her thoughts turn to her son, Robert: What if he is left alone? Obviously, she is protective of him after Robert’s accident left him with the thinking level of an “eight year child.

“But he is also quite perceptive,” commented Ms. Laughlin.

Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun has been a favourite with community and professional theatres alike, all across Canada and the U.S.A. Little wonder for the play brings issues to light that are frequently in the shadows while keeping audiences laughing - that balance for which Mr. Foster’s plays are so well loved.

One is constantly learning, as Ms. Laughlin noted, by just watching actors on stage and how they really work through developing their characters, specifically for the character Robert.

“Comedy gold,” she called it.

The dialogue bounces from here to there. Robert is a super challenging role for any actor, in her opinion, going in one direction and then winding up in another.

“I think also Ceirin is trying to play him as real a person as you can, to show at the moment that eight-year-old giddiness – but kids have depth – and he is also a man who has actually had sex. His mother worries that scarred him,” she said.

In her own role as the director, she has been trying to help the actor find the balance between the little boy and the man.

The actors performing Kiss the Moon, Kiss the Sun for this CTHP production are all aficionados of community theatre and they perform or volunteer otherwise in many of the several theatres in this broader area.

Jennifer Bartrum is back as Doctor Andrews and Jack Brooks, whom you may have seen at Century Church Theatre, is here playing Holly’s less-than-keen boyfriend.

Agreeing that community theatre improves the cultural content of communities, Ms. Laughlin, having participated in community theatre for some years, says she is sure they would be “poorer without them.”

While she has been busy with various projects, as a side note Ms. Laughlin mentioned that she has as well written a children’s book, The Hunt for Eddie’s Treasure, illustrated by Emma Pink and published with Kindle.

There is an audio recording of it featuring her actor daughter, Victoria Laughlin, doing the narration and all the voices.

People should come to see the show as it is a lovely touching story. The relationship between the mother and her son and between a new friend will make you laugh and cry.

“Best of all,” Laughlin declared happily, “theatre is back. These theatre groups have suffered and closed their doors. All these people have suffered not doing what they love, transporting audiences to a different world.”

“People need that,” she is sure. “All the people who have contributed to the arts are colouring our lives.”

There are a total of six shows, including two matinees.

Show dates – March 25, 26th, April 1 and 2 at 8:15 p.m., March 26 and April 2 at 2:15 p.m.

Dinner Theatre – March 26 and April 2 at 8:15 p.m.

For tickets go to [www.caledontownhall-players.com](http://www.caledontownhall-players.com)

For dinner theatre tickets call (519) 927-5460

Masks must be worn in the theatre at all times. Dinner theatre attendees also must show proof of vaccination.

## Our Readers Write

### GO announcement was “cheap publicity stunt”

Continued from Page 8

And making better use that existing tolled highway as an alternative to building Highway 413, the cost of which has been pegged anywhere from \$6 to \$10 billion, is a major objective of STOP 413, a citizen-led grassroots coalition with more than two thousand followers on its Facebook page.

In early December, the coalition sent a letter to the corporation asking it to begin discussions with the Provincial government on implementing a cost-effective Highway 407 toll arrangement for trucks.

Want to add your voice to the campaign to lower Highway 407 tolls to increase usage

and relieve congestion? Please see the link below on instructions on how to do that.

Readers can write their own letter or cut and paste the letter on the link and send it to the listed emails.

If readers don’t want to copy everyone listed on the template, they should at least copy Dufferin Caledon MP Kyle Seeback (Kyle. Seeback@parl.gc.ca) and Dufferin Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones (Sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org)

Here is the link: [view.flodesk.com/emails/61e6ff6c4349404cec99b784](http://view.flodesk.com/emails/61e6ff6c4349404cec99b784)

DAN O'REILLY  
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**OBITUARIES**

**BRYAN, Charlene (nee Price)**  
 Peacefully on Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022 Surrounded by her loving family at the age of 92. Beloved wife of George Bryan (1998). Dear mother of Marie Miller - 2011 (Gord), Glenna Bell (Allan), Donna Rutledge (John), Nancy Pratt (Gary). Cherished grandmother of Karen, Louise (Stu), Roseann (Chris), Catherine (Joey), Patrick (Michelle), Bryan, Jennifer, Samantha (Justin). Dearest great-grandmother of Georgina, Brayden, Keira, Josip, Luke, Emily, Izabela, Nathan, Alice and Liam. Predeceased by her brother Earl and her sister Verna. Charlene will also be greatly missed by other relatives and friends.  
 Funeral Service will be held at **Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre** on Friday, March 25th, 2022 at 11:00 am. with visitation beginning at 10:00 am. Spring interment - Greenwood Cemetery. Memorial donations to the High Country United Church or the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.  
 A tree will be planted in memory of Charlene in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville.  
 Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



**OLIVER, MICHAEL ANTONY (TONY)**  
 March 24, 1932- March 13, 2022

Suddenly on Sunday, March 13, 2022, Tony passed away at home in his 90th year. Beloved husband of Patricia Evelyn. Loved father of Glen, Allison (Chris), and Kevin (Diana). Grandfather of Joseph, Gabriel, Shane, Cassia, Lucas and Seth. Loving brother of Ivan, Predeceased by Scott (Stella), Nicolas (Lulu), Geoffrey (Pat). Sadly missed by his sister-in-law Stella and her family, Colleen (deceased), Heather, Sharon and their families. Missed by cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.  
 Born in Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, he came to Canada in 1954. He was a General Contractor specializing in insurance claims. Tony was an active member of the Caledon East Community donating his time and talents to local projects. He had a 'passion for life' and was proficient in woodworking, scuba diving, as a dance instructor and also loved to travel, ski, sail, and golf.  
 A private family service is being held. Donations maybe made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation or Caledon East United Church. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com



**HULSE, John Tyler**  
 In his 53rd year, John passed away peacefully at Groves Memorial Hospital, March 16, 2022. He leaves to mourn; his wife Patricia Hulse, son Tyler, daughter Mckenna, father Jim of East Garafaxa and brother Jeff (Barb) of Orangeville. John was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2000, he spent the past 11 years in Caressant Care in Fergus. John exhibited equipment at the first two cylinder worldwide shows in Iowa, he was a charter member of the Upper Canada two cylinder club. He arranged for a show in Stone road mall in Guelph and in Orangeville. He drove a truck for a number of years and toured almost every state in the United States.  
 John's wishes were to have no visitation and no service. Cremation has already been performed with burial in the family plot, at Greenwood Cemetery Orangeville.  
 Donations in memory of John may be made to the Upper Canada two cylinder club.  
 Email: jnafreeman@gmail.com  
 Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com  
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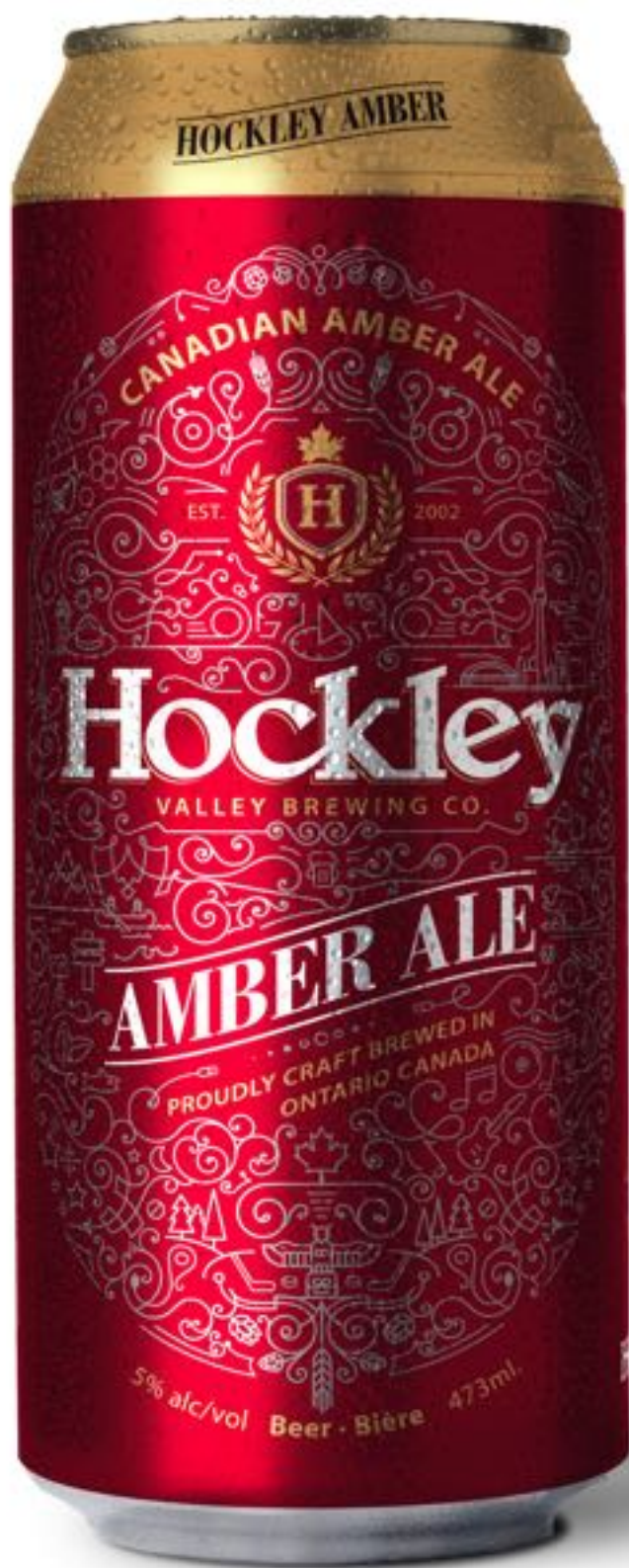


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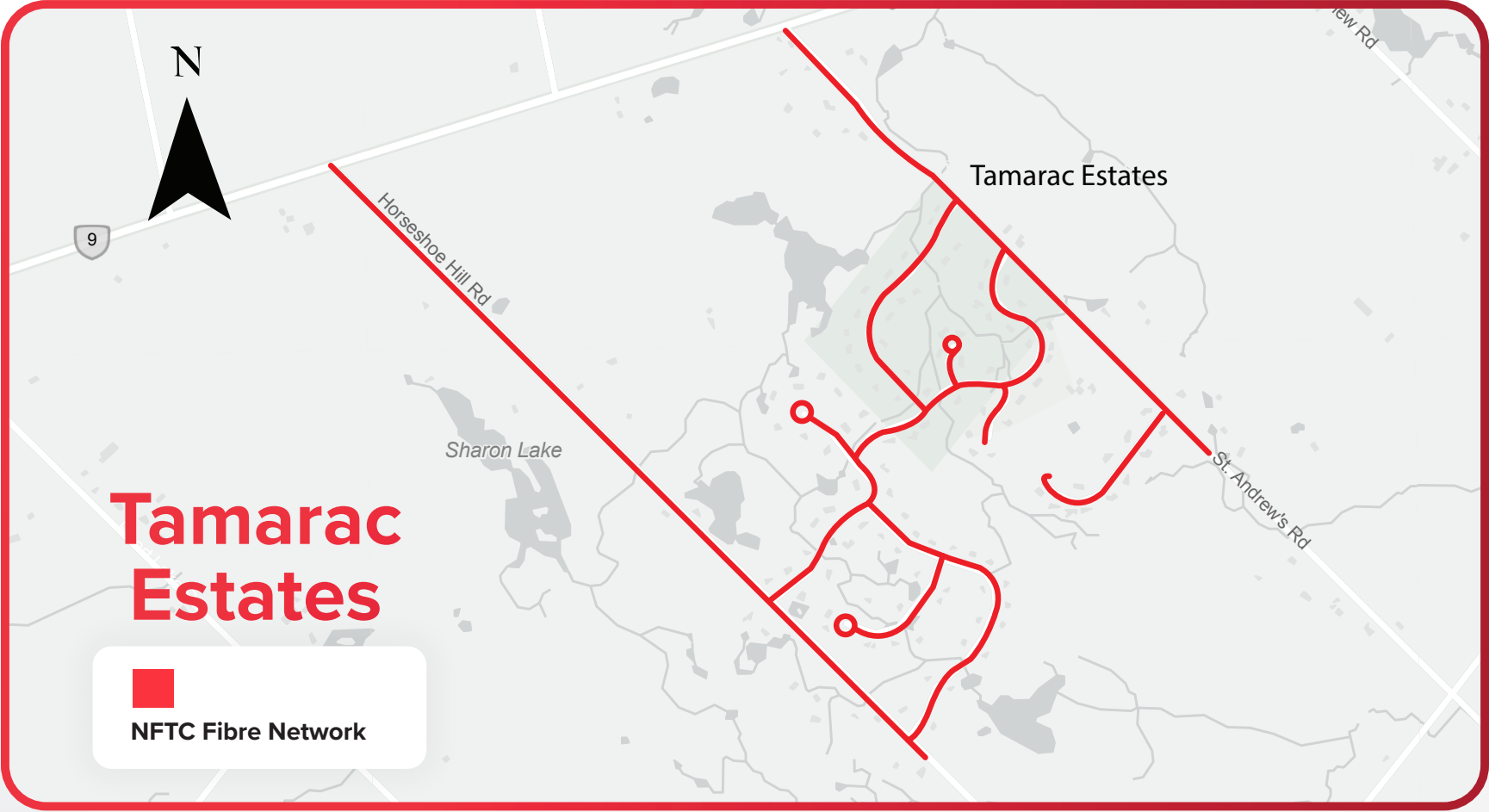
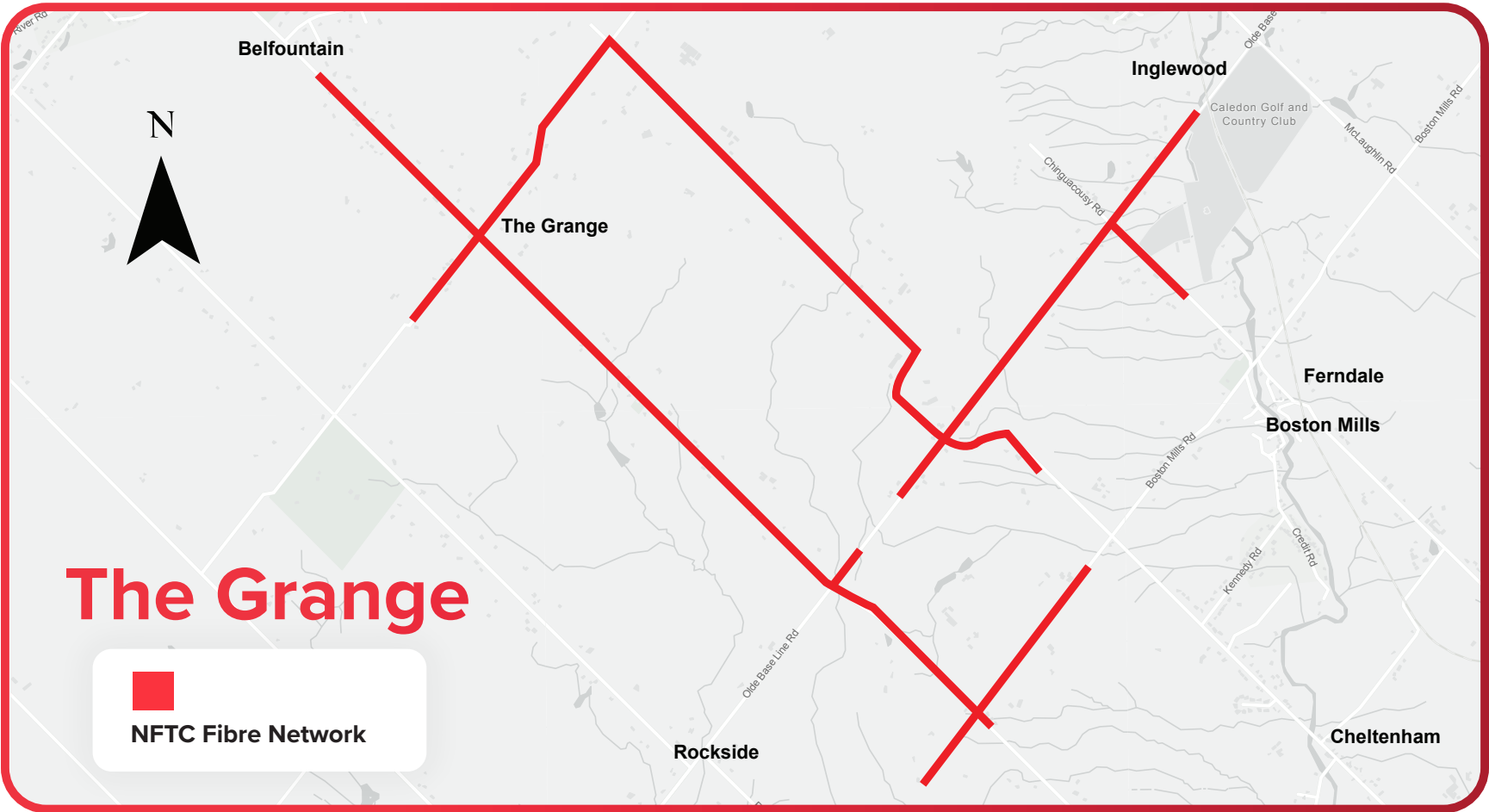
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