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Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson and members of Caledon Council visited TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley for the official announcement that Caledon will be the new home of Canadian golf. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon officially the new home of Canadian Golf

TPC Toronto at
Osprey Valley to be home
of Golf Canada
headquarters and more

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon is the new home of Canadian golf. On July 20, TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley and Golf Canada officially announced that Golf Canada's headquarters is coming to Os-

prey Valley in Alton.

The announcement was made at a special media event, and a who's who of the Canadian golf world was in attendance.

Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson was in attendance too, alongside members of Caledon Council.

The home of Canadian golf project will take place in phases, and will see Golf Canada's headquarters and the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum move to Osprey Valley. Also coming to the grounds of Osprey Valley are the national headquarters of First Tee Canada, a free and publicly accessible putting green, and an indoor high-per-

formance golf centre.

Golf Ontario and the Club Management Association of Canada will also be moving their headquarters to Alton.

"Our vision to be a world leader in golf contemplates more than just a physical building — culture, collaboration, and innovation are critical elements," said Golf Canada CEO Laurence Applebaum. "Establishing a new headquarters and a Canadian golf campus with our partners to meet, play, train, plan, celebrate and collaborate, represents a transformative moment to advance the sport."

Continued on Page 10

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TOWN OF CALEDON

TOWN NEWS See Page 7

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Quiet learning space at Bolton library dedicated to Lesley Slobodian

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Lesley Slobodian was a lifelong learner, believed in what libraries stood for, and touched the lives of those she worked with in Caledon.

Now, there's a space at the newly-renovated Albion-Bolton branch of the Caledon Public Library (CPL) that's dedicated to her. Slobodian began working as an administrative assistant with the CPL out of the CPL's Caledon East branch in 2016. CPL's

Chief Librarian and CEO, Colleen Lipp, said Slobodian quickly became an instrumental and much-loved member of the CPL team.

Sadly, Slobodian passed away last November after a battle with cancer.

A grand reopening of the Albion-Bolton library branch was held on July 18. There, a room at the branch dedicated to Slobodian was unveiled: the Lesley Slobodian Quiet Study Space.

Continued on Page 3

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Vaccine expansion welcomed by medical community

BY BROCK WEIR

Significant expansion in eligibility and availability of COVID-19 vaccines last week have been welcomed by the medical community.

Effective last Thursday, July 14, all Ontarians 18+ are now eligible for their second COVID-19 booster shot, their fourth in the full vaccine programs. Also on Thursday, Health Canada announced its approval of a Moderna vaccine for children between the ages of six months and five years.

“As we continue to manage COVID-19 for the long term, we’re expanding second booster doses and extending the availability of free rapid antigen tests to give people the tools they need to stay safe and to ensure Ontario stays open,” said Health Minister Sylvia Jones in a statement. “Vaccines continue to be our best defence against COVID-19 and protecting our hospital capacity for those who need it most.”

Second booster doses are being offered at an interval of five months after an individual receives their first booster dose, the Province noted, adding that people between the ages of 18 to 59 will still have “strong protection” more than six months after their first booster.

“Expanding second booster dose eligibility will ensure that Ontarians can make an informed decision based on their personal circumstances,” said the Ontario Government in a statement. “A new bivalent COVID-19 vaccine is anticipated to be approved by Health Canada this fall, which may offer more targeted protection against the Omicron variants. Ontarians are encouraged to speak with their health

care provider about whether getting a second booster dose now is right for them.”

Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario, said expanding booster eligibility will “empower Ontarians to make the best decisions for their circumstances and help keep our communities safe.”

“Staying up to date on vaccination is the best protection against severe outcomes from COVID-19,” he said.

The rapid expansion as Ontario settled into a seventh wave of COVID-19 was warmly received by Dr. Charmaine van Schaik, Physician Leader of the Maternal Child Program at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

Dr. van Schaik, who has been the hospital’s point person in answering questions about COVID-19 vaccines, said she believes the increased availability will be “really helpful” for individuals who have been waiting, whether they’re people who have had a longer period since their initial booster dose or if they are people with various health conditions that have made them feel uneasy with the time period and waning immunity.

“I think it will be a great opportunity for them to be boosted and have less opportunity for illness or severity of illness with the next wave that is coming,” she said on Thursday. “For the rest of the population, in time it will be very effective. We’re still seeing a lot of positivity, new positivity, even just in the healthcare sector vis a vis our staffing, etc. What we see coming through the emergency room is obvious but people who have been vaccinated before, had illness or are still finding... it will be optimising in that way to reduce

that.”

That being said, however, Dr. van Schaik said “realistically” the buy-in on the latest booster won’t be the same as it was during the initial primary series of vaccines, but getting it is still strongly recommended because it reduces people experiencing severe illness from COVID-19 and helps ease the strain being felt by hospitals.

“It’s not just affecting healthcare, but all sectors of the workforce in terms of staffing and illness,” she said.

Now that there is a vaccine approved for the youngest of the population, Dr. van Schaik said the world of pediatrics is “excited” and it has been a long time coming.

“I know a lot of families that continued to ask when it was going to become available,” she said. “I think now that it is there, there will certainly be an uptake in that population. There will still be questions and hesitancy and we’re here to support that and help guide people through the process. I do think it is a great oppor-

tunity for our younger children. COVID and respiratory viruses in general affect them as well, so the opportunity to have their health improved is excellent. We’re still seeing a lot of respiratory illness right now, COVID included, and it is in the younger children. Where we can minimize that, the likelihood of them having to present to hospital, be admitted, or have the various complexities of treatment that exists, that’s a win for us.”

If you’re still feeling vaccine hesitancy, Dr. van Schaik said there has been “a lot of misinformation” floating around and “deciphering through that” can be difficult. She encourages residents to seek out “quality sources of information, not to get into the weeds,” and consult their primary care provider to get a full picture.

“What is important is that people feel comfortable,” she said. “We’re here to provide that essence of establishing comfort through information and conversation, and that’s what’s important.”



Peel District School Board enacts new Anti-Racism Policy

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

The Peel District School Board is taking steps to combat racism.

On June 22, the school board approved what it says is the most comprehensive Anti-Racism Policy ever announced by a school board in Ontario.

The policy was made possible thanks to extensive consultation with community groups and Peel District School Board (PDSB) students.

Stan Cameron, Caledon’s PDSB trustee, said the breadth of consultation undertaken in the creation of the policy is what makes it so comprehensive. He said parents, students, PDSB staff, community groups and more were all involved and that their feedback was very important. He gave full credit to the people who put their time into providing the PDSB with valuable feedback, commending them for ensuring the policy was as inclusive as it could be.

Cameron said he wanted to see a policy that represents all students, families, communities and schools in Caledon.

He said he believes the 25-page Anti-Racism Policy the PDSB now has in place hits those marks.

Cameron said an Anti-Racism Policy is an important tool to protect all students and staff in the PDSB, so they can feel safe.

“When we look at something that’s called Anti-Racism Policy... and we ask ourselves... what are we getting rid of when we do this? And, of course, what we’re trying to get rid of is racism, discrimination, prejudice, stereotyping. And that’s a good thing,” said Cameron. “The flipside question we might ask ourselves is while we’re getting rid of all of those negative things, what are we filling our schools full of? ... What we’re filling our schools full of are things like protection and safe and caring schools. That’s what we want to see.”

Camille Logan, the PDSB’s Associate Director of School Improvement and equity, curriculum and instruction, and student and community engagement. She explained before the Anti-Racism Policy was developed, a consultation framework was created so that communities most impacted by racism would be able to engage in the process of the policy’s creation.

Logan said the PDSB met with those it consulted at least twice, once for their ideas and the next time(s) to get feedback on the policy in its draft forms.

She explained in addition to community consultations, there was also an Anti-Racism Steering Committee — which represented multiple groups impacted by racism — that met monthly throughout the process of the Anti-Racism Policy’s creation to review the policy in its different stages and see it through to completion.

Students were vital in the creation of the Anti-Racism Policy, said Logan, and the PDSB met with student groups and associations, student trustees, and focus groups of students. “We’re here for the students, so we need to make sure they’re part of the policy development,” said Logan.

Information from students informed what went into the Anti-Racism Policy.

To Logan and the PDSB, the new Anti-Racism Policy is a point of pride.

Logan said for decades, academic scholars and communities impacted by racism have articulated that racism is systemic in education and needs to be addressed.

“We’re really excited that we’ve got a policy that hopefully is a beacon for other school boards to consider, to review any of their anti-racism and ethno-cultural policies,” said Logan. “We want our classrooms to be welcoming and inviting for all of our children, and for all children to learn from everybody... this policy will invite that opportunity.”

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Quiet learning space at Bolton library dedicated to Lesley Slobodian



(LEFT) A photo of Lesley Slobodian, who loved libraries and was a strong advocate for lifelong learning. Slobodian passed away in 2021 and a room at the Albion-Bolton branch of the Caledon Public Library has been named after her. (ABOVE) The Lesley Slobodian Quiet Study Space was unveiled in front of Slobodian's family and friends on July 18. **PHOTOS BY ZACHARY ROMAN**

Continued from FRONT

Slobodian's husband, Malcolm De Souza, said the gesture is an honour his wife would have appreciated.

"She loved the library so much. Everywhere we traveled we always stopped and looked at libraries in different countries," said De Souza. "She loved books. We have a ton of books at home... she loved the library, when she got the job that was her... dream job."

Slobodian's daughter, Grayce, agreed and said that naming a study space after her mother was a beautiful honour.

"I think she would have absolutely

loved it because as my father mentioned, she adored libraries, but also what they stood for. She was so encapsulated and enthralled by the fact that they really uplift and support their communities," said Grayce. "They're here to help and to create space for lifelong learning... my mom had continuously done lifelong learning."

Grayce said her mom really stood for building community and building the support systems people need to be able to continuously learn. She added her mom wanted everyone to have access to resources like the internet, which the CPL provides.

De Souza noted Slobodian was a big

part of the CPL's impact report and that she loved helping the community. He added that his wife completed a bachelor's degree while working full time with the CPL; that's how dedicated to learning she was.

Grayce spoke to the crowd gathered for the reopening on July 18, which included members of the Slobodian family and Slobodian's friends.

Grayce explained her mom passed on her love of libraries to her when she was very young.

When Grayce was little, her mom would always take her to the library and let her take out as many books as she wanted. Grayce said she often walked out holding a big stack of books.

"I think if there's anything that she would have loved to get across... is that no matter how old you are, continue learning."

It is so important and so beautiful," said Grayce. "No matter how old you are, no matter what stage you are in your life, or wherever you are, just continue learning."

Lipp said as she and the CPL thought of how best to honour Slobodian's memory and contributions to the library, there was no better way than to name the new quiet study space in Bolton in her honour.

"It seemed fitting as Lesley was committed to lifelong learning, undertaking a Bachelor's degree as a mature student — ultimately completing her degree while also working full-time at the library. She sought out opportunities for professional development and completed a number of courses to expand her knowledge about libraries and municipal finances," said Lipp. "The Lesley Slobodian Quiet Study Space will ensure that we still have a little bit of Lesley here with us."

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SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATED

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a sexual assault that occurred on a Brampton Transit bus and are asking for the public’s assistance in identifying a suspect.

“On July 12, 2022, Caledon OPP responded to a report of a sexual assault,” say Police. “It occurred on a Brampton Transit bus at approximately 11:25 p.m. on Airport Road near Mayfield Road in the Town of Caledon. No injuries were sustained as a result of the assault. Photographs were obtained from video surveillance footage.”

The suspect is described as a male, approximately 30 to 35 years of age, East Indian, black turban, beard, and wearing a green t-shirt and black pants.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who can identify the suspect in the attached photo-

graphs or has additional information is asked to contact the Caledon OPP Major Crime Unit at 905-284-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at 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 \$2,000 upon an arrest.



CYCLIST STRUCK

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a serious collision that involved a cyclist struck on Airport Road in the Town of Caledon.

“On July 20, 2022, just before 12:30 a.m., Caledon OPP, along with emergency services, responded to a collision involving a pickup truck and bicycle on Airport Road,” say Police. “The initial investigation revealed that the pickup truck was traveling southbound on Airport Road in the Mayfield Road area when the truck and cyclist collided. The cyclist was transported to a local hospital where he was later transported to a trauma centre with life-threatening injuries.”

The OPP Traffic Collision Investigation (TCI) team was brought in to investigate.

The investigation is continuing and anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact the Caledon OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

If you had witnessed the collision and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

INFO SOUGHT AFTER ROBBERY

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to an armed robbery call at a local business in Adjala-Tosorontio.

“On July 17, 2022, at approximately 6:25 a.m., Nottawasaga OPP received information that a local business on Highway 9 of Adjala-Tosorontio had just been robbed,” say Police. “The male suspect entered the business and demanded money while showing a gun in his waistband. The victim immediately handed over cash and the male left prior to police arrival.

“The male was observed heading Westbound on Highway 9 towards Airport Road on a motorcycle. Police believe the suspect is armed and has been involved in other incidents. If suspect is observed, please do not approach. Please call police immediately.”

Suspect description:

- Male
- Olive skin tone
- 20-30 years of age
- Black or brown hair
- Wearing a black puffer style jacket
- Black pants
- Tan/brown boots
- Black motocross helmet with yellow/green accents
- Black gloves with matching yellow/green accents

- green accents
- Dark sunglasses

Vehicle description:

- White and black Kawasaki Ninja (possibly a 300 model). No plate.

“GRANDPARENT SCAM” WARNING

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) want to remind the public to be vigilant of emergency phone call scams. Please speak to your vulnerable or elderly family members about these scams.

“‘Grandma, it’s me...I need help...please don’t tell anyone’ – That is a common opening line used to target unsuspecting victims as part of an emergency scam,” say Police. “Scammers prey on vulnerable persons and seniors and play on their emotions to defraud them of their money.

“In a typical emergency scam, the victim will receive a frantic phone call from someone claiming to be a grandchild or loved one. Quite often the calls are made in the middle of the night to cause further confusion and to come across as extremely urgent. Scammers will often state that they are not feeling well, therefore, sound a bit different. The caller will explain that they are involved in some sort of trouble with the law or have trouble returning from a foreign country and need money right away.”

The scammers will often request an electronic money transfer or money to be withdrawn and picked up by a courier service.


Be aware of emergency scam warning signs:

- Urgency: The scammer always makes the request sound very urgent, which may cause the victim to not verify the story.
- Fear: The scammer plays on the victim’s emotions by generating a sense of fear. For instance, they may say, “I’m really scared and I need help from you now.”
- Secrecy: The scammer pleads with the victim not to tell anyone about the situation, such as, “Please don’t tell my parents, they would be so mad.”

To avoid becoming a victim, police advise to first check with another family member or trusted friend to verify the information BEFORE sending money.

For more information regarding ongoing scams in Canada or to report fraud, visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraud-centre.ca. If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, call the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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The Citizen CROSSWORD

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Eurasian shrubs
7. Strikes and rebounds
13. Group of advisers
14. Modern necessity
16. Top lawyer in the land
17. Philadelphia university
19. Of I
20. Functions as a laser
22. Basketball phenomenon Jeremy
23. Famed island
25. Parent-teacher groups
26. Distributes
28. Self-immolation by fire ritual
29. Ad __
30. Circulation problem (abbr.)
31. Brother or sister
33. A famous “Squad”
34. Stage actor Anthony
36. Violent seizure of property

38. Saclike cavities
40. Sound units
41. Counts on
43. Dad
44. Woman (French)
45. A digital tape recording of sound
47. Polish Baltic peninsula
48. Recipe measurement
51. Requests out of dire need
53. Precious stone weight unit
55. The immaterial part of a person
56. Anoint
58. Golf score
59. Supernatural
60. Northwest Territories
61. Can be made suitable
64. A professor’s helper
65. Having a toothlike edge
67. Got atop a horse
69. Judged
70. Static balance

CLUES DOWN

1. Flowing
2. Computer department
3. Lasts
4. DiFranco and Samsonyan are two
5. __ de sac
6. Merchant
7. Hosts film festival
8. State of agitation of fuss
9. A way to praise
10. Opaque gems
11. McKinley is one
12. Smallest interval in classical Western music
13. Famed designer Lauren
15. Occupies
18. Small island (British)
21. Misuse of the sacred
24. Covers with a thin sheet
26. Most valuable player

27. Title of respect
30. Investigated discreetly
32. Belonging to the bottom layer
35. Black tropical American cuckoo
37. Music genre
38. Indicates one is in mourning
39. Secured forever
42. Bodily cavity
43. A dog is one something
46. Chose to do something
47. Annoy persistently
49. Large hotel rooms
50. Beg
52. Docket
54. Subway dwelling rodent
55. Sources
57. Mild Dutch cheese
59. Spanish city
62. Consumed
63. Ballplayer’s tool
66. Midway between north and east
68. Atomic #3

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

Learn more about ongoing scams in Canada with the Little Black Book of Scams: www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/04333.html.

CHARGES FOLLOWINGS SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATION

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Major Crime Unit have laid charges in connection to a historical sexual assault investigation.

“In June 2022, police received information about a sexual assault of a youth that took place between 2018 and 2019 in Ajax and the Town of New Tecumseth,” say Police.

As a result of the investigation, Christopher McCargar, 51, of Scarborough, has been charged with the following:

- Invitation to sexual touching under 16 years of age - four counts
- Sexual interference - four counts
- Make sexually explicit material available to person under 14 years of age
- Possession of child pornography

The accused was being held for a bail hearing before the Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford on July 14, 2022.

The charges have not been proven.

Police are requesting anyone who may have additional information regarding this investigation or believes they were a victim of a similar incident to contact their local police service or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). When you contact Crime Stoppers, you remain anonymous, you will never have to testify and you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

“It is never too late to report a sexual assault to police. A sexual offence can be reported no matter how long ago it happened. Our duty is to bring an appropriate resolution by conducting a professional and thorough investigation, while at the same time providing you with necessary information, resources and support.

“If you do not want to make a report to police or need time and support to make that decision, we have partnered with many other agencies that can help. Ontario 211 provides information on and referrals to Ontario’s community, social, health-related and government services. Simply call 2-1-1 or visit 211ontario.ca for more information. You can also find local resources and support by searching your location on the Victim Services Directory at services.findhelp.ca/ovss/ or contacting the Rape Coalition of Ontario at sexualassaultsupport.ca.

From railway to trailway: Orangeville-Brampton Railway Corridor acquisition finalized

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

The Region of Peel, and the communities of Caledon, Brampton and Mississauga, are all working together to add 51 kilometres of new trailway for their residents.

On July 15, an official ribbon cutting was held to formally recognize the acquisition of former railway corridor lands, which run from the Caledon-Orangeville border to just north of Streetsville in Mississauga.

The lands will be converted to a trail for residents of all municipalities to enjoy.

The lands were once part of the Orangeville-Brampton Railway Corridor and will now be protected for future recreational, broadband and utility use. The cost of acquiring the railway lands was \$5.8 million and they were purchased with money from the Region of Peel’s “Greenlands Securement Program.”

Each of the municipalities partnering with the Region will be responsible for

shouldering some of the costs and responsibility for the development, design, construction, and ongoing maintenance of the future trailway. According to the press release issued at the time of the official ribbon cutting, these costs have already been transferred to the municipalities.

The Orangeville-Brampton Railway (OBRY) was created in the 1870s by the Credit Valley Railway Company.

It was later purchased by CP Rail, which operated the line from 1883 through to the year 2000. At that time, it was acquired by the Town of Orangeville, and was used primarily as a freight line. Scenic rail tours along the Forks of the Credit were also offered on the line.

Discussions on the sale of the railway began in 2019, and the sale closed on July 14, 2022. On hand to celebrate the sale on July 15 were a number of local dignitaries including Region of Peel Regional Chair Nando Iannicca, Caledon Mayor

Allan Thompson, Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown, and Orangeville Mayor Sandy Brown.

Iannicca said the acquired lands will help connect the regional community and support growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

Thompson shared his excitement about what he called an important addition to Caledon’s already extensive, scenic, trailway system.

“Caledon is a well-known trail community and the first community in Canada to feature a pavilion on the Trans-Canada Trailway,” said Thompson. “Our trailways are the natural linkages that bind our vast rural and small urban communities together. This acquisition is especially important because it gives the Town the opportunity to create a new north-south recreation trail that will travel through Caledon’s breathtaking scenic areas at the edge of the Niagara Escarpment.”

Temporary closure at Headwaters’ emergency department due to staff shortage

BY PAULA BROWN

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) temporarily closed its emergency department overnight this past weekend in response to a staffing shortage.

The local hospital issued a notice on Saturday (July 16) saying it made the “difficult decision” to redirect all non-life-threatening situations at the emergency department to surrounding hospitals from 7 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.

Kim Delahunt, President and CEO of Headwaters Hospital, said the redirect was due to an unprecedented shortage of nursing staff and sick calls from staff members in the emergency department.

“This was a last resort and the decision was made after all other options and mitigations were exhausted,” wrote Delahunt in an email. “The decision was not taken lightly and required a lot of communication with our team, first responders, physicians, and leaders.”

Headwaters Health Care Centre is among a number of hospitals across the province and nation facing staffing shortages. Recently, hospitals in Mount Forest and Alexandria, Ont. both announced overnight closures of their emergency departments as a result of too few nursing staff available.

Staffing pressures in hospitals have been connected to various

issues including burnout from the pandemic, nurses and other providers leaving hospitals to work in other settings, more sick calls, and staff taking their allotted vacation time.

“[It] is important that staff take their vacation. They need to recharge. It has been a relentless two plus years,” said Delahunt.

To deal with the shortage in staffing, Headwaters, like many hospitals, has focused on recruitment and retention. But, with a nation-wide and global shortage of nurses, many hospitals are competing for the same human resources making those efforts challenging.

Delahunt said the hospital has been working to mitigate issues

such as the one that happened over the weekend, but added it’s not possible to predict the future.

“Our teams planned ahead and had contingencies in place, yet still we were in a situation where there were more sick calls than anticipated.”

Delahunt noted that the decision to redirect non-life-threatening situations at the hospital’s emergency department came after all other options had been exhausted including issuing staffing shift broadcasts, offering incentives, and moving staff to differing units or upstaffing.

Headwaters’ emergency department resumed all services on July 17 at 7:30 a.m.

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Caledon’s next Mayor and Council to get compensation increase

More staff to be hired for Town’s Mayor and Council office to meet work demand

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon’s Mayor and Councillors for the 2022 to 2026 term will receive more compensation than their 2018 to 2022 counterparts.

At Town of Caledon Council’s July 12 General Committee meeting, a Town staff report recommendation that the future Mayor’s salary be increased to \$116,830 (from \$98,625) and that future Councillors’ salary be increased to \$49,841 (from \$40,080) was passed.

These increases will cost the Town \$123,178, according to the staff report.

In addition to the pay raise, the total expense budget for Councillors will be increased by \$9,500.

All Caledon Councillors, except Annette Groves and Tony Rosa, voted yes on the motion to pass staff’s recommendation. Groves noted she didn’t think it was the right time for an increase and that the next term of Council should make a decision on any pay raises.

The staff report was submitted to council by Laura Hall, Caledon’s director of corporate services and town clerk; Tracey McKenna, Caledon’s director of people services; and Marianne Love of ML Consulting, a firm that was retained by the Town to investigate Council compensation ahead of Caledon’s 2022 municipal elections.

The recommended salary increase for Mayor and Council is in line with the 60th percentile of the market, meaning that Caledon Council’s salaries are now 10 per cent above the median salary of similar municipalities’ Councils.

Before the increase, Caledon’s Mayor salary was 18.5 per cent below the 60th percentile; and Caledon’s Councillor salary was 24.4 per cent below the 60th percentile.

The last time salaries for Caledon’s Mayor and Council were reviewed, other than for annual cost of living adjustments, was in 2015.

According to Town staff, the salary review they undertook was guided by the following principles: It must demonstrate fiscal responsibility and be fair to the taxpayers; compensation should attract a diverse, representative, and skilled pool of Caledon residents as candidates seeking election to Council; the work of the Mayor and Council is recognized as demanding as well as important and as such they should be appropriately and fairly compensated; and the significant complexity, responsibilities, time commitments and accountabilities associated with the role of Mayor and Council are recognized.

The salary review was prompted due to Caledon’s recent ward boundary review, the decrease of Regional Caledon Councillors from four to two, and to have Caledon be in line with similar municipalities.

Also at the July 12 general committee meeting, Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson tabled a motion to hire more staff to meet work demand in the Town’s Mayor and Council office. He said changes to the Regional Council composition, ward boundary changes and the expected growth and development in the Town will have a tremendous impact on staff workload for the future terms of Council. In his motion, he explained in the last four years staff in the office have experienced workload and capacity constraints. So, Thompson asked that three permanent full time Council coordinator positions be created effective September of this year, which would have a tax impact of \$258,850 on the 2023 budget.

The motion was approved on consent.

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Popular Sunflower Festival returning to Caledon East farm

Davis Family Farm has been hosting festival for six years

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Sunflowers in bloom are a beautiful sight. They're a sight so beautiful that thousands of people are expected to attend Davis Family Farms' annual Sunflower Festival this year.

Beginning July 23, the farm at 15770 Mountainview Rd. in Caledon East will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for visitors, and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for commercial photographers.

General admission tickets to the festival are \$13.50 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children age 5 and under.

Sean Davis is part of the Davis Family, and he shared the unique story of how the Sunflower Festival came to be.

About six years ago, Davis reported a wild boar sighting in Caledon East. The news media ended up coming to interview him at the family farm, and when they saw his large field of sunflowers, asked to do a follow up story about the flowers later. As soon as that follow up story aired on TV the crowds started coming, explained Davis.

"It all got started from, 'okay, well this could be something that we can do and host every year and turn it into a festival.' We've been doing it ever since," said Davis. "We absolutely love it. So, we've been bringing the community to be involved — we have local vendors here and our own marketplace, and then on weekends, we host separate marketplaces that host 40 to 50 different vendors at the farm each weekend... usually that comes with live music and kind of gets that festival feel going."

Over the years, the festival has grown. At first, there were a few little trails around the sunflowers, said Davis, and people loved taking photos amongst the flowers. The family has since added signature props such as their pink couches and a functional baby grand piano. This year, there's going to be a swing out in the field, further adding to the photo (and fun) opportunities.

Davis said the piano in the field has created a really cool atmosphere, and that some really amazing players have come and played music on it. He said people enjoy standing around it and listening, and that there's usually a lineup of people waiting to give it a go when it's their turn.

The Davis family has been growing sunflowers for around 15 years, and originally their main use was for the bird feed they sell. Now, one of their main uses is as a colourful and unique photo backdrop.

"If it wasn't for social media, it wouldn't be nearly as busy," said Davis of the festival. "Social media basically



Sean Davis' kids enjoying the sunflower fields at the Davis Family Farm in Caledon East.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

runs the festival, and the photography, the love for photography."

Professional and commercial photographers can email photography@davisfamilyfarm.ca to book a time for a photo shoot. However, that's not to say that amateurs, hobbyists, and social media savants aren't encouraged to take as many photos as they'd like during general admission hours — in fact, it's encouraged.

"This year, our field is actually a full kilometre long, so basically, whoever goes out into our field, it's going to look like they're all by themselves," said Davis.

In total, there's four kilometres of sunflower field trails this year.

Earlier this year, Davis said the lack of rain had him a bit nervous. But his family's sunflowers have grown well and are ready to be enjoyed by festival attendees come July 23. Still, he said some rain couldn't hurt as it actually helps the sunflowers stay in bloom longer.

In addition to exploring the sunflower fields and taking photos, there's a plethora of other activities scheduled to take place during the festival. There's sunflower yoga, exotic animal presentations for kids, luxury picnics, paint nights, and even a mini sunflower maze. For more information about these events, interested parties can check the Sunflower Festival website at torontosunflowerfields.ca.

Make no mistake: while the website address says Toronto, the Davis Family Farm has been in Caledon East for a long time.

Davis explained being so close to Toronto is an asset, and that one of the greatest parts of hosting the festival is welcoming people from the city who have never visited a farm before.

He said people are often surprised how close Caledon is to Toronto, and that the website name was chosen to welcome people from all around. Davis said even tourists who are visiting Toronto from places like South

America or China have come to see his family's sunflower fields, and that it's been amazing to meet them and share conversation.

"(Tourists are) arriving to Canada not specifically for sunflowers, but it was definitely on their bucket list. So that always was pretty special to us, that this world is such a small world now with social media, that somebody across the planet can follow you and want to come see you. I would say that's probably my favourite part of the whole thing."

The Sunflower Festival also serves as a fundraiser for the Canadian Celiac Association. Davis and his son both have Celiac Disease, and the festival is a way for them to give back, as one dollar from every ticket sold goes to the association.

"That's... one of the other things that we enjoy most, is that we can also put it towards a good cause as well," said Davis.

The Sunflower Festival is running until August 7 this year.

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Asking the not-so-tough questions

We're often told of "shifts" that have come out of the global pandemic, or, at the very least, "shifts" that will come out of the more-than-two-and-a-half years of uncertainty we have collectively experienced.

We've been told our priorities have/will inevitably be re-evaluated, that the ways we previously tackled common problems would be a thing of the past, and that we will have a newfound appreciation for what was once considered commonplace now that we've been jolted out of our reverie and are less likely now to take things for granted.

And on it goes.

But where exactly are we in this apparent shift of priorities?

Over the weekend, I found myself thinking back to a personal experience just as the global pandemic reached the end of its first year in March of 2021.

The previous September, I woke up feeling less than ideal.

I shook it off, thinking I was just a bit tired and a nice jolt of coffee would help right the ship.

It did, but only temporarily.

The general feeling of "blah" subsided only for a day or two. Later that week, it settled in and, after a trip to the doctor, there was another "new normal" to settle into as the doc diagnosed my symptoms as related to a rather large kidney stone, something I have been prone to for the last decade.

There was little to be done about it at the time, they said, as the stone wasn't likely to go anywhere. So, I was given a couple of doses of medicine to rectify the problem and was sent on my way. Again, the meds only helped so much and, as the months wore on, it was a cycle that was repeated twice – until the following March when things finally came to a head.

Well, they came to a head a couple of days prior to when I actually bit the bullet to go to the emergency room when I absolutely had to, a step which was followed over the subsequent four weeks by two reasonably minor surgeries to restore a kidney that had, unbeknownst to me, been blocked for God knows how long. Ah, that explained so much.

But it could have been explained far earlier if I had just taken a bit more initiative.

I suspect I'm not in the minority here when I say I had some reluctance to go to the hospital when COVID was raging. Given the fact that vaccines weren't readily available at that time to help blunt the impact of a viral infection, I spent two days delaying a foregone destination out of a two-pronged fear: of contracting COVID and taxing a healthcare system already bowing under pressure with something that could have been relatively minor.

After the first procedure, which was mercifully performed the next morning, I was on tenterhooks just waiting for those first symptoms of COVID-19 to rear their ugly heads. While I dodged the bullet, throughout I was so grateful that my local hospital had the wherewithal to treat me when I needed it.

Others, recently, have not been as lucky – and this is what helped spur a reluctant trip down memory lane.

This past weekend, for instance, came reports of the latest Ontario hospital to be forced to turn away people from their emergency rooms for a whole host of reasons.

Just one example is Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville, which sent out a bulletin on Saturday shining just a small light

on a large problem.

"This evening, July 16, Headwaters Health Care Centre made the difficult decision that our Emergency Department will be temporarily on full redirect other than for imminent life-threatening situations," said Headwaters President & CEO Kim Delahunt in a media statement. "This will be in effect from Saturday, July 16, from 7 p.m. to Sunday, July 17, at 7.30 a.m.

"The decision was made due to health human resource challenges and after exhausting all options. People will have the option to come back in the morning, July 17, at 7.30 a.m. or seek care elsewhere."

This statement was alarming for people within Headwaters' catchment area, to be sure, but is indicative of a problem well beyond Dufferin County and Peel Region.

Few, in my opinion, can be surprised that it is now something of a challenge to find adequate "human resources" (a sterile, impersonal phrase I use with the utmost reluctance) when it comes to healthcare. This has been a long two-and-a-half years. Healthcare workers have sadly gone from being our lauded frontline heroes to, in some cases, the target of malicious attacks and abuse from some quarters.

They're stressed, they're exhausted, and, while this is no reflection of the hospitals, have not been compensated commensurate with what we've been asking them to do since March of 2020.

An apparent lack of "human resources" has been cited in just about every sector, public and private. It's often been used as a catch-all for everything ranging from supply chain issues to service delays.

But, is it really a human resources issue? Is it actually a dearth of workers, or is it a surfeit of workers who now have different expectations of the workplace?

Depending on who you ask, the answer is "yes" to all three of those questions but, no matter who you're talking to, there appears to be a lack of appetite to dig a little bit deeper.

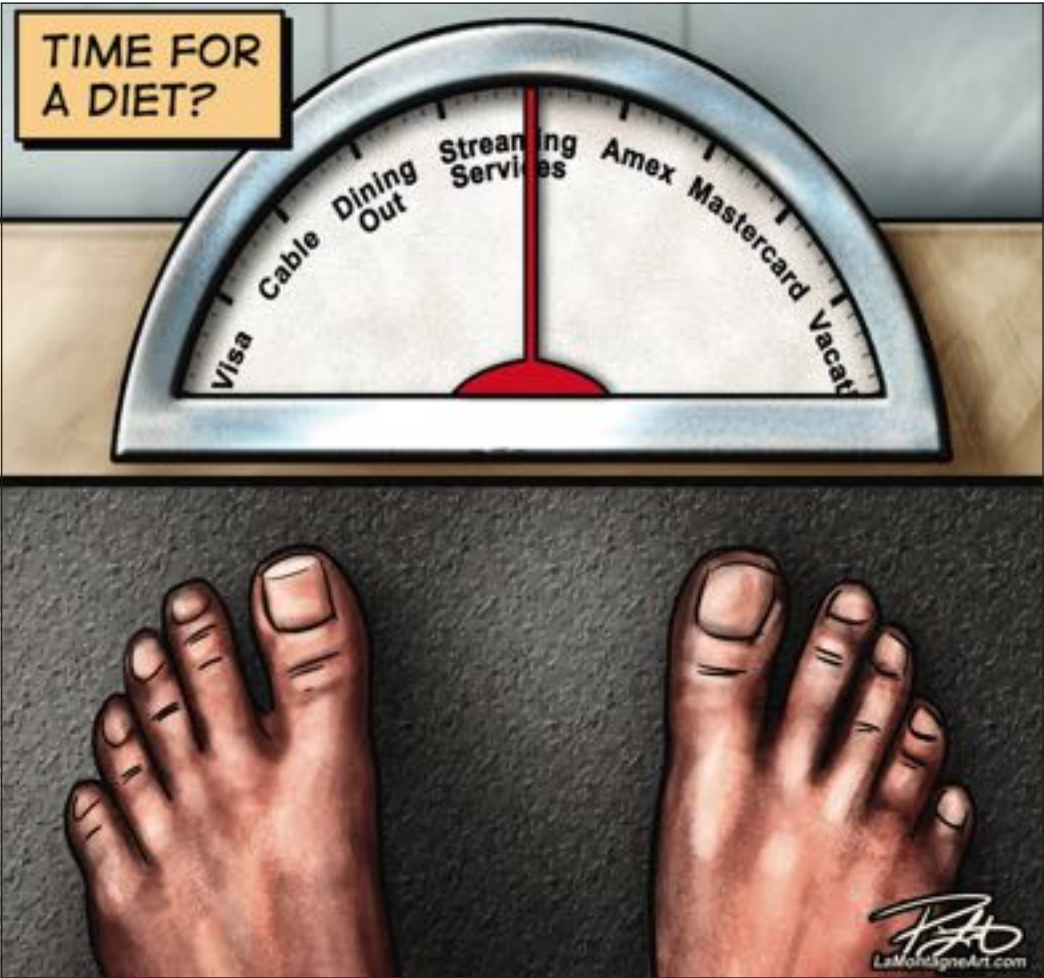
We've had to adapt to more "new normals" than we could have ever anticipated at the start of 2020, but outside of offering remote and hybrid work opportunities, how much else has really changed? How much of what is offered our "human resources" reflects our current realities, rather than the reality of the quaintly-rebranded "before times"?

In my observation of many sectors and industries it has been minimal at best.

I recall in the last Federal election, an independent candidate who happened to manage a warehouse, complained about the lack of response to a job posting they had recently placed online. People just don't want to work was the argument they put forward, but, when pressed, they had done nothing to tailor the job to our new reality.

We haven't lost human resources, in my opinion, but rather human resources may be seeking opportunities that reflect post-pandemic realities, the time and effort they have put in to acquire the skills needed and wanted, and, in the end, offer what they need to just get by in these challenging times.

If people seeking emergency treatments that might not appear to be life-threatening have to go well beyond their community hospitals to get the help they need, it's a problem that deserves full consideration and a full analysis of how we got here, the direction we're headed, and what really needs to be done to keep the systems we rely on afloat.



You can't help but be impressed by the universe



There seems to be an incredible, artistic pattern to it all.

No, my friends, there's nothing random about billions of galaxies flying through the universe, all with their own unique qualities.

It's like all the masters combined their talents to paint the heavens.

Breath-taking.

You don't have to be interested in astronomy or science to marvel at the heavens above.

Recent photos from the James Webb Space Telescope gave us a new glimpse into just how colourful and immense our universe is. With greater detail, astronomers may get a better handle on it all.

Several of those involved in the project, and countless armchair astronomers, actually cried when they saw these newest images. They were overwhelmed by the grandiose nature of all things.

Maybe it was a "religious experience."

I get it, I really do.

Many say that science and religion can't co-exist, that they are opposed. That's simply not true.

Science, like religion, seeks to find the truth and make sense of things. It seeks a "higher meaning."

"And God saw all that He made, and it was very good." – Genesis 1:31

Carl Sagan once said that we live on an "insignificant planet of a humdrum star" in a galaxy tucked away in some forgotten corner of a universe in which there are far more galaxies than people.

After decades of looking out into the deep reaches of space, Hubble first gave us a smidgen of God's handiwork.

And now, as images continue to pour in from James Webb, marvels will present themselves.

And so will some bizarre and amazing pieces to one very large puzzle.

For the average person, galaxies, black holes, quantum physics, dark matter are just incomprehensible things. Most of what we do know about them tend to be educated guesses, mathematical probabilities and concepts based on gravitational physics.

To give you an idea of what we're starting to see, a NASA administrator said Webb's images are like putting a grain of sand on your fingertip and stretching our your arm. That's what we're looking at – one tiny splice of the heavens. The scope of space is truly mind-bending.

And so is the idea of looking back in time, because that's exactly what Webb is capable of doing. Looking at an object that is, say, 14 billion light years away, is like looking at the birth of the

by Mark Pavilons

universe. You see, it takes light from a star that far away to only now reach our eyes. That star, and all of its planets, are likely long gone, burned out, uninhabited. And yet their ghostly flicker remains.

Time is still quite trippy in terms of the universe.

Tracy K. Smith wrote that you can't look at these images and "not feel like something else is going about its business out there."

Something else, indeed.

God and his powers are invisible to us. So too are many things in the universe and yet we know they are there.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge." – Psalm 19:1-2

As an armchair astronomer, I've been fascinated with the heavens above since my high school years. I devoured books on space and became a dyed-in-the-wool Trekkie. I hope I live long enough to see concrete proof of life on other worlds.

We are relative newcomers in this universe of course. Our Earth is only roughly 4 billion years old, and the rest of the universe is estimated to be upwards of 14 billion years old.

Scientists have also discovered that the five main elements for life – nucleobases in DNA and RNA – have been found in meteorites. These are the necessary compounds for life and, technically speaking, a meteorite containing all these landing on a strange world is like a seed, planting all life. That's just crazy.

Who sent these "seeds" across the cosmos? After all, "... He is before all things, and by Him all things consist."

Scientists speculate the visible universe is roughly 93 billion light-years in diameter, but others say the Bayesian model of averaging puts it at least 250 times that, or 7 trillion light-years in diameter.

We are but specks of dust, tiny microbes in this huge tapestry.

One of the biggest arguments of a "higher power" is the question: how can something come from nothing? How can life just spontaneous appear and evolve on Earth and perhaps other planets?

Galileo mused that our sun, with all our planets revolving around it, can still ripen a bunch of grapes as if it had nothing else in the universe to do.

And that's the beauty of it all. Our sun, positioned perfectly for the third planet, has given us everything. I can't believe it was all random, that rocks and elements and life-giving material was just flying around the universe aimlessly, settling here, just for us.

This is divine intervention on a truly massive, incomprehensible scale.

What does it all mean?

Well, not much, since none of us will ever reach the stars in a meaningful way.

But maybe it's the start, the beginning of a new creation theory. This theory is that everything in the universe and beyond is connected, similar, related and important.

Are we, and all the galaxies that make up the universe, designed by God?

I will leave you with the words of E.E. Cummings:

"Listen; there's a hell of a good universe next door: let's go!"

Our Readers Write

Don't destroy the Greenbelt, says resident

We moved to Bolton 14 years ago because of the beautiful natural environment all around us.

In the meantime, climate change has been accelerating.

We have seen its evidence through more severe weather such as ice storms, tornadoes and flash floods.

Climate scientists warn us to start planning for more frequent weather emergencies and

food shortages.

But, instead, this government has cancelled all green projects and initiatives and plans on paving over valuable farmland. Ignoring climate change does not make it go away.

Stop the 413 so we can start planning for a better future for our children.

JOANNE DIXON
BOLTON

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GENERAL MANAGER
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca

EDITOR
Brock Weir
brock@lpcmedia.ca

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**
Mary Speck admin@caledoncitizen.com

REPORTERS
Zachary Roman
zachary@lpcmedia.ca

MOTERING
Heather Erwin
heather@caledoncitizen.com

SPORTS
Robert Belardi
robert@lpcmedia.ca

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
Erin Luckett
erin@lpcmedia.ca

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Help Me Understand, Please!

The other day while driving about town I saw yet another vehicle proudly (one assumes) flying not one but two F*ck Trudeau flags. It caught me off guard because...well, why?

I may be a bit late to the party but I'm still wondering after all this time why these flags and why F*ck Trudeau is a thing? More specifically, I guess what I'm really wondering is why he, amongst all the leaders we have ever had, has been singled out as a "communist," "treasonous" and any of the myriad other offenses of which he's been accused.

Help me to understand. Explain it to me like I'm in kindergarten – and without swearing – please!

It seems, in addition to our own embarrassing incident right here in Bolton last year, and of course, the massive "freedom convoy" protests in Ottawa (winter and summer versions) people are still pre-empting the Prime Minister, barring him from attending events due to protestor gatherings, all in the interests of his own and the public's safety.

Just recently in a small town outside of Ottawa and again near Surrey BC, some people were seen carrying around makeshift gallows and/or nooses and flags with "Trudeau=Treason" written on them. I might not be a fan of Trudeau but who actually thinks it is ok to walk around with a noose, threaten our Prime Minister with death, and also thinks it is even remotely believable that this man has committed an act of treason against our

country?

According to the Government of Canada's own legal and justice website, the definition of treason is sweeping and includes offenses such as: "high treason," an attempt to kill Her Majesty the Queen, or an act of war levied against Canada or an attempt to assist an enemy in an act of war against our nation. As for simple "treason," amongst several subsections the definition amounts to, "the use of force or violence for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Canada," something it sounds more like the convoys have threatened than Mr. Trudeau has.

In other words, unless I missed several big news stories over the last six months of this year, I'm pretty certain our Prime Minister has done nothing to warrant a charge of treason. Other comments by the kinds of folks that believe in the treason charge are that we're living in a "communist state." These also don't hold much water with me for the very reason that comments like "we're living in a communist state" are allowed to be made – without any risk to the person making them!

They will not risk incarceration, or fines, because unlike people living in a communist state, we have the right to free speech. The fact that the vehicle I saw was driving with flags so emblazoned is also living proof that we are NOT living in a communist state. In fact, last I checked we lived in a civilized, (ok, we could use some work on maintaining civility) democratic country

which relied on legal elections to replace its leaders or, in a worst-case scenario, a vote of non-confidence in the House of Parliament, which would then trigger a legal election process.

Anyone who doubts the veracity of my claim is invited to travel to North Korea or China, rent a vehicle and parade around major towns and cities with a "F*ck Kim Jong-un" or "F*ck Xi Jinping" flag flapping out the window and see how long it takes them to figure out what living in an actual communist country looks like. My suspicion is they'd soon be using their democratic right to appeal to our Prime Minister for diplomatic help returning back to Canada.

Protestors have drawn parallels between Trudeau senior and his invocation of the War Measures Act, under entirely different circumstances and which DID suspend personal liberties, and Trudeau junior and the more current Emergencies Act, which emphatically did not.

They draw similarities that the Trudeaus, both senior and junior, are (and were) elitist and out of touch with the average working Canadians lived experience and in this area, I might well agree – but I still don't think it's a reason to hang the Prime Minister for treason.

Don Martin, writing for CTV news in June of this year wrote, "while this is hardly scientific, after a weeks-long survey of just about everyone I've met and many of them Liberals by voting inclination, the overall judgment on Trudeau is one of being a political write-off

with their body language alternating between exasperation and eye rolls. He's too woke, (they say), too precious, preachy in tone, exceedingly smug, lacking in leadership, fading in celebrity, slow to act, short-sighted in vision and generally getting more irritating with every breathlessly whispered public pronouncement. And that's just the one-sentence summary."

Once again, many Canadians might agree and certainly the fellow who grabbed my attention with his flags flying probably does, but as for me? You need to tell me, like you might tell a small child, why exactly it is that we need to drag him from office, accuse him of treason and threaten to do bodily harm?

There have been a lot of Prime Ministers over the years that people have loved or hated. I don't believe any of them have been threatened the way Justin Trudeau has. It smacks of the "Americanization" of our country. This is Canada. We'll have an election. Because we are a free country. Feel free to exercise your democratic vote when that time comes and enough with the rhetoric and violence. Oh yeah and also, just be careful what you wish for because I've a feeling Mr. Poilievre could be equally problematic, if not more so.



SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON

War - what is it good for?

It was a couple of shots from a pistol that are blamed for starting the First World War.

Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated along with his wife while in a motorcade in the streets of Sarajevo in 1914.

That action by a group of conspirators set into motion a whole series of events that led pretty much all of Europe into turmoil.

While the assassination is blamed for starting the war, in truth, tensions had been boiling over in Europe for years with countries forming alliances and blaming the other side for everything they didn't like.

The assassination was just an excuse.

In the centuries-old European tradition, when you've got a beef with your neighbors, you put an army together and cross the border to kill people and destroy property.

However, this was the turn of a new century, and times had changed.

This wasn't going to be siege warfare with arrows fired over castle battlements and defenders pouring boiling oil on the attackers below.

The days of Napoleon and armies marching in formation were gone, although some commanders at the beginning of hostilities still hadn't figured that out.

Technology had produced many new weapons – no-

tably the machine gun and artillery that could lob exploding shells for miles to produce a nice air burst that would kill troops on the ground en masse.

After four years of stalemate, massive casualties, and much of Europe in ruins, they signed an armistice, and called it quits.

It was called "the war to end all wars" when they realized the massive amount of destruction that was done and the fact that 15 million lost their lives.

However, no one really learned a lesson. The armistice that was signed caused a lot of resentment, and the conclusion was another war, 21 years later that was even more destructive.

So, here we are again and another war in Europe is raging on.

This is the 21st century. There should be no reason for any country on the planet to have an army. We as a society should be past the dark ages mentality of killing your neighbour over a disagreement.

There is a diplomatic corps for a reason. You can settle disagreements with words – not bombs.

There is talk of "war crimes" carried out by the Russians.

That's a phrase I have always found to be ridiculous based on the very nature of saying there are "crimes" that are committed during war.

It is considered a war crime if soldiers drag unarmed civilians out of their homes and shoot them dead on the street.

However, it is justifiable if you kill the same family by hitting their home with artillery fire from 20 miles away and call it "collateral damage."

It is against the rules of international warfare to use hollow point bullets – formerly called dum-dum bullets – because they are considered "inhumane" because of the damage they cause.

However, it is considered quite right, to kill a person by shooting them ten times in the chest with an automatic rifle. Who cares what type of bullet you use? They're still dead.

It's all a crime, and sending an army to invade another country in a hostile action should be considered a crime just as much as having a dispute with a neighbour on your street and going next door to kill them to settle the argument.

On top of all that, the cost of buying and maintaining the weapons of war is astronomical. There's plenty of other more important things nations should be spending money on.

We as Canadians are a peaceful people. We are not imperialistic, we have never invaded anyone, and luckily we only have one border, so it's not like we are sur-

rounded by hostiles.

And yet we still must maintain an armed force because other nations can't live peacefully.

The Russian arm has been exposed as a paper tiger. They can't manage supply lines, have low morale, and outdated equipment.

Their kleptocracy style of government has bought corrupt leaders mansions and yachts while their soldiers on the front line can't even get food or supplies.

Their soldiers are dying in large numbers, and according to international reports, families are not informed their sons are dead. They are simply reported as missing – and that's it. That takes the heat off the government and families are not compensated for family members whose whereabouts are "not known."

In the end, what will happen?

I'm betting one day Putin will go into work, and be informed in the Russian/Soviet tradition, that he is being replaced.

The Russians will have no choice but to withdraw, but leave behind thousands of innocent dead and cities that will take years to rebuild.

War – what is it good for? Absolutely nothing.



BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



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Bolton’s Susan Horn takes 2nd in Ottawa’s Open Welcome



Susan Horn of Bolton was the runner-up riding Chacca Keeps II in the \$20,000 Soltek Equestrian Open Welcome at Wesley Clover Parks. PHOTO BY BEN RADVANYI PHOTOGRAPHY

BY MARK PAVILONS

A Bolton rider challenged a strong performer at the recent Open Welcome in Ottawa. For the second week in a row, François Lam-

ontagne of Saint-Eustache, QC, won the Open Welcome at the two-week Ottawa Summer Tournaments at Wesley Clover Parks in Ottawa. Having scored victory in the \$20,000 Gi-

ant Tiger Open Welcome on Thursday, July 7, Lamontagne repeated his winning ways by topping the \$20,000 Soltek Equestrian Open Welcome on Thursday, July 14. His mount for both wins was Chanel du Calvaire, his 14-year-old Belgian Sport Horse mare (Luccianno x Kashmir van Schuttershof). Susan Horn, 38, of Bolton, came the closest to catching Lamontagne, laying down another clear round in a time of 39.64 seconds riding Chacca Keeps II, a 12-year-old Hanoverian mare (Chacco-Blue x For Keeps) owned by Kingsfield Farm. A total of 10 horses qualified for the jump-off over the inviting track set by course designer Marina Azevedo of Brazil on Wesley Clover Parks’ expansive grass field. With Chanel du

Calvaire being his only entry, the task became even more challenging when he was the first rider back for the jump-off. Toronto’s Stephanie Gallucci gave it her best shot riding Calle 67, a 13-year-old Westphalian mare (Carell x Capitalist) owned by Artemis Equestrian Farm LLC. Her jump-off time of 41.41 seconds still gave Lamontagne lots of breathing room and, in the end, the Quebec-based rider simply could not be caught. “The track was fair, a little light and small but just fine for the Welcome,” said Lamontagne. “Marina is a very nice course designer, and very smart. The Grand Prix will be bigger and harder, but the course was nice for the job today. Thank you to Francis Leblanc from Soltek for sponsoring the Open Welcome.”

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Caledon Mayor Allan Thompson and members of Caledon Council visited TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley for the official announcement that Caledon will be the new home of Canadian golf. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley to be home of Golf Canada headquarters and more

Continued from FRONT

Applebaum added the property at Osprey Valley is world-class and that the opportunity to move there is incredibly exciting. TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley is a 54-hole golf facility in Alton and is currently undergoing a privately-funded expansion. Osprey Valley’s President, Chris Humeniuk, said partnering with Golf Canada and industry partners is bringing him and his family closer to their dream of having Osprey Valley as a great Canadian golf destination. “We’re thrilled by the vision presented by Laurence and the entire Golf Canada team and are elated to collaborate with partners who share our vision of elevating golf to new heights in this country,” said Humeniuk. “...We believe this announcement is a wonderful addition to the momentum we’ve been fortunate to experience in recent years.”

Construction on phase one of the home for Canadian golf project is expected to begin in 2023. This phase includes the building of the corporate headquarters, hall of fame and museum, and community putting green. The green is going to be inspired by the Himalayas Putting Course in St. Andrews, Scotland. Phase one is expected to be complete by 2025. Phase two of the project will see the development of First Tee Canada’s national headquarters. First Tee Canada is a youth develop-

ment organization launched in 2021, designed to increase access to golf for kids from diverse backgrounds. First Tee would look to partner with local schools, after-school programs and youth-serving organizations to offer golf programming.

Also part of Phase two is an indoor short game complex, where Golf Canada hopes to identify the next generation of Canadian golf talent — Golf Canada hopes to advance 30 Canadians to the LPGA and PGA Tours by 2032.

Thompson said he’s thrilled Caledon will be the new home of Canadian Golf. “In addition to the significant economic benefits to our community, the campus will also feature the youth development program, First Tee, an accessible program designed to empower and inspire youth through sport... this is great news for Caledon,” said Thompson.

At Caledon Council’s March 29 meeting, Golf Canada chief operating officer Garrett Ball asked for Council’s support in funding the plan for TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley in Alton to become Golf Canada’s new headquarters. A motion for the Town of Caledon to support Golf Canada’s request to the Region of Peel for \$2.5 million (for phase two of the project) was carried at that meeting.

At the July 20 announcement, Golf Canada, Humeniuk, and industry partners all thanked Thompson and Caledon’s council for working with them to make planning the home of Canadian golf project a success.

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. Online memberships are also available.

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.

This popular community social offers patrons a chance to sip and savour wines from around the world while enjoying live music and a stunning view from the grounds of the Caledon Equestrian Park. We typically feature 50+ different wines, local craft beer and cider paired with a variety of delicious foods. All proceeds are directed to Rotary Club of Palgrave projects.
Date: Friday September 23, 2022
Time: 6:00 – 9:00PM
Cost: \$75 per person or 10 for \$650
Hosted by: Rotary Club of Palgrave
Event Website: www.rotarywow.com

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Weight training, pickleball, and aquatics: What’s trending in Caledon recreation

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon’s recreation programs are back in full force now that COVID-19 lockdowns are no more.

The Citizen caught up with Jessica Stovin, the Town of Caledon’s Manager of Community Recreation, to see what kinds of activities have been popular this summer so far. Stovin explained she and her department have been running a campaign to try and let Caledon residents know the doors to the Town’s recreation facilities are open, programs are running, and that there’s something for everyone to try.

As soon as pandemic restrictions were lifted, Stovin said there were people who were instantly ready to get back to their normal recreation activities.

The Town’s aquatics programs saw a huge jump in participants, said Stovin, and the Town’s Camp Caledon summer camps for kids began to fill up.

“We’ve seen some trends... I was talking to our fitness team, and they said they’ve actually seen a trend in participants doing weight training since we reopened. It’s interesting to see what these new trends are,” said Stovin. “We really do monitor what those trends are, what those interests are... then we’ll start to adjust and offer different programs and services based on what those needs are.”

Pickleball is a sport that is exploding in popularity, and in the Town of Caledon it’s no exception.

Stovin said she’s seen the sport, which has similarities to tennis but is more accessible, increasing in popularity.

She explained as the Town’s recreation department creates its next 10-year master

plan, staff will be making sure there’s Pickleball-ready facilities as a part of that plan.

Pickleball is currently available as a single-visit activity at the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness and the Southfields Village Community Centre.

Group fitness is another recreation activity that’s becoming more popular.

Stovin said people have been excited to get back out in person and work out with their fellow community members.

One fun fitness class that’s growing in popularity in Caledon is Zumba. This dance-based fitness activity is available for families and for those ages 55-plus in separate classes. Registration for these classes, and all Town of Caledon recreation programming, can be found on the Town’s website (caledon.ca).

Whether it’s by joining a registered program, drop-in program, participating in a community event, or getting out and enjoying Caledon’s many trails, Stovin is encouraging Caledon residents to get out and be active together.

“Check things out, see what might fit for them or their family. There’s lots to do and we’ll have even more coming on board for Fall and Winter... that information will be released in August,” said Stovin.

To meet the increased recreation demand from Caledon residents, Tovin said the Town is also looking to expand its recreation team.

Stovin is looking for personal trainers, aquatics instructors, and more.

What makes an ideal recreation employee? To Stovin, it’s a person’s desire to be part of the community. She’s looking for people who love to work with people and be a part of “Team Caledon.”



King-Vaughan MPP and Education Minister Stephen Lecce joined the parents of Robert Naccarato, at the annual golf tournament. “We honour the life and legacy of Robert Naccarato, who was taken from his friends and family far too early in life,” said Lecce. “I thank the Robbie Foundation for its incredible work, and everyone who contributed to support SickKids. I’m proud that Vaughan continues to rally behind this important cause.” **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Annual “Robbie” tournament continues the tradition

BY MARK PAVILONS

The support for a former Bolton teen continues to break records, and keep his memory alive.

The 14th annual Robert Naccarato Memorial Charity Golf Tournament was held July 8 at Copper Creek in Kleinburg.

This is where the majority of the fundraising comes from. Organizers say they received “great support from companies, organizations, and individuals who share their vision and hope for improved child health.

“Thank you for supporting a charity that is very close to our families’ heart!”

To date, the event has raised more than \$2.2 million.

Maria Naccarato-Ruffolo said 18 years ago, “Our spirits were crushed when our youngest son, Robert Naccarato was killed in a car accident. Our family has been heartbroken ever since.

“With the support of family and friends, we get through our days by concentrating on what is important to us, what makes us strive to be better and, most importantly, keeping our son Robbie alive in our hearts. Robbie had many dreams and he died much too soon.

“He was a generous and thoughtful child who always put others happiness and pleasure before his own. He wanted to do ‘good’ for the world and so on his behalf began The Robbie Foundation.”

The Robbie Foundation is a registered charity and proceeds from the golf

tournament are given to The SickKids Foundation.

More specifically, The Robbie Foundation has been awarded a designated room named “The Robert Naccarato Playroom” on the eighth floor of the leukemia ward at SickKids Hospital.

Further fundraising proceeds will be diverted to Make a Wish Foundation, Sunnybrook Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital, and Princess Margaret Hospital.

Organizers praised the support of sponsors such as Adidas/TaylorMade, Masters Insurance, Majestic Wine, Zito’s Marketplace, and many others.

The family has lived in Bolton since 1987. Robert attended Pope John Paul in Bolton and went to high school at Robert F. Hall.

He played hockey in Bolton with the Hawks, and played with the organization until he moved onto AAA hockey in the city.

“We are very fortunate to have extraordinary people, dedicated businesses, family and friends working with our family to continue making ‘Robbie’s Dream’ a reality! Likewise, there are many people in our local area that need our support too and those...individuals are for whom this charity was designed to help. Together, we can make a difference in their lives.”

For more, you can contact them at The Robbie Foundation, 14 Guardhouse Drive Bolton, Ontario, L7E 5W6 or email therobbiefund@hotmail.com.

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Lions’ Club TV Bingo coming this fall, bringing faster play to region



Orangeville Lions Club members Sandy Brown, Roy Bryan, and Frank Gray unveil the brand-new TV Bingo machine that will be used when the game launches in September. The machine cost approximately \$25,000.

BY SAM ODROWSKI

Bingo players across the region have lots to be happy

about.

Following the success of the Orangeville Lions Club’s introduction of Radio Bingo,

which ran from December 2021 to May 2022, they’re launching TV Bingo and expanding it to Hillsburgh,

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Erin, Garafaxa Woods, Grand Valley, and all of Caledon, for September 13.

It’s going to be broadcasted by Rogers, free of charge, and the Lions will be doling out roughly \$100,000 to \$150,000 in prize money over the next year.

It will be \$3,000 in prize money per regular game and \$5,000 on special holidays.

“The real key here is even if you lose in the bingo game, you still win because you donated some money to the Lions Club, and it’s going back into the community,” said Mayor Sandy Brown, Orangeville Lions Club member.

During Radio Bingo, some of the charities the local Lions Club donated to included Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Ukraine humanitarian relief, Choices’ Men’s Shelter, and the Orangeville Minor Baseball Association for its “Shack” revitalization project.

Other charities will receive help through TV Bingo, with the Lions anticipating they’ll raise \$100,000 over the next year.

Rogers will be broadcasting livestreams of the TV Bingo on Channel 63 and online at RogersTV.com. Any community in Channel 63’s coverage area will be able to play.

The way the TV Bingo works is a player purchases a bingo card in advance and tries to mark off any of the letters L-I-O-N on their bingo card. Players also compete for the first full card.

Another way folks can win is by hitting a bingo with the progressive jackpot number. A number will be selected at the start of the season and if it is used to hit a bingo, the person who hits it wins all the money in the jackpot. If no one hits the number, the jackpot will grow by \$200 each game.

The odds of picking any one ball is 1 in 75, so there’s potential the jackpot could get into the thousands, Mayor Brown noted.

Tickets will be sold at \$10 a card.

The Orangeville Lions Club became interested in bringing TV Bingo to the region after watching how smoothly it’s been running for the Lions Club in Kitchener-Waterloo.

All of the numbers called are displayed on screen for each game, making it easy for viewers to follow.

“It’s impossible to not know where you are and get lost in the middle of the game,” said Mayor Brown.

He added that a lot of the folks who played Radio Bingo were older and some were hard of hearing, so having the easy-to-follow TV Bingo broadcast should help.

The local Lions Club purchased a brand-new bingo machine for TV Bingo where balls are called from.

The total cost was approximately \$25,000 but the return on investment is anticipated to come fast, as the Lions’ estimate they’ll bring in roughly \$100,000 over the next year.

The machine instantly

detects the first bingo from the bingo cards sold that week, making it easy for the Lions to verify if players do in fact have a bingo. This is a new feature that wasn’t available with Radio Bingo.

“It’s very quick verification of the winner,” said Mayor Brown. “The game goes much smoother.”

A fun angle to the Radio Bingo was the kitchen parties that friends and families would have together while playing the game each week.

“We expect that’s going to be carried forward,” said Mayor Brown. “There’ll be people getting together having fun.”

He also noted with the addition of other municipalities in the region for bingo, such as Caledon and Erin, the number of people playing should triple. Radio Bingo saw anywhere from 300 to 600 per game on average.

Fans can expect some banter from the bingo caller, keeping them entertained as they play the game.

The Orangeville Lions’ Club is partnering with a variety of vendors in the communities TV Bingo is being offered, primarily at gas stations, variety stores, and grocery stores.

Depending on interest levels, bingo cards could be sold in Shelburne since Rogers TV can be streamed by anyone online.

Pick up locations will be announced closer to September 13, ahead of TV Bingo’s official launch.

Bolton retirement residence hosting first responder appreciation BBQ

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

A Bolton retirement residence is showing thanks to Caledon’s first responders this summer.

Sorrento Retirement Residence, located at 10 Station Rd. in Bolton, is hosting a first responders appreciation barbeque lunch on July 29.

The lunch will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and all first responders who attend will receive a complimentary lunch.

Desiree Nicolini, Sorrento’s Director of Sales and Marketing, said the residence opened in the middle of the pandemic. As such, Sorrento staff and residents very much appreciated the help of first responders during those unprecedented times.

“We really felt the effects of the first responders — the nurses who showed up to work every day when things were really scary back then; you know, the paramedics

who came flying here if... something happened,” said Nicolini. “In honour of that, last year we did our first appreciation barbecue to honour the (first responders) in the community.”

Nicolini said the Sorrento team decided to make the appreciation barbeque an annual event, to remember all the help received during the pandemic’s early days, and to show appreciation to everything first responders continue to do year after year.

She added it was amazing to see Sorrento residents, and members of the Caledon community, come out to the first appreciation barbeque, She’s looking forward to the barbeque this year and said in addition to the food, there’s going to be entertainment too and that it’s going to be a great afternoon.

Tickets to the lunch are \$20 for non-first responders and those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by calling 647-317-7242 before July 22.



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OBITUARIES

**WILLIAMS, Robert
Elwood "Mike"**

Gone home to be with his Lord and Saviour on Saturday, July 16, 2022 at the age of 84. Beloved husband of Donna Williams and the late Evelyn Lanktree (2002). Loving father of Sarah Langridge and her husband Bill and Rebecca Snell and her husband Greg. Dear step-father of Chere Madsen and Tiffany Woodfine. Cherished grandfather of Alora, Dylan, Cameron Dannica, Cole and Madison. Remembered by his sister Olive Cole. Mike will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends. Visitation will be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville on Thursday, July 21, 2022 from 2:00-4:00 & 7:00-9:00 p.m. Funeral Service will be held at in the Chapel on Friday, July 22, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. Interment to follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Orangeville. Memorial donations to The Lighthouse-Orangeville, Father's Heart Healing Ministries or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. A tree will be planted in memory of Mike in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. 20th Annual Dedication Service will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



**WHIFFEN, Greta (nee
Hillier)**

Peacefully at Shelburne Residence on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at the age of 84. Beloved wife of the late Patrick Whiffen (2011). Dear mother of Shauna Caron (Gord), Raymond (Darlene), Gary (Darlene), Ava Maria (1960) and Audrey Bricker (Bob). Cherished grandmother of Miranda (Greg), Pamela, Sean, Sheri, Erin, Kristy, Brenden (Kim), Christopher, Bobbie (Alana), Holly, Emma (Andrew), Clayton (Ryss), Barry, Jessica (Jamie) and Dustin. Sadly missed by her great-grandchildren. Remembered by her brother Brian (Sharon) and Alonzo (Fern). Predeceased by her brother Lewis. Greta will also be greatly missed by other relatives and friends. Funeral Service will be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Memorial donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County. A tree will be planted in memory of Greta in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. 20th Annual Dedication Service will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



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Two days of world-class music coming to Caledon



Tickets on sale for Caledon Music Festival

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Musical talent from all around will be descending on the Town of Caledon for the Caledon Music Festival.

The festival, which takes place on the first weekend of August, will feature world-class classical musicians performing in intimate settings.

Festival organizer Terry Lim calls it a rare chance to see big players in the world of classical music on a small stage.

There are going to be two concerts that make up the Caledon Music Festival. The first will be held on August 6 at Windrush

Estate Winery in Palgrave. Beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The event is called “Tasting Notes.” It is set to combine a wine tasting with a classical music concert and promises to “create a multi-sensory experience” and add “a fun and accessible twist to a sophisticated cultural offering.”

Lim explained he was looking for venues that had a grand piano to perform at, as that opens up a wide range of music for the artists to play, and ended up discovering Windrush. “This is a beautiful spot. It’s so beautiful I gasped when I walked in because it was so nice. The owners took a lot of care with the things that are in the venue,” said Lim. “We tried a sound check in the venue just to see what the acoustics were like and they sounded beautiful.”

The Windrush concert will feature piano trios, soprano singing and chamber work.

The second concert is taking place on August 7 at the Alton Mill Arts Centre. It begins at 2 p.m. and will feature many talented string players in larger groups. Lim himself will be playing the flute at the concert at the Arts Centre.

Lim said it was hard to gather such a talented group of musicians for a weekend in the summer because they’re all very busy with concerts and festivals. He said musicians are flying in for the festival, and that they’re really excited about the repertoire that is planned because it is challenging but beautiful.

Here are the names and instruments of the musicians that will be coming to share their talent in Caledon next month: Sarah

Kim (violin), Drew Comstock (cello), Emily Vondresjova (soprano), Catherine Gray (viola), Geoffrey Conquer (piano), Terry Lim (flute), Hez Leung (viola), Douglas Kwon (violin), and Andrew Ascenzo (cello).

Tickets to the Caledon Music Festival can be found on its website at caledonmusicfest.ca.

For the August 6 concert at Windrush, general admission tickets are \$45 and tickets for youth and students are \$25.

Only 100 tickets are available, but Lim said some tickets are still left.

For the August 7 concert at the Alton Mill Arts Centre, ticket prices are the same, and a maximum of 125 will be sold.

Tickets for that show are still available too.

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