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PAGES 8 AND 9



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FREE Thursday, November 23, 2023 Volume 43, Issue 45



PALGRAVE CHURCH SEEKING PARTNERSHIPS TO STAY VIABLE - An enduring hub of Palgrave is looking for ways to continue service to the local area. Palgrave United Church has been a place of worship for neighbours for over 145 years, and since 2007 has been home to PUCK - Palgrave Community Kitchen. But, in a new challenging chapter for the church, they are looking for new partnerships to continue their work for the residents of Palgrave and Caledon community at large. For more, see Page A17.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Police seek public's assistance following triple shooting on Mayfield Road

BY BROCK WEIR

The OPP is seeking the public's assistance as to information related to a triple shooting on Mayfield Road just before midnight on November 20 that left one person dead and two others injured.

Following the incident, police said there was "no imminent threat" to public safety and they were looking into a potential connection

between this and a vehicle fire in the area of Olde Base Line Road and Creditview Road.

"Officers were called to a report of a shooting at a residence on Mayfield Road shortly before 12:00 a.m. on November 20, 2023, where one person was located deceased," said OPP Acting Sergeant Joe Brisebois in a statement on Tuesday. "Two others were injured and transported to hospital. It is believed that multiple suspects are involved. One individ-

ual was last seen entering a black pick-up truck, which then travelled westbound on Mayfield Road. Residents in the area should expect to continue to see a large police presence. While investigators believe there is no imminent threat to public safety, the OPP reminds members of the public to be aware of their personal safety at all times.

Continued on Page A4

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Caledon residents called to support neighbours in need during Season of Hope

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local non-profit is fundraising to help Caledon residents in need over the holidays.

Caledon Community Services (CCS) recently launched its Season of Hope

campaign, an annual drive for food, gift cards, and monetary donations used to help Caledon neighbours in need during the holiday season.

Some residents may know Season of Hope as the Santa Fund; the donation drive was renamed last year.

Continued on Page A16

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Company proposing blasting quarry appeals Caledon's renewal of Interim Control Bylaw

Bylaw prevents any new pits or quarries from being established in Town until next October

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The company behind a proposed blasting quarry in Caledon has appealed a Town bylaw renewal that prevents new pits and quarries from being established until next October.

The bylaw will remain in effect during the appeal process.

At a November 16 community meeting held by the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group (FCPG), the group shared that on November 14, CBM Aggregates appealed Caledon's Interim Control Bylaw (ICBL) against new pits and quarries to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

CBM Aggregates (a division of St. Marys Cement Canada), whose parent company is Brazilian conglomerate Votorantim Cimentos, wants to build an approximately 800-acre below-water table blasting quarry just south of Alton.

Caledon's aggregate ICBL was put into place on October 18, 2022, when then-Mayor Allan Thompson called an emergency meeting for the purpose of implementing it at the request of the FCPG.



MIKE STARR/ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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 or emailing admin@caledoncitizen.com 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 6:00-6:30 followed by a meeting. The initial annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is \$59, and monthly dues are \$20. Today is the best day to make changes to your lifestyle! If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and support the efforts of all our members, and your first meeting is free. Come join us. 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.

Caledon Church of Canada. Every Sunday morning @ 10 am. Monday prayer meeting @ 7 pm. Resources: Prayer counselling, Baby/child dedication, Visit the sick, Wedding Services, Food bank and more! For all your pastoral services: 647-891-9400 • caledoncoc@gmail.com
Location: 34 Nixon Rd., Bolton

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For more information call 905-857-2615 or e-mail office@boltonunitedchurch.com
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Open to all - Electric Vehicle Society Caledon Chapter meetings. Come out to learn from the expertise of electric vehicle owners and enthusiasts about helping Canadians transition to electric transportation through education and advocacy. Local meetings are held in the Southfields Community Centre - Community Room from 7pm-9pm. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday December 20th. Meetings are free. For more info: <https://evsociety.ca/caledon/> or email Kenneth.bokor@evsociety.ca

ICBLs have a duration of one year, and can be renewed for a maximum of one additional year.

Caledon implemented its ICBL prohibiting new pits and quarries so it could update its aggregate policies, which were found to be some of the weakest among all top aggregate-producing municipalities in Ontario.

This past September, Ward 1 Councillor Lynn Kiernan motioned to renew Caledon's aggregate ICBL for one year, and Council agreed with her, voting to renew it on September 26, 2023. It will now be in effect until October 18, 2024, unless CBM Aggregates' appeal is successful.

The FCPG's lawyer David Donnelly is sending in a response to the appeal, and his initial impression is that the appeal is without merit. The FCPG said it's likely the matter will be heard before the OLT within six months to a year.

As mentioned above, Caledon implemented its aggregate ICBL so it could update and strengthen its aggregate policies.

At Council's November 21 Planning and Development Committee Meeting, a report from Town of Caledon Senior Planner Jeff Hignett was presented. The report was an update on progress made updating Caledon's aggregate policies.

Hignett said Caledon is in stage two — policy formation — of the three-stage process to update its aggregate policies. Stage one was background review. Stage three will be the presentation of updated policies to Council and a recommendation to implement them.

Caledon has hired the services of aggregate planning consultant Mark Dorfman, who prepared a background report on aggregate in Caledon and is helping with the aggregate policies project.

There's also an Aggregate Resources Community Working Group that was selected by Council. It has met three times so far and will continue to meet as Caledon's aggregate policy creation process continues.

Hignett's report said Caledon has draft versions of its new aggregate policies ready. Next in stage two of the project is the creation of a summary report and a public open house.

Stage three will begin with a working group meeting, then move into presentations. Town staff will then prepare official plan and zoning

bylaw amendments for the new aggregate policies, present them to Council, and have a public meeting about them before they can be implemented by Council.

This is anticipated to be complete by mid-2024, before the ICBL runs out.

At the November 21 meeting, FCPG Chair David Sylvester delegated to the update report.

He advocated to Council, asking the Town to retain subject matter experts on things like air quality, traffic, noise, water quality and flyrock to help substantiate its new aggregate policies. Sylvester also said Caledon should retain a well-respected aggregate expert to oversee the rest of the review of its aggregate policies.

"I truly believe this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity and I would hate to see this process fail," said Sylvester.

Mayor Annette Groves said the community needs reassurance from the Town that it's taking the policy review process seriously. She called on staff to share if it was hiring outside help.

Town staff said they already have a planning consultant on the file. Staff said further consultants will be hired to peer-review Caledon's new aggregate policies in areas like blasting, air quality, and environmental protection.

Groves told Sylvester she's committed to working with the FCPG and the community as the aggregate policy review process continues.

Sylvester said hiring subject matter experts for peer-review purposes is not enough; that Caledon needs them on hand for the creation of the aggregate policies, too.

"There's nobody... including the planning consultant, who has anything close to adequate technical expertise to properly formulate the aggregate policies," said Sylvester.

Staff said they have an experienced consultant on the policy review file and that any policies that come forward will have technical consultants to support them.

Sylvester said Caledon needs its own progressive, state-of-the-art policies that can be supported with evidence and withstand challenges from the aggregate industry.

"Without the technical expertise we simply are not going to achieve that goal," said Sylvester.

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Councillors Maskell, Russo appointed to Single-Tier Transition Committee



Councillors Doug Maskell and Mario Russo will be chair and vice-chair of Council's Single-Tier Transition Committee.

FILE PHOTOS BY ZACHARY ROMAN

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon Council has formed a Single-Tier Transition Committee.

The committee's role will be ensuring timely feedback from Council to the Town of Caledon's internal transition team – staff members working with the five-member Provincially-appointed transition board tasked with dissolving the Region of Peel.

As of January 1, 2025, Caledon, Brampton and Mississauga will be single-tier municipalities.

The Single-Tier Transition Committee (STTC) was formed at a November 14 Special Council Meeting. It will be a committee of Council, like the Governance Review Committee or Audit Committee.

Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell will be the STTC's chair, Regional Councillor, Wards 4, 5 and 6 Mario Russo will be vice-chair, and Mayor Annette Groves will be an ex-officio member.

While Council voted to create the STTC – which was recommended in a report written by Caledon's CAO Nathan Hyde – the appointment of the STTC's chair and vice-chair was done using Strong Mayor powers.

Before the STTC's creation was voted on at the November 14 Council meeting, discussion

occurred.

Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen asked how Maskell and Russo were chosen to be the chair and vice-chair of the STTC.

"I agree we need to have... some way for Council to interact with the transition team," said Sheen. "But the staff report doesn't explain how the two Councillors were chosen."

Groves said she made the decision to appoint the chair and vice-chair as she has the authority to do so, but did not elaborate further despite repeated requests from Sheen.

Regional Councillor, Wards 1, 2 and 3 Christina Early said she was concerned to see a two-person transition committee speaking for Council, also expressing concern over a lack of representation in the STTC from the west side of Caledon.

Ward 1 Councillor Lynn Kiernan said Groves using Strong Mayor powers to appoint the STTC's chair and vice-chair was undemocratic.

"I think the west side of Caledon is being ignored once again," said Kiernan. "We are in the dark, our voice is being stolen and that cannot be happening anymore."

Groves said there is no "East versus West" and that every Councillor votes on issues that affect all of Caledon. She said the STTC will be bringing information back to Council as a whole.

"I have full confidence that we're all working

in the best interests of the entire community of Caledon," said Groves.

Russo said the STTC won't be making any decisions and will just be transferring information back and forth.

"I don't even know why this is becoming a conversation piece," said Russo.

He said all STTC meetings will be viewable by the public like any other committee meeting.

Ward 4 Councillor Nick de Boer suggested making the STTC like Council's Planning and Development Committee, which includes all of its members.

Groves cited coordination of schedules and limited time to do transition work as reasons she would not do that, and de Boer countered saying Council would make time to attend STTC meetings. Sheen seconded his point.

Council had previously deferred the creation of the STTC at an October 10 special council meeting.



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PEDESTRIANS HIT IN FAIL-TO-REMAIN

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the OPP are currently investigating a failed to remain collision where two pedestrians were hit.

“On November 21, 2023, shortly after 5:30 p.m., officers responded to two injured pedestrians on Albion Vaughan Road, near Queensgate Boulevard,” say Police. “It was reported that both were walking southbound at approximately 4:30 p.m. when they were hit from behind by a vehicle. No vehicle descriptors were obtained. A 14-year-old male sustained minor injuries and a 16-year-old female remains at hospital with life-threatening injuries.”

Albion Vaughan Road in both directions between Queensgate Boulevard and Dovaston Gate was closed for several hours while the OPP Technical Collision Investigators and Reconstructionists assisted with the investigation.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP at 905-584-2241 or 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, and you never have to testify.

IMPAIRED DRIVING CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged four drivers with impaired operation this past weekend.

“On November 17, 2023, just before 6:00 p.m., Caledon OPP responded to a traffic complaint on McEwan Drive West,” say Police. “Upon arrival and locating the vehicle, officers met with the driver and formed grounds that their ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol.”

As a result of the investigation, Richard Premich, 59, of Caledon, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
 - Operation while impaired – alcohol.
- The charges have not been proven.

“On November 18, 2023, just after 5:00 p.m., officers responded for a three-vehicle collision on Highway 9, near Caledon-King Town Line. Minor injuries were reported. During the investigation, one driver was arrested since grounds were formed that their ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol.”

As a result, Frank Gilchrist, 57, of Schomberg, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
 - Operation while impaired – alcohol.
- The charges have not been proven.

“On November 19, 2023, officers were conducting a R.I.D.E. (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) spot check on the Hwy 410 offramp to Hurontario Street. Shortly before 3:00 a.m., a vehicle entered the area and was met by officers. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, resulted in the accused to be arrested.”

As a result, Abhinav Mankoo, 25, of Caledon, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
 - Operation while impaired – alcohol.
- The charges have not been proven.

“On November 19, 2023, just before 8:00 p.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle collision on Mayfield Road, near Humber Station Road. No injuries were reported. During the investigation, one driver was arrested since grounds were formed that their ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol.”

As a result, Erik Lebko, 20, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).
- The charges have not been proven.

All four driver’s licences were suspended for 90 days, and the vehicles were impounded for seven. The four accused are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on December 7, 2023, to answer to the charges.

“On November 15, 2023, Caledon OPP officers were conducting a R.I.D.E. spot check on Escarpment Side Road by Horseshoe Hill Road,” say Police. “Shortly before 6:00 p.m., a vehicle entered the area and was met by officers. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, resulted in the accused to be arrested.”

As a result, Andrew Crawford, 60, of Richmond Hill, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).
- The charges have not been proven.

The driver’s licence was suspended for 90 days, and the vehicle was impounded for seven. The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on November 30, 2023, to answer to the charge.

“If you plan on drinking or consuming drugs, plan to not drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi or public transit, or come up with another plan that takes impaired driving out of the picture. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it.”

With the holiday season fast approaching, the need to make those alternate arrangements will increase. In Caledon, Home-James offers a FREE designated driver service. The program runs from November 17 to December 31, every Friday and Saturday from 9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. (excluding December 24). More information is available at: www.homejames-caledon.ca.



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Police seek public’s assistance following shooting

Continued from FRONT

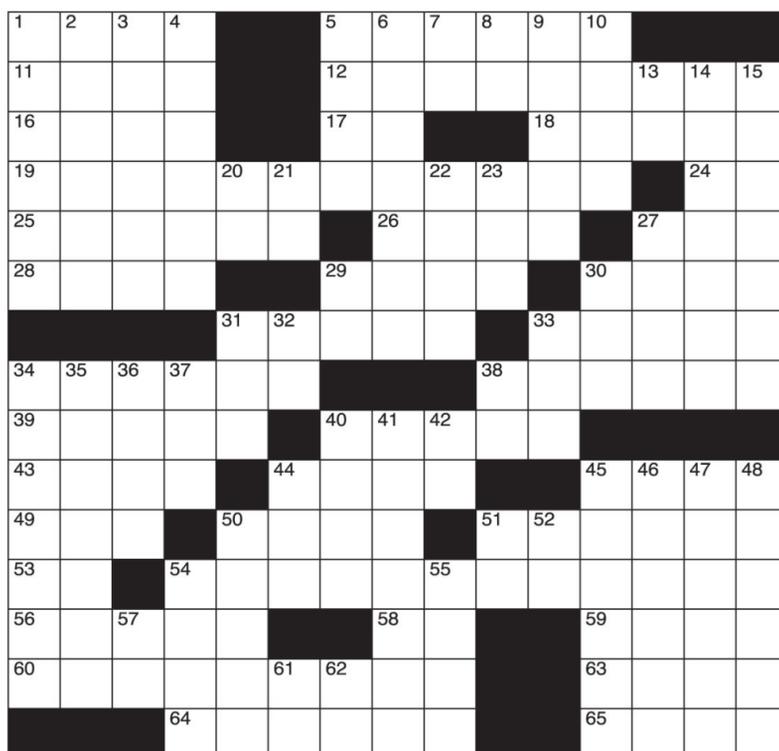
“The Caledon Detachment Major Crime Unit is continuing the investigation under the direction of the Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB), with assistance of OPP Forensic Identification Services, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario and Ontario Forensic Pathology Service.

Investigators are seeking dash cam footage of both scenes between the hours of 11 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.”

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Caledon OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Information can also be left anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

The Citizen CROSSWORD

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- Happiness
- Military branch
- _, _., denotes past
- Middle Eastern city
- Air hostesses
- Partner to Pa
- Percussion instrument
- Popular computers
- Decrease light
- Valley in the Osh Region
- “To _ his own”
- Absence of difficulty
- Notice announcing intended marriage read out in church
- Trims by cutting
- Impact
- Military member
- A French river
- Member of prehistoric people in

Mexico

- Messenger ribonucleic acid
 - Musician Clapton
 - Greek sophist
 - Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
 - Narrow valley
 - A way to disentangle
 - Indicates not an issue (abbr.)
 - Recommending
 - Genus of legumes
 - Friend to Larry and Curly
 - Off-Broadway theater award
 - Fencers
 - Small Eurasian deer
 - Denoting passerine birds
 - Separate by category
- CLUES DOWN**
- Colorless fluid part of blood
 - Of a main artery
 - Photographic

equipment

- Confirms a point
- Developed over time
- Not the leader
- __ Lang (country singer)
- Adults need one
- Nests of pheasants
- Antelopes
- One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
- Japanese three-stringed lute
- Type of cat
- Cools your home
- The ancient Egyptian sun god
- Pouches
- Trigraph
- Form of Persian spoken in Afghanistan
- __ route
- Body part
- Bridge building degree
- Indicates position
- Political action committee

34. Tasty snack

- Part of a quadruped
- Locate
- Pitching statistic
- Of I
- City in Utah
- Football players in the trenches
- Hammer is one
- A “nightmarish” street
- Performers
- Slang for cut or scrape
- More breathable
- Most slick
- Provokes
- Home to college’s Flyers
- Sodium
- Large fish of mackerel family
- Zero
- __ and behold
- The Palmetto State
- Popular Tom Cruise movie franchise (abbr.)

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



Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention and Training Dave Pelayo will take over as Chief on December 18.. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

New fire chief appointed

Future Chief Pelayo is currently Caledon's Deputy Fire Chief of Fire Prevention and Training

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon will soon have a new fire chief. On November 17, the Town of Caledon announced it had appointed Dave Pelayo as its new fire chief.

Pelayo, who is currently Caledon's Deputy Fire Chief of Fire Prevention and Training, will take over from current chief Dave Forfar on December 18.

The Town said Pelayo is a well-respected member of the Caledon Fire and Emergency Services team who has dedicated his career to the betterment of others for over 20 years.

Pelayo started his career with Brampton Fire, later moving to Caledon and joining the Town's fire department. He began as a volunteer firefighter at Station 302 in Bolton and then became a full-time firefighter. He rose through the ranks in Brampton and Caledon, serving in various leadership roles throughout his career.

In a media release, Caledon's Chief Administrative Officer Nathan Hyde said he's delighted to have Pelayo accept the role of fire chief.

"His transition into this new role reflects our commitment to nurturing and promoting talent," said Hyde. "The recruitment for the fire chief role was widespread, with top-quality candidates applying from across Canada. Mr. Pelayo stood out among these candidates, and we're excited for him to take over as fire chief in the coming weeks."

Pelayo will be working with Forfar until he retires to ensure a seamless transition between chiefs. Hyde said Forfar has served Caledon with dedication for many years.

"We would like to once again thank Chief Forfar for his years of dedicated service to Caledon, and we are pleased that Deputy Chief Pelayo will be able to work closely with him until Chief Forfar's retirement begins," said Hyde.



Season of Hope

Your **Season of Hope** gift will help your neighbours in need this holiday season and throughout the year ahead.

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ccs4u.org/donate



Public Notice



Bolton is improving!

Peel Region has initiated a corridor study for Queen Street (Regional Road 50) from 300m south of Queensgate Boulevard to 300m north of Columbia Way in Bolton (see map of study area). The study will determine a preliminary design that meets the transportation vision for the Queen Street corridor.

The objective is to design a complete street that safely supports all modes of transportation while maintaining Peel infrastructure in a state of good repair. The study will consider improvements to lane configurations, intersection operations, cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, and accessibility.

We want to hear from you!

Join us for a Virtual Public Meeting to learn more about the project, ask questions and share ideas:

Date: Wednesday, November 29, 2023
Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Information on how to join the Public Meeting will be provided on the project website:

<https://www.peelregion.ca/public-works/environmental-assessments/caledon/queen-street-corridor-study.asp>

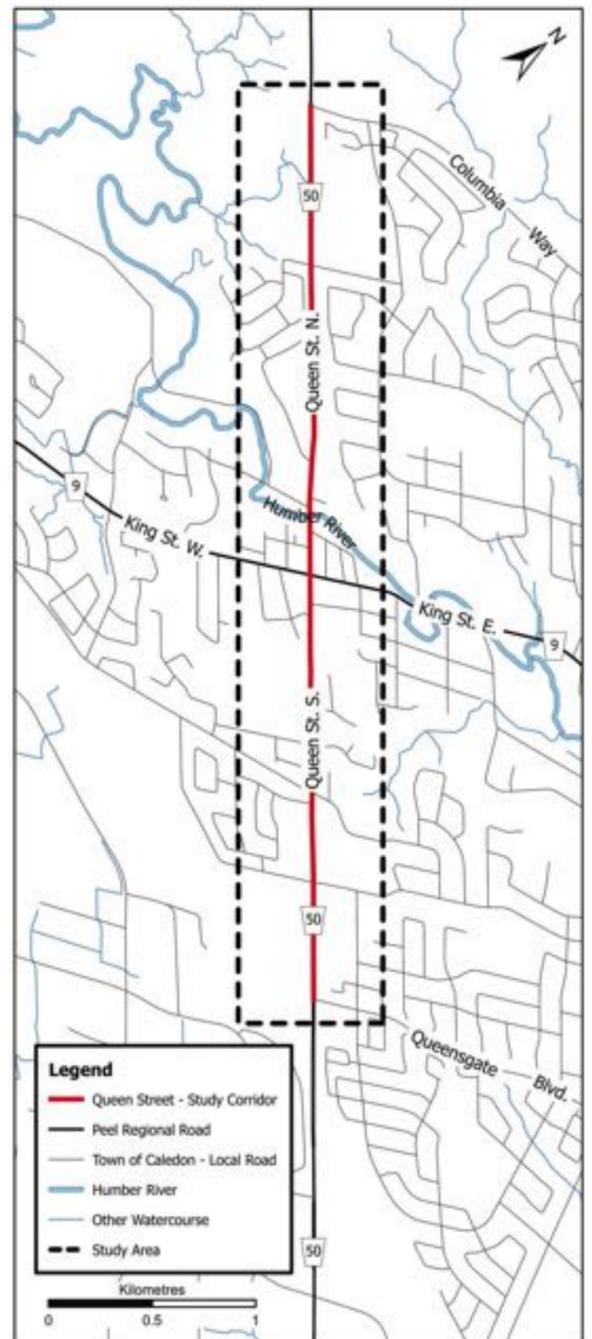
Following the meeting, the information presented will be available for viewing on the project website. Comments can be submitted to the Project Managers below by **December 15, 2023**:

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



BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

The People & Things that Bring Us Together

"You're a terrorist!" she exclaimed through the window of her car, directed at someone I couldn't see from my vantage point.

The sound of her voice reverberated through me on Monday night as we approached Los Angeles International Airport bound for Toronto.

Screaming tires ahead gave an indication that the shocking exclamation above was spurred by some sort of traffic tiff, but let's face it, nothing warrants nonsense like that – particularly not a minor traffic fracas.

It was enough to snap me out of a near-week-long reverie that had followed since temporarily vacating the area to attend a celebration in honour of a long-time family friend.

Ordinarily when I venture west to visit this particular branch of the "chosen" family tree, it's time for an excitement that builds until its crescendo right at take-off and holds on for the duration of the trip. This time around, as has been the case during my most recent trips to the United States, my excitement was tempered by that seemingly age-old question of "just what environment am I about to step into?"

It's no news that our political environment, in just about every realm and locale around the world, is more divided now than ever before.

Truths that were once held universal, truths that we all agreed on, have been battered and bruised, creating what can sometimes make different people of different political stripes and outlooks on life feel that they or we are living on different plains of reality at the same time.

Depending on your destination, you can sometimes find yourself at least toe-deep into these realms.

Our annual family trip to Jamestown, NY, for the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival is a prime example. The drive offers almost a thoroughfare into a cross-section of communities deemed either red or blue – and it's become clear, in each successive year, the number and content of the invariable cacophony of lawn signs differs wildly and is dependant on which way the winds happen to be blowing.

"Okay, what are appropriate subjects for polite conversations this time around?" is a thought that is never far away from my mind, not wanting to get the dander of anyone of any stripe up higher than it needs to be.

And, so it was in the early hours of November 13, when I was going through a mental checklist before zipping up my suitcase.

Granted, the destination this time around was California, a generally "blue" state, so a few "safe" topics of conversation likely had some longevity from my last visit in the "before times," but it's so hard to tell anymore. It is, after all, the start of an election year in the United States (but, then again, when isn't an election cycle of some kind grinding its gears?) and people are getting all hot and bothered over those same pesky truths.

After a few days of rest and relaxation upon landing, the busy part of the trip kicked off on Thursday when, as it happens, plans for the celebration in honour of the afore-mentioned long-time family friend also kicked into high gear.

There were a few details that needed to be finalized and a few organizational things that needed a few extra hands, and there was nothing but celebration in the air as the event grew nearer.

The event, as it happens, was called "Moments in Time," a photographic exhibition hosted by Malibu City Hall in honour of my friend, photographer Laura Johansen, and a man who has been her muse for many years,

legendary entertainer Dick Van Dyke.

When we arrived at seat of government early-ish on Sunday morning, the energy even outside the building was electric as hundreds of fans of the star of "Mary Poppins", "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang", and, of course "The Dick Van Dyke Show", camped out for the chance to see their favourite actor in person and on stage for a conversation between photographer and subject.

Many came dressed as Poppins' cockney chimney-sweeping friend Bert. Others, Carac-tacus Pott of "Chitty, Chitty" fame.

Scores came dressed as Mary Poppins herself, others accessorized with representations of penguins from the same film. Others, Mrs. Banks complete with her Sister Suffragette gear.

One was dressed head-to-toe in four-year-old presidential swag, apparently keen to make statement of some sort, but we'll come back to him.

What's important is they were young, they were old, they were everything in between.

Some shared the stage or the screen with the man of the hour.

Others had been fans long before their memories were recorded. Still more were fans newer to the party but no less happy to be there.

When the guest of honour arrived, the electricity that was already in the air surged and, if one measured the level of emotion that was in the air, it's safe to say the only appropriate adjective would be "euphoric."

All that mattered were the artists on that stage.

Although the Q&A was set to be about 20 minutes or so, the icon held court for a full hour, sharing insights on his life, his career, and his family life with an energy and zest that belied his 97 years.

Admittedly, I held my breath for any reaction from the statement-dresser when Dick Van Dyke's mutual admiration society with Dr. Anthony Fauci, or the actor's interactions with presidents over the decades, including his receipt of the Kennedy Center Honour from President Biden, and impromptu warm words over Rosalynn Carter when news of her death broke moments before the exhibition opening.

In the moment, none of that mattered.

The political walls that certain operators have been working overtime to erect were suddenly – even if it was only temporary – bulldozed.

No matter what their beliefs, all that mattered in that moment was Dick Van Dyke and the love of the room of more than 300 people had from him. They were united, they were overjoyed, and they were reverent – something I sadly haven't seen since the pandemic.

Chalk it up to the unifying factor of Dick Van Dyke.

For more than 70 years, Van Dyke has brought the world together in laughter, not to mention in awe of his prodigious talents. It was clear that he thrived on the energy from the assembled just as much as we were thriving from his seemingly endless well of the same.

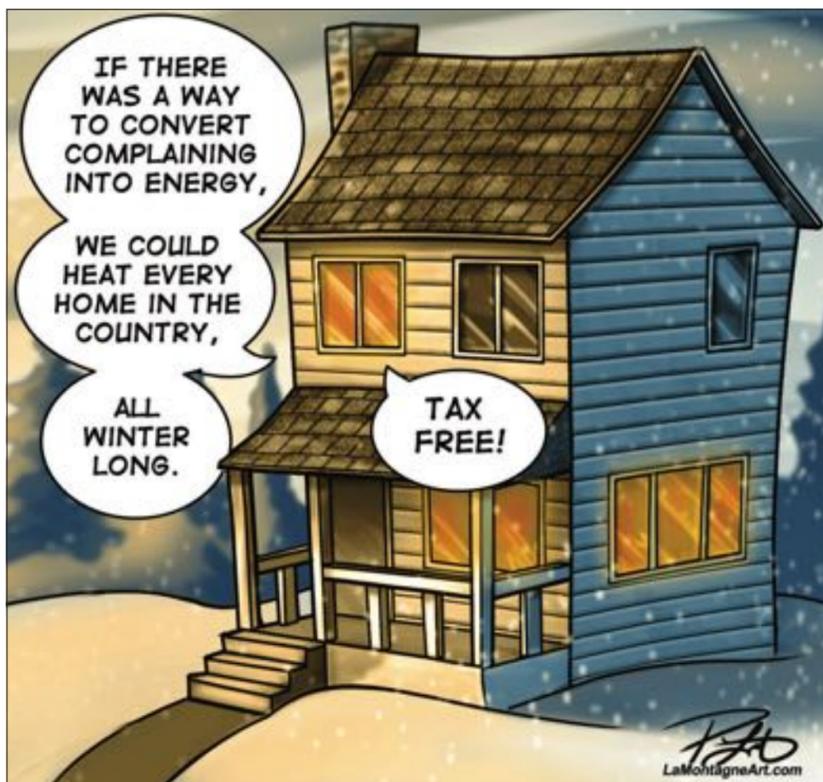
As sorry as it is to say, there aren't many people on whom everyone can agree on in near unanimity.

Dick Van Dyke, however, is definitely among the selected few.

What a privilege it was to see it in action – and how buoyant I felt afterwards.

Not even that unwelcome snap-back to reality at the airport on the way home was enough to bring me quite back down to earth.

Let's chalk that one up to Dick Van Dyke as well.



Customer "disservice" quickly getting old

by Mark Pavilons



In commerce, it was once believed that the "customer was always right."

To an extent, that holds true today. Of course, customers are not always right, but to ensure good relations, customers are given the benefit of the doubt. They are treated well, to ensure a return visit.

In most cases at retail and fast food outlets, customer complaints are quickly dealt with. I have witnessed many over the years, but few have ever escalated to full-scale shouting matches.

That's something we all want to avoid. Face-to-face dealings aside, our world is quickly becoming an AI wonderland, filled with land mines, glitches and well, idiot bots. We have plenty of that in the human world, why the heck did it spread to the AI community?

Maybe it's their way of getting back at us, by frustrating us to the point of sending us over the edge, into the abyss.

These days, when calling most companies, an automated message will ask a series of questions "to best address your concerns." The menu is limited but does cover most issues.

And then we humans are encouraged to take advantage of the automated bot, who can answer most questions quickly and efficiently. Really?

I want to speak to a person, not deal with some software who has never watched Kitchen Nightmares. I want someone who may have an inkling of knowledge of the product and problem at hand.

One would think that when you call a specific company, say a specific brand of TV, that their reps should know the TVs and functions like the back of their hands. All it takes is maybe an hour of training with an actual TV set and remote in hand in a classroom.

But alas, I feel most are reading some sort of booklet or script, or typing in the customer's concern, hoping for the correct answer. That's not really service, it's asking a computer for help – the same aforementioned bots.

I could have done that already, with limited results. And putting me on hold, while you search the database given to you by the company, won't necessarily solve the problem.

I recently turned on a descriptive audio function on my LG TV, and couldn't turn it off. Several YouTube videos later, and calls to LG customer service offered nothing, nada, nichts. I must have hit a button on the remote, or something. Funny that it's so easy to turn on an unwanted function that turn it off!

I guess the same holds true with people.

Problem was very frustrating and finally my service provider solved the issue. Go figure.

One would think that armed with a remote that can do almost anything, you can simply command your smart TV to do something. That would be great, right? And yes, I admit to telling the remote exactly what I thought about it!

I also tried finding my subscriptions to paid streaming channels, but got lost in the on-screen rabbit hole. Maybe it's a ploy – subscribe to our service and we won't let you cancel anytime!

I'm a regular online and over-the-phone customer of Rogers, given their service. Back and forth to various reps. Apparently my phone number, which I have used for more than 10 years, isn't recognized by the automated greeter. And neither is the account number.

Just keep pressing buttons until you get access to a real person. One neat feature, actually, is asking for a call back. They really do, and it's a human being!

Okay, I understand that technology is a tricky thing. But with certain things – TVs, cell phones and the like – someone should be versed in troubleshooting. And that means the people have to be trained, and fully understand the product they're talking about.

I know a lot of people who know their iPhone inside and out and can guide me better than some "Geniuses."

And I get tired of the constant question, "Well did you try turning it on and off?"

Oh, so that's the universal solution to all troubles, in the world, is it? Just turning the thing off.

Why didn't I think of that? I don't need a manual or technician, just access to an outlet on the wall.

My daughter has had trouble with Etsy for a while, trying to access her account. Etsy basically put it on hold and in order to gain access, we had to give them personal banking information, etc. They said the info didn't match their records. But most online accounts offer a simple and easy way to reset your password, to get back in. Not so with Etsy. And the nightmare continues.

When my daughter and I were out recently, we noticed a funny sign on the seat of a chair. "Keep Chair Here" it read. Okay, but if you move the chair to another spot, does that then become "Here?" Isn't "Here" wherever the chair happens to be? What happens if I do move it "There?" This silly scenario kind of sums up the dealings with customer service types.

One person actually referred to me as "The Customer" even though they had my name. Again, reading from a prepared script? New to the job? Just my luck.

Another tried to convince me they solved my issue, by sending me some video, again from YouTube.

Okay, I'm not the brightest bulb on the Christmas tree, but when I have an issue, I first turn to Google to find a DIY fix or at least an explanation. If that's all customer service centres offer, we're in big trouble.

We are online junkies and since that's the case we need our daily fix. But we also need intervention.

Submit your **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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Bathroom Brouhaha

Perhaps you haven't yet had the chance to visit the newest Caledon recreation centre. Perhaps "new" is the wrong term, but certainly revamped, remodeled, expanded and enhanced are all terms that would apply.

Located in Caledon East, it's been open for several months now, mostly to wide acclaim. Only "mostly" however, because it appears there seems to be a bit of a brouhaha brewing over bathrooms. Caledon seems to have its fair share of bathroom conundrums, what with that other issue – "the Mayor's outhouse" – that was dropped in Southfields this past summer. Let's hope these ongoing bathroom concerns don't find Caledon's reputation going down the drain!

In a press release on its opening the Mayor referred to the newly expanded Caledon East facility as "a first-class community complex," stating too that it was part of the Town's commitment "to providing quality recreational facilities for our community in an effort to promote active, healthy lifestyles, and locations where the community can gather for a variety of events."

With a pool, a gymnasium, two hockey rinks and a beautiful, brand new expanded library facility, it is something to behold. That said, it would appear not everyone is happy with who might be doing the "beholding."

The issue in Caledon East actually has more to do with the universal change rooms than with just bathrooms. Now that the tours are over and "the shiny new thing" is seeing regular use, there are some in Town who have a complaint about the concept of uni-

versal change rooms.

If you are not familiar with this style of facility, one that we are seeing more and more of in public spaces like major shopping malls, sports facilities and even restaurants, a universal bathroom (or as in this case changing facilities) are gender neutral change rooms for all, outfitted with private stalls with doors that lock – creating a space for any member of the family to use, at any time.

The practicality of the situation, for those of us who grew up in a different era, cannot be overemphasized. Dad taking daughter to swimming lessons? In the "old days" Dad would have had to send his six-year-old daughter into the change room alone to try and get dry, dressed and ready to walk out into the winter weather, without forgetting a mitten, socks or with hair still dripping wet. A Mom with a son at that in-between age, too young to dress themselves but too old to really comfortably enter a "female" change room – what a dilemma! With universal spaces, all that ends now. Shopping? Worried about a child who might require support in some way, who uses a mobility device or is a neurodiverse pre-teen that requires a caregiver for their own comfort in a bathroom facility? Now that caregiver can assist them. Blended families, single parents, universal facilities have got your back! And ladies, if we're being honest, this benefits you too! How? No more long lines outside bathrooms at big events, desperately waiting your turn while looking longingly at the virtually empty men's bathroom!

To be clear, with that last comment I'm not mak-

ing light of the situation, but, let's face it, there are perks to this gender-neutral bathroom/change room concept. While we thought it was "progressive" just a few short years ago to see "family" change rooms created in recreation facilities, they just led to longer wait times and increasing frustration as most places only had the one, and drying and dressing kids takes time. Now, everyone has a room of their own! Doors that close and lock for privacy and space for everyone with minimal, if any, wait times! Just like we once viewed family change rooms as an idea whose time had come, now we have another innovation that aims to ensure everyone has access to facilities we all need and that doesn't discriminate based on what a family looks like or who it is composed of.

So, what's all the fuss about? What's the "brouhaha over bathrooms?" Perhaps predictably the naysayers are out in full force declaring these facilities unsafe, unnatural and in at least one example that set my blood boiling, as a haven for – yup, you guessed it – pedophiles. Some folks have gone so far as to suggest a gender-neutral changing facility is "grounds for child grooming," and wondered, calling it "disgusting" whether or not pedophiles actually played a role in the planning process. Because yeah, that's how this works (insert sarcasm here).

After all, never before in the history of public restrooms has there been a case of voyeurism.

Never before in the history of public restrooms has there been the sad and unfortunate event of someone being followed, cornered and attacked and certainly never before, since the dawn of cellphones, has

someone taken one into a wide-open, no doors or privacy, single-sexed changing facility, and tried to take photos! The very idea that only now, now that we are providing inclusive facilities, is the time that perverts will come crawling out of the slime is what's really abhorrent.

The times are changing. When we "know better, we do better." Not every family looks the same. Blended families, step-families, same-sex families, differently-abled families... the list goes on.

We are all humans and now we all have a space that accommodates us. Sure, there are creepy people in this world. They have always existed and they will continue to find ways to exploit ANY situation, anywhere and at any time. Creating gender-neutral facilities doesn't "cause," nor "create" creepy, nasty people, unless of course you consider narrow-minded, non-inclusive folks to be nasty.

Would we all feel better if every door, in every bathroom, change room and department store fitting room came as close as possible to the floor, to help ensure our privacy? Probably. But that was true long before gender-neutral facilities existed. Most of all though, could we please, PLEASE, just stop dragging up references to pedophiles and child groomers every time there's a change in the world we all don't agree with? Bathrooms or not, I'd really like to see an end to THAT kind of brouhaha.

SHERALYN ROMAN TALK CALEDON



This is the new world

Several years ago, I was acquainted with a woman I had worked with in an office setting for several years.

We were very friendly and had a lot of conversations.

She happened to be Irish – specifically from Northern Ireland.

My grandparents on my maternal side were also from Northern Ireland and came over to Canada on a ship in the 1920s, as a young couple seeking new opportunities.

Northern Ireland has always had a divided population when it came to religion. The two sides didn't mix very well, and the situation quite often came to violence.

I was discussing this with my Irish friend one day at work, and asked her about the whole situation since she grew up there.

Her family were all Irish Catholic. My grandparents were Irish Protestant.

Considering everyone involved are white, and northern European looking, I asked her how you knew someone's religion so you knew who the enemy was.

"By your name," she said.

She asked what my grandparents' surname was, and when I told her, she mentioned a certain neighbourhood where they probably lived – based on a simple name. The fact that they were from this neighbourhood and didn't have a typical full Irish name, made them a natural enemy to the other side.

I never knew my grandfather as he died just after I was born, but my grandmother lived to a ripe old age. In the 30 years I knew her, never once did I hear her make a political comment about that situation, nor did she ever make a derogatory comment about someone of the Catholic faith.

In Northern Ireland, this work friend of mine, and me, probably would never had ended up in a social situation together, and at one time, could possible have been the victim of a bombing or other means of violence.

Yet, here, we had a good discussion about the situation with absolutely no animosity at all. I even made a joke that perhaps at one time, my distant relatives had traded pot-shots with her family over some ridiculous dispute.

The paternal side of my family, my dad's family, were pioneers – homesteaders that fled religious persecution in Europe and landed on Canadian

shores during the days of the wild west, and western expansion, and cleared a farm in Saskatchewan in the mid 1800s.

I am 100 per cent Canadian, and have no ties, in any way, to where my ancestors came from.

To me, it is inconceivable that I would even think of having a dispute with anyone here, based on the origins of someone else's family.

Yet, now, we have threats, protests, and violence, based on a conflict that is taking place thousands of miles away.

Someone actually fired a gun at three different schools in Montreal. How do you justify protesting violence in one part of the world, by committing an act of violence in another part of the world in a country which has no impact on, and is not involved in the conflict?

Firing a gun to terrorize a group of people in this country, is exactly that – terrorism. It is designed to intimidate and threaten another group of people.

There is no place in this new world country, for old world grudges.

What's going on the Middle East is a generational thing. Kids don't naturally hate their neighbours. They are taught to hate their neighbours by their

parents. Then those kids grown up, and teach their children to hate as well.

Unfortunately, some people can't let this type of thinking go away, and bring their violent tendencies with them.

I have a neighbour who arrived in Canada from a rather poor South American county several years ago. He told me he came here for the lifestyle and to provide his family with a better life.

He has assimilated and is doing very well. He also told me that he is disappointed that he knows others from his home country that have arrived here, and brought the same bad behaviour that caused him to leave his home country, with them.

He doesn't understand why, as he puts it, "They bring the Third World with them," and cause the same problems that they sought escape in the first place.

Canada is an open and welcoming place. Don't provide this country with the grief of old world problems.

Leave them in the old world where they belong.

BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW



Small business owners are being strangled by red tape

Over the past month, small business owners have shared with me some of their personal stories and their frustrations.

Far too many small businesses in Canada are struggling and a growing number are simply throwing in the towel and closing up shop.

Why is that?

Many of these small business owners point to the costs and delays created by unnecessary regulations and red tape, a problem that is growing worse and worse year by year. In other words, we're shackling our small businesses with bureaucratic chains – and we need to throw off those chains so they can succeed.

I received an email last week from the owner of a manufacturing company who agreed that red tape was choking so many small businesses like hers, and that she had written to government officials on many occasions to complain about the needless regulations and red tape, but never even received a response.

I also received an email from a small business owner in the Niagara region. Here's what he said:

"It has become increasingly challenging to run a profitable business in Ontario (I assume it is the same across all provinces), compete against overseas companies that export tariff free into our country, employ local labour, and then have to pay the tax rates we have to pay."

He cited "red tape bureaucracy and certification costs on products" as factors that contribute to an erosion of profits for many businesses. Ultimately, he said, "there comes a tipping point where no further cost cutting measures or staff reductions are possible, and then closure follows."

He concluded his email by noting that "current political leaders don't seem to understand the realities on the street level for small businesses, and what will happen to the Canadian economy should the small business sector slowly evaporate as it becomes increasingly pointless to be a small business owner."

These and other stories shared by National Post readers raise the question – why do we keep

placing so many hurdles and obstacles in their way?

Governments from across the political spectrum have talked about the need to cut red tape and reduce regulations. Some governments, such as the provincial government here in Ontario, even have cabinet ministers whose portfolio is focused on reducing red tape.

But progress has been painfully slow. And often times, whenever one level of government chops some needless regulations, another level of government imposes even more. We're spinning our wheels.

Most small business owners would agree – we need to put an immediate halt to the introduction of any new regulations, and we need to start cutting the tangle of red tape that's holding small business back, eating into their profits, and ultimately making them less competitive.

The best way to do that is through the establishment of a new national Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, something I've been advocating for quite a while now.

FRANK STRONACH THE PRINCIPLES OF AN ECONOMIC CHARTER OF RIGHTS



The Economic Charter would give important economic rights to small business owners while imposing on government the responsibility to create the right economic environment so that small business can succeed, including removing all the red tape and bureaucratic chains holding business back.

To learn more about the economic charter and how it could help Canadians and Canada's small businesses, email me at info@economiccharter.ca. Or to learn more about the economic charter, please visit: www.economiccharter.ca.

Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.

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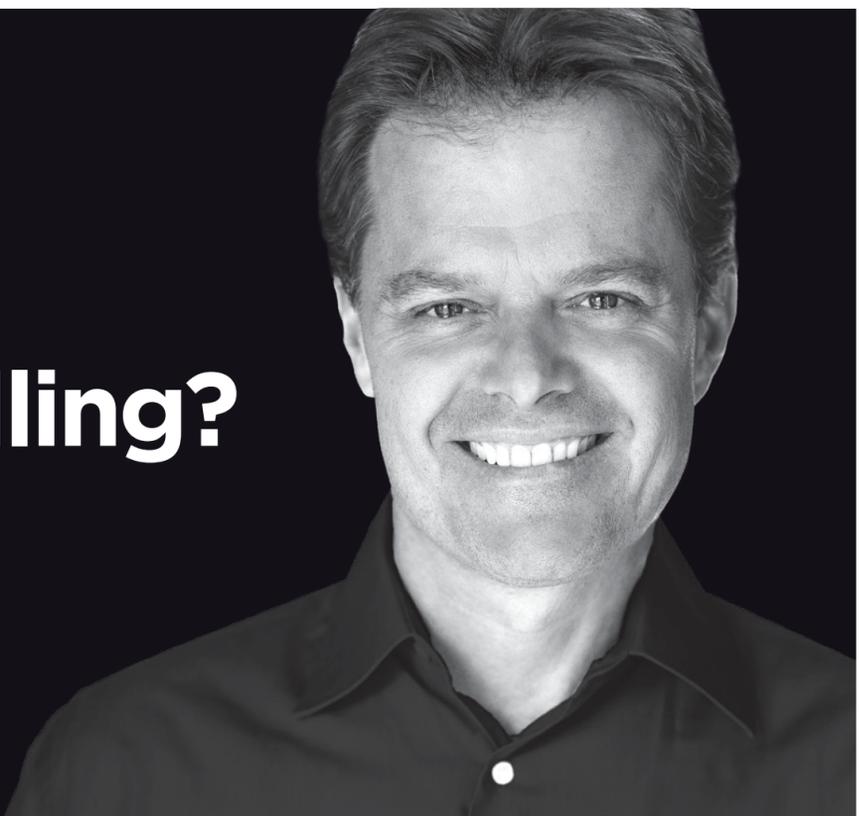
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A paramedic reporting station in Caledon East.

PEEL PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATION PHOTO

Peel converts 62 contract paramedic positions to permanent status

Move made to increase shift coverage stability, retain qualified staff

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

There are now more permanent full-time paramedics in the Region of Peel.

At Region of Peel Council's November 16 meeting, Council voted to convert 62 full-time contract paramedic positions to full-time permanent positions.

The move was recommended by Nancy Polsinelli, Peel's Commissioner of Health Services, in a staff report.

Of the 62 positions converted, 40 are front-line paramedic positions and 22 are funded from the Ministry of Health's Community Paramedicine Long Term Care program. The position conversions will have no impact on the Region's 2023 budget.

"The conversion of these contract Paramedics positions will enable service levels to be maintained and the workforce stabilized, especially with the added uncertainty related to dissolution," said Polsinelli in her report.

Historically in Peel, contract paramedic positions have been used to address increased service demand in the short term. However, Polsinelli's report said it is tougher to recruit paramedics for contract positions than permanent ones.

"Additional permanent roles will increase shift coverage stability," reads the report.

It continues, stating that continued recruitment of contract staff would create upheaval and contribute to low staff engagement. Polsinelli's report said job seekers these days are looking for greater stability and permanent roles.

The report said with Peel's incoming dissolution, contract positions are harder to fill and retain.

"If these contract positions, currently occupied by qualified and trained employees, leave to seek permanent roles elsewhere in the current competitive market, there would be major disruptions to sustainable service delivery and additional costs incurred in onboarding new employees," wrote Polsinelli. "The conversion of the contract positions will ensure that services can meet current service levels."

Region of Peel Council's support of the conversion of 62 contract positions to permanent positions was unanimous.

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**MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY
GLASGOW ROAD FROM CHICKADEE LANE TO DEER VALLEY DRIVE AND
DEER VALLEY DRIVE TO BAMBI TRAIL**

THE STUDY

In response to continued population growth and increased wear and tear on existing infrastructure through increased traffic, development, new infrastructure, and increased expectations as to the type and quality of services the Town provides, the Town of Caledon has identified the need for improvements to Glasgow Road, from Chickadee Lane to Deer Valley Drive. Through subsequent review of the original study area and discussions with the Town, the study area and limits of the preliminary design have been extended to include an additional 300 m of Deer Valley Drive, from Glasgow Road to Bambi Trail, to address a missing link in the Town's active transportation network. The active transportation facility will provide better pedestrian and cyclist connectivity, enhance bicycle and pedestrian travel, and ultimately improve livability in communities.



The project was initiated as a Schedule "A+" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, however, has since been elevated to a Schedule "B" project in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015). As such, public and technical agency consultation will play a key role in developing the study recommendations. The purpose of this Schedule "B" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment is to identify the required improvements to the roadway, enhance safety, improve traffic operations, and better accommodate pedestrians and cyclists.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION

Through consultation with Agencies, Members of the Public, and Indigenous Communities, the preferred solution for the improvements along Glasgow Road is to maintain the current rural roadway cross-section with the addition of Active Transportation Facilities in the form of a multi-use pathway (MUP) on the south side of the roadway. Proposed rehabilitation of Glasgow Road will include partial depth pavement reconstruction, shouldering, improved ditching and localized platform widening to accommodate the MUP on the south side of the roadway. Improvements will include the continuation of the new MUP on the west side of Deer Valley Drive to Bambi Trail.

PROJECT FILE REPORT

A Project File Report (PFR) has been prepared to document the planning and decision-making process for this study. By this Notice, the PFR is being placed on the public record for a 30-day review period from November 23 to December 22, 2023. The PFR is available for review through the Town of Caledon website at: www.caledon.ca/en/news/glasgow-road-environmental-assessment.aspx

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this study, please contact one of the Project Team members below by December 22, 2023:

Town of Caledon
Shun H. Cheung, P.Eng., PMP
Senior Project Manager, Engineering Services
Tel: 905.584.2272 ext. 4040
E-mail: shun.cheung@caledon.ca

McIntosh Perry Consulting Engineers Ltd.
Mehemed Delibasic, P.Eng., M.Sc.
Consultant Project Manager
Tel: 647.463.7993
E-mail: m.delibasic@mcintoshperry.com

In addition, a request may be made to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions may be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Request on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requesters contact information and full name for the ministry.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested, how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts, and any information in support of the statements in the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to the project contacts noted above and the following:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
77 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

**Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks**
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Comments submitted to the Town of Caledon for the purpose of providing feedback regarding this Municipal Class Environmental Assessment are collected under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act. Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. Questions relating to the collection, use and disclosure of this information may be addressed to Shun H. Cheung, P.Eng., PMP, Senior Project Manager, Engineering Services at 905.584.2272 ext. 4040 or shun.cheung@caledon.ca. --- This notice was first issued on November 23 and November 30, 2023.



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To be considered for appointment to the Caledon Public Library Board, applicants must meet the following criteria in accordance with the Public Libraries Act.

- A Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada;
- At least 18 years of age;
- A resident of Caledon; and
- Not employed by the Library Board or the Town of Caledon

If you are interested in applying, please complete the online application form www.caledon.ca/committees.

Completed application forms are to be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on December 15, 2023. Should you require the application in an alternative format, please contact Council and Committee Services 905.584.2272 x.2366 or agenda@caledon.ca.

For additional information about the Caledon Public Library and the role of the Library Board, contact the CEO/Chief Librarian at 905.857.1400 X 215 or email ceo@caledon.library.on.ca.





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Safe Centre of Peel opening second location to support survivors of intimate partner violence



Shelina Jeshani and Sharon Mayne from Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin receive a certificate from Casey Gwinn of Alliance for Hope International. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Centre to co-locate with Peel CAS in Mississauga

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

There's now more support in Peel for survivors of intimate partner violence.

On November 15, the Safe Centre of Peel announced plans to expand its services to a new location in Mississauga. The announcement was made at a breakfast launch attended by Safe Centre partner agencies, local dignitaries, and guest speakers Casey Gwinn and Gael Strack from Alliance for Hope International.

The Safe Centre of Peel is a collective

of 17 partnered agencies who all work together to support survivors of intimate partner violence.

The Safe Centre of Peel will soon be co-locating with the Peel Children's Aid Society (Peel CAS) in its building at 25 Capston Drive.

In a media release, Peel CAS Communications Consultant Alicia Land said the announcement is an important step towards enhancing services for survivors of intimate partner violence in Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga.

"IPV is such a growing concern in Peel that the Region declared it an epidemic in June 2023," said Land.

At the Region of Peel's June 22 Council meeting, a representative from the Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA) made a delegation and asked that Peel declare intimate partner and gender-based violence an epidemic. Regional Councilors unanimously supported the request.

Land explained the Safe Centre has been providing services since 2011 from its current location at 60 West Drive in Brampton. It will continue to provide service there as it expands to its second Mississauga location.

Land said expanding to a second location will increase the Safe Centre's capacity, allowing it to serve more clients and make it easier for those experiencing violence to get help.

Sharon Mayne is the CEO of Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin, the lead service agency of the Safe Centre of Peel. She was very happy to announce the expansion of the centre's services.

"This co-location agreement will allow us to build on the successful and ongoing collaborations currently taking place, and better serve those facing or fleeing violence in the region," said Mayne.

The Safe Centre of Peel's new location is expected to be ready to serve the community within the next year, said Land.

"Peel CAS has been a part of the centre for many years, with two dedicated Family and Intimate Partner Violence teams based at the Safe Centre office in Brampton," said Land. "The Peel CAS building is a modern, welcoming, family-friendly environment, newly built in 2020, with plenty of space available for this co-location."

Mary Beth Moellenkamp, CEO of Peel CAS, said intimate partner violence is the most common reason for referrals to Peel CAS.

"Year over year, Peel CAS continues to see the number of intimate partner violence related assessments increase in risk and rate of severity," said Moellenkamp. "Family violence is a complex issue requiring the sort of multi-faceted approach to community partnerships exemplified by the Safe Centre of Peel. We look forward to welcoming our partners into our building, creating new opportunities for enhanced services and collaboration."

Land said it isn't easy to seek help with an abusive relationship, and that it can be even harder if one must visit multiple sites spread out over a large area. That's why the Safe Centre of Peel operates under the "Family Justice Centre" model where many agencies all work out of one location, she said.

"This makes it easier for survivors to access the range of support that they need and creates new opportunities for cooperation between service providers," said Land.

Those interested in learning more about the Safe Centre of Peel can visit scopeel.org.

Region of Peel to fund Metamorphosis Network with \$300,000 grant

Network of non-profits trying to make sure Peel's dissolution doesn't impact those they serve

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Region of Peel will fund a collective of local non-profits working to make sure Peel's dissolution won't negatively impact those they serve.

The Region is doing so on request of the Peel Region Transition Board, a five-member group appointed by the Province to dissolve the Region of Peel and make Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga independent.

At Region of Peel Council's November 16 meeting, Councillors unanimously voted to give a grant of \$300,000 to the Metamorphosis Network.

The Metamorphosis Network is made up of over 80 non-profit community organizations from across Peel that are all collaborating to address the impacts of Peel's dissolution. The network was launched on October 24 with a media event at Queen's Park in Toronto.

Non-profits that serve Caledon, such as Caledon Community Services, are part of the network.

The Metamorphosis Network, in a request for funding memo sent to the transition board said it needs funds for research work and building staffing capacity. It broke down where the \$300,000 it requested would go.

The network has partnered with York

University to help with research work, with volunteers undertaking additional research progress. However, it did not have any luck outsourcing professional help.

"Outreach to a professional research firm stalled over resources. Their approximate budget of \$75,000 far exceeded the \$15,000 we have in grants for that area of work," reads the memo. "Research funding would be used to enter into a short-term contract with a respected research firm to do quantitative analysis that can help us get beyond the anecdotal data we most easily gather."

The network requested \$60,000 for research purposes.

The network also requested \$90,000 to fund the hiring of a full-time communications staff person. It said this person would generate communications materials for the network's member organizations and the general public, to "explain the transition process, clarify the strategies we are pursuing to address challenges, and promote participation in the process."

The network said this work has already begun, but it's become clear a staff member will be needed to complete the large volume of communications work needed.

The final \$150,000 request was for staff support and backfill, as leaders of the Metamorphosis Network are spending significant time away from their own organizations to address the dissolution process. The network said this funding would be used to mitigate the impacts of leaders being away from their non-profits, with other staff members filling in for them as needed.

A report from Sean Baird, Peel's Commissioner of Human Services, said Peel Region will continue to collaborate with the community to build the capacity of the not-for-profit sector.



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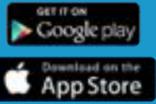
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Palgrave United Church and its community kitchen are looking for new paths forward

Church seeking new partnerships

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A staple of the Palgrave community is looking for ways to continue service to the community.

The Palgrave United Church has been a place of worship in the community for over 145 years, and, since 2007, has been home to the Palgrave United Community Kitchen (PUCK).

The kitchen is Peel Public Health certified and available for rent by organizations and individuals. Many programs and events are held using the kitchen, such as the popular Dirt 2 Delicious summer camp for kids and the Palgrave Preserves workshop series.

One of PUCK's main goals is to create a healthy, sustainable local food system.

Sylvia King, Treasurer of the Palgrave United Church and said unfortunately, the Church is facing some difficult times.

King said membership is declining and it has become increasingly expensive to maintain the Palgrave United Church property. Despite these challenges, the church congregation wants to explore how its food initiatives and other activities — such as Nordic walking and chair yoga — provided through PUCK can continue.

The Church is looking for new partnerships and people or organizations to rent

its space.

“Our Church’s community kitchen is extremely active,” said King. “If we can find a partner who would work with the Church in a rental situation, it could keep the doors open for the benefit of the community kitchen, which is for the benefit of the community at large.”

King said people in Palgrave are sad at the thought of the Church having to be sold as it has always been a gathering place.

“We’re looking for ideas... anyone with a vision,” said King.

Even if the kitchen can continue, King said it’s unlikely the worship part of the Church will be able to go on much longer, as paying for a minister is too expensive. She said perhaps a minister could be brought in on a part-time basis.

King shared that over the years, the Palgrave United Church has been home to a Sunday school, church choir, junior choir, and United Church women and youth groups. It’s a place where baptisms, confirmations and weddings have been celebrated.

Events and fundraisers at the Church included turkey suppers with homemade pies, strawberry socials, craft and bake sales, and plant sales.

Upgrades to the Church throughout the years have included a vestibule addition, solar roof panels, elevator addition, and the commercial kitchen.

Those interested in supporting the Church or PUCK can call 905-880-0303 or email palgraveunitedchurch@rogers.com or info@palgravekitchen.org.

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Santa and his elves will be at Campbell's Cross Farms on December 3. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Country Christmas market coming to Campbell's Cross Farms

Free event will feature meet and greet with Santa and many fun kids activities

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local event planner and farm are teaming up for a special day of holiday fun.

On December 3, Melissa Spina of Prestige Market Events and Campbell's Cross Farms (3634 King Street) are hosting the Holly Jolly Country Christmas Market and Marshmallow World Holiday Event.

The market and event will run from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and there will be things to do for people of all ages.

The market will have free admission and feature over 40 vendors. It will offer a number of free activities for kids including: photos with Santa inside a big "snow globe", holiday crafting and colouring, gingerbread house-making, stocking decorating, a slime-making station and more.

Spina said the goal of her markets is to connect the community with local businesses, while also offering free, fun activities for children to do.

"Providing a community event is the

foundation of what we want," said Spina. "If a family is coming out, they're seeing local businesses but also to enjoy a day of community."

Spina said vendor fees at her markets cover all the activities for kids, and said offering the activities are a way to say thank you to people for coming out and supporting local vendors.

Spina said her markets also support young entrepreneurs. For example, the free slime-making station is run by a 12-year-old.

"She actually leads other children in learning and teaching them how to create slime, she gives them all the ingredients," said Spina. "We also have a 14-year-old DJ coming out named DJ Good Vibes, he's a local talent."

Spina said supporting young entrepreneurs and fostering their entrepreneurial spirit is a great way to look out for Canada's economy in the future.

The market will be held alongside Campbell's Cross Farms' Marshmallow World Holiday Event, which costs \$14.95 and can be booked online at campbells-cross-farm.com.

Spina said the event will include a tractor ride into the forest where there will be a bonfire for marshmallow roasting and smore-making and a scavenger hunt for elves, like "elf on the shelf". The event also includes hot cocoa and many photo opportunities.

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Caledon Community Services' annual holiday fundraising campaign has begun

Continued from FRONT

CCS asks for gift cards instead of toys so parents can shop for holiday gifts they know their children want or need.

This year, Mars Canada has partnered with CCS to match all monetary donations up to \$25,000 so residents know their donation efforts are doubled.

CCS Chief Development Officer Mariia Kupriianova said the Caledon community always steps up this time of year. She gave the example of Caledon Hawks hockey, which runs an annual "Hawks for Hunger" food drive. Last year the Hawks collected over 7,000 pounds of food and will be coming to CCS this Sunday to make this year's donation.

"In these unprecedented times... soaring inflation is impacting everybody," said Kupriianova. "We're seeing more and more people come through the door looking for support — people that are fully employed, even working two jobs."

Kupriianova said the Season of Hope campaign is about making sure families have good food and something nice to give each other as gifts, providing hope in the tough winter months.



She said CCS is currently serving over 900 Caledon residents of all ages with support in areas like food and transportation.

"We invite our generous Caledon community to support us through donations of food to keep the food pantry shelves full," said Kupriianova. "We invite our community to consider donating gift cards because this holiday season we will be providing our families with a little bit of extra special food, treats and gift cards for the holidays."

Kupriianova said CCS is receiving wonderful support from individuals, businesses, community groups, schools and more.

"When life doesn't go as planned, you need a caring hand to guide you through difficult times," she said. "And times are certainly getting tougher."

Caledon Fire and Emergency Services has also partnered with CCS for Season of Hope, and will be setting up drop-off areas for donations at fire stations across Caledon.

The following drop-off areas will be set up Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. until December 6: Town Hall (6311 Old Church Road), Caledon Fire HQ (6211 Old Church Road), Bolton Fire Station (14002 Highway 50), Snelgrove Fire Station (2 Snelcrest Drive), Caledon Village Fire

Station (3611 Charleston Sideroad), and Caledon OPP (15924 Innis Lake Road).

Donations can be dropped off at the Bolton Fire Station on Saturdays and Sundays too.

The Inglewood Fire Station will be accepting donations from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. during its breakfast with Santa event on December 3.

Food items can be donated directly to CCS at The Exchange in Bolton (55 Healey Road). It's open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Those interested in learning more about, or donating to, this year's Season of Hope campaign can visit ccs4u.org/donate/season-of-hope.

Kupriianova shared that thanks to Mars Canada's matching gift donation, a monetary donation of \$250 will heat two families' homes for a month. A donation of \$1,000 can feed two families of four for a month.

"We are really grateful for the kindness and generosity of our amazing community," she said. "We are looking forward to bringing the Season of Hope to Caledon once again."



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Mistletoe Mountain at Mount Alverno for its third year

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Mistletoe Mountain is the grand holiday event for Mount Alverno in support of Caledon Community Services, and it returns next week for its third year.

Brooke Schmidt, Director of Sales and Events at the Mount Alverno Luxury Resort said the event is keeping a focus on artisanal vendors to bring such lovely products as handmade candles, essential oils, jams and preserves, wooden toys, and homemade wool blankets.

This year, the event's 10 vendor spaces are being relocated from the venue's barn to "Santa's Lodge" within the hotel itself. The vendors were placed alongside the workshops at Mistletoe Mountain for the event's first two years, but organizers are moving them to the hotel this year to increase sales, as the hotel is the busiest part of Mount Alverno.

"The vendors are a key piece to drawing attention to the Caledon Community Services (CCS)," Ms. Brooke commented. "The CCS will also have a table in the area

where they can talk to people about their organization."

There is plenty to tell about the Caledon Community Services, which supports individuals and families in Caledon, including food, transportation to appointments, medical attention, fitness workshops, and so much more. This year has seen the highest number of people in "need for accessing food support" in the history of the CCS.

The beautiful heritage barn at Mount Alverno is still the centre for workshops this year, interesting to both the children and adult attendees. The children's workshops, including painting and decorating ornaments, are on Friday.

For the adults, there is a wreath-making workshop with Daniela Miceli-Perri of Wild Theory Flora to conduct the process step by step.

Scott Leinster, the Resort's Sommelier, will lead a wine tasting paired with a charcuterie and cheese platter from Chef Denis of the resort's Vista restaurant.

A "Holiday Canapes & Cocktails Workshop" completes the trio to round out a

happy trail of charming holiday detailing.

Each of the workshops carries a charge, and, like every aspect of this event, a portion of every ticket sale goes to support the CCS.

This year, instead of three days, the event has been condensed to two, "to create a more lively atmosphere."

Brunch with Santa at the Vista is a new innovation for this third year.

Set for Saturday only in the dining room of the Vista Restaurant, Chef Denis has published an impressive menu. It is so luxurious and diverse, patrons will have a thoughtful time to pick and choose, allocating, as one might say, room to sample so many delicious plates.

"It's our first year doing this," Ms. Schmidt commented. "We're donating a portion to CCS from this too."

"Our admission to the event is complimentary, and we are accepting donations of non-perishable foods. We want to do what we can to contribute to their [CCS's] Season of Hope."

This is the perfect season for people

to touch on their giving, and Mistletoe Mountain is promoting that in favour of the CCS.

Back again as favourites are the Christmas movies under a heated tent on the patio, live music, carollers, and other performers will be part of the weekend.

"We have noticed Caledon is a giving community," Schmidt said. "It's important to have the magic of the season present."

"This isn't a money-making event," she added. "It is just to introduce the property to people and the event and because we have the real Santa here, people are looking forward to the event. The team here gets excited each year about doing this."

For CCS Season of Hope, Mount Alverno is accepting donations until December 12.

Mistletoe Mountain is on at the Mount Alverno Luxury Resort on Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2.

For tickets to workshops and more information, go to www.mountalverno.com/mistletoe-mountain

Theatre Orangeville to stage "Cinderella – If the Shoe Fits" through the holidays

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

For the first time ever, Theatre Orangeville (TOV) is filling the theatre with the fun of pantomime in a new show, "Cinderella - If the Shoe Fits."

Written collaboratively by Debbie Collins and David Nairn, this "modern take" on the Cinderella fable brings all the spoof, the outrageous characters, the political teasing and, most of all, for audience itself, the interactive whirl and high comedy of traditional Panto.

"Cinderella - If the Shoe Fits" opens November 30 and runs until December 23, as the theatre's latest production for its 30th season.

The Citizen sat down with the cast to talk about the show and Panto. They were emphatic about one aspect of the art form - that the audience is all involved: where there are villains, the audience must boo, and when Cinderella comes on, they are all cheers.

As writers of the show, Debbie Collins, whose experience in Panto is extensive and TOV artistic director David Nairn, whose talent for massaging funny plays to even funnier is legendary within the trade, took delight in writing this locally specific story.

Debbie Collins had been talking about it to David Nairn for a while.

"I had been to see a few Pantos," he commented. "When I decided I wanted to do a Panto, she was my first call."

To begin development, Ms. Collins presented a few scripts, but as they read them over, Mr. Nairn realized, "We had to start from the ground up."

"Writing this has been a joy and a thrill since the beginning," said Ms. Collins.

In this story, Cinderella is an organic farmer living in Greenville. All the local references are there, for it is also Panto's job to make fun of local politicians and others.

As to the cast themselves, what a treat we are in for, with five of the six cast members coming to Orangeville for the first time. Each of them has come from Sheridan or Randolph College, and each comes with the triple threat of dance, voice and acting to perform.

Collins, who has graced the TOV main stage many times, is the one familiar face in her role as the evil stepmother.

Let us introduce Jillian Cooper, who plays the part of Cinderella.

Billy Lake is one of the evil stepsisters, Stella, while William Lincoln plays Blanch, the other evil stepsister. Good versus evil is the main theme of every Panto. The audience is positively another character in the show, singing along with the cast, assisting with the plot, and playing to ad-libs with the actors that make every show different from the others.

How can we stop the evil stepmother, who owns a large swath of land in Greenville, from selling it to the greedy developer, when the evil stepsisters are so much in favour of getting all that money? How can we help Cinderella keep her organic farm from going under, and what Dark Secret does the handsome William harbour?

Connor Meek plays the role of William, whom audiences must encourage to be the hero.

William is not the simple busker he wishes he were, playing and singing in the street one day when Cinderella meets him.

Yet, who is the mysterious Buttons, bringing magic to the tale? Ben Skipper plays Buttons. Buttons has a few roles to perform, one of which is to stir the audience to join in their own part.

This is a modern version of the ancient tale; this is a Panto written by two local comic writers about their home territory. Never before, for all its trailblazing, has a story about our own locale been created and performed at Theatre Orangeville.

Evil is their plot, but silly is the nature of the "Silly Step Sisters," as the cast made clear.

TOV staff are so enthused about putting on the show and their individual roles in it, that questions from the Citizen were answered before there was a chance to ask them, and the interview bubbled like any good champagne.

"The Sisters just want husbands!" we were told. "And they hate Cinderella with a passion."

Said another, "There's something for everyone with all the twists and turns. Especially this time of year, when there's

so much negativity, it's in the theatre are cheer and sunshine and fun. Encouraging people to come and be part of the family."

"They'll experience the joy and sheer delight of the show!"

Into this moment came the praise for the creative team, with Beckie Morris' design for the set described as "Fabulous!"

Wendi Speck is making the costumes. After her amazing "Turkey" of last year, will come the ballgowns and wigs for this show. Chris Malkowski is back as the lighting designer.

From Mr. Nairn, "There is nowhere else in the country that is as arts-centred as this community. It is rural but very open."

It is always great to see Nicolas Mustapha back as music director and accompanist. Candace Jennings is on deck as the Choreographer.

Mr. Mustapha said, "Songs everyone knows are sung in different ways and styles during this show, and people can sing along. There's a stretch of music that

all audiences know."

Mr. Nairn reminded us that children will be coming with their schools for free this year to see the show as the result of donations that fund this bill, another nod to Theatre Orangeville's 30th year.

"So, it doesn't cost the school anything," he said. "We're even able to give them \$100 toward bussing. Thousands of kids are coming."

It is agreed amongst them that we will want to see the show more than once, considering how the interaction with the audience may greatly differ from show to show. Some fun!

Mr. Nairn told us, "It's been a very joyful process putting this together."

"Cinderella - If the Shoe Fits" opens November 30 and runs until December 23. For tickets, go to www.theatreorangeville.ca or call the Box Office at 519-942-3423 or drop in at 87 Broadway.

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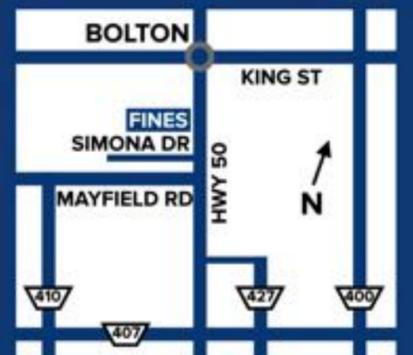
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Caledon Citizen's Student Athlete of the Week

Starting pitcher Joseph Iannotta led Wolfpack to Hall's first ROPSSAA Varsity Baseball Championship



JOSEPH IANNOTTA

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY JIM STEWART

Dual-sport student-athlete Joseph Iannotta is immersed in the rich co-curricular life of Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School.

The Grade 11 Honor Roll student also made history last Spring when he led the Wolfpack to its first ROPSSAA Varsity Baseball title.

Iannotta threw a complete game, seven-inning shutout in the championship game—a 5-0 whitewashing of Loyola. Not only did the Wolfpack win their first Region of Peel baseball championship in June, but they also completed a perfect 2023 season with an impressive 9-0 record.

In addition to his big game heroics on the mound last June, Iannotta also played Senior Boys Volleyball team this Fall and is an active member of the school's Rock Ensemble.

In the summer, Iannotta plays Elite Baseball for the Bradford Tigers.

Joseph Iannotta was nominated as our newspaper's Student-Athlete of the Week by Wolfpack Baseball Assistant Coach Daniela Pappano. Iannotta's "team over me" mentality, as demonstrated both in baseball and volleyball, was applauded by Coach Pappano.

"Joey is motivated, competitive, disciplined, and a committed team player. He is selfless and always puts the team first. He can perform and even thrive under stress and pressure situations and still come out victorious. He is the guy you put in the game when you need an out, a base hit, or a kill in Volleyball."

Coach Pappano is equally impressed by Iannotta's qualities as a student at Robert F. Hall CSS.

"Joey is kind and caring and will be the first to lend a helping hand to anyone who needs it, including his teachers, classmates, coaches, and fellow teammates. His positive attitude to any situation is infectious. He also excels academically and has maintained a spot on the Honor Roll in his three years at Robert F. Hall."

She believes that "Joseph Iannotta is a true embodiment of the rare combination of talent and commitment. Whether it's on the baseball diamond where he led his team to victory, or in the classroom, where he maintains an impressive grade point average, Joey exemplifies the essence of a well-rounded student-athlete. Joey serves as an inspirational example for aspiring athletes, demonstrating that with hard work, determination, and a compassionate spirit, his success knows no bounds."

Pappano foregrounded last Spring's cham-

pionship game to demonstrate Iannotta's attributes as a big-game competitor.

"The moment I would like to highlight is winning the ROPSSAA Championship game against Loyola CSS 5-0. Joey was our starting pitcher and he remained on the mound for a full seven innings where he led the Wolfpack to their first-ever championship in the sport of baseball. Everything was working that game; the defense, our bats were alive, and his pitching was spectacular. Going into the seventh inning, we considered giving Joey's arm a rest, but he was determined to finish the game; he was going to do whatever it took to win. It was such an exciting finish to a perfect record 9-0 season."

Joseph Iannotta took time from his busy co-curricular life, off-season baseball training, and senior level studies to answer our interview questions:

Caledon Citizen: What qualities did you demonstrate in your sports season to earn Student-Athlete of the Week honors?

Joseph Iannotta: "I feel I demonstrate passion and intensity. I love baseball and I always have a desire to push myself to help the team win. I play with all my heart and work really hard towards success."

Caledon Citizen: What were your key statistics and performance moments from the 2022-23 or 2023-24 season that you are most proud of?

Joseph Iannotta: "My best performance came in last year's baseball ROPSSAA finals against Loyola. I pitched a complete game shutout, going seven innings, and helped lead the team to Hall's first-ever ROPSSAA championship."

Caledon Citizen: In addition to your high school sports team(s), what other community teams do you play for and at what level?

Joseph Iannotta: "I currently play Elite baseball in the Bradford Tigers organization."

Caledon Citizen: How would you describe yourself as a student at Robert F Hall? To which sports teams and clubs do you belong? Honor Roll?

Joseph Iannotta: "I work really hard. I always push myself to do well and do the best I can. I received the Honor Roll award last year and I am also on the school's senior boys Volleyball team and a part of the school's Rock Ensemble."

Caledon Citizen: What are your post-sec-

ondary plans regarding prospective academic/athletic destinations?

Joseph Iannotta: "I plan to further my academic journey by going to university and getting a good education. My dream is to get a scholarship for baseball and be able to improve my baseball skills and my academics in university."

Caledon Citizen: Who is your role model in terms of the person you admire the most?

Joseph Iannotta: "One of the people I admire the most is my long-time coach and history teacher, Jason Sweeney. He coached me since I was 11 years old and taught me

how to play the game I love so much now. He always gave me the opportunities I needed to improve as a ball player and always urged me to do better. I am very grateful for all he has done for me and all he continues to do now as my high school baseball coach."

Caledon Citizen: How do you feel about being nominated as The Caledon Citizen's Student-Athlete of the Week?

Joseph Iannotta: "It's a magnificent honor and I'm very grateful. I'm happy that my efforts have been noticed and I intend to further my athletic journey and help lead my school to more championships."

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Holiday Tree

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“O CHRISTMAS TREE”

When it comes to picking the perfect Christmas tree, there are many factors to consider. From selecting the right type of tree to the right size to ensuring its freshness throughout the holiday season, it can be a daunting task to find 'the one' and keep it looking good until the big day. To make the process easier, here are some suggestions to consider.

First, let's take a look at the different types of Christmas trees available. There are many popular options, including

Douglas Fir and Balsam Fir to the lesser-known Colorado Blue Spruce. Each tree has unique characteristics that you should consider before purchasing. We'll cover nine different Christmas tree types to help you make an informed decision.

- Douglas Fir: known for its strong branches and fresh scent
- Balsam Fir: characterized by its dark green colour and attractive shape
- Noble Fir: popular for its sturdy branches and long-lasting needle retention

- Fraser Fir: prized for its distinctive pyramid shape and soft needles

- Colorado Blue Spruce: famous for its beautiful blue hue and classic Christmas tree shape

- White Pine: known for its soft needles and full, bushy appearance

- Virginia Pine: recognized for its dense branches and strong pine scent

- Norway Spruce: a traditional Christmas tree with a classic shape and strong branches

- Scotch Pine: a popular choice for its sturdy branches and excellent needle retention.

Once you've selected the variety, picking the right size of Christmas tree can be a bit tricky, but there are a few things you can keep in mind to help you choose. Measure the height of your ceiling so you know how much space you have to work with. A general rule of thumb is to choose a tree that is at least six inches shorter than your ceiling height. This will give you enough space

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Holiday Tree

.....D I R E C T O R Y.....

to add a topper and still ensure that your tree doesn't scrape the ceiling. Secondly, consider the width of your tree. If you have a smaller room, you may want to opt for a slimmer tree to avoid overwhelming the space. On the other hand, if you have a larger room, a fuller tree may be the perfect fit. A tall and slender tree can also give off a modern and chic vibe, while a full and bushy tree can feel more traditional.

Finally, once you've picked the variety and size, you'll want to ensure that the tree you choose is fresh and healthy so that it lasts. Look for trees with vibrant green needles that are firmly attached to

the branches and don't fall off easily when touched. Avoid trees with brown or yellow needles, as this indicates that the tree is dry and may not last throughout the holiday season.

You should also check for any signs of damage or disease, such as broken branches or mold, which can indicate that the tree is not healthy. Don't hesitate to give the tree a gentle shake to see if any needles fall off easily, as this can be a sign of poor health.

To keep a Christmas tree healthy throughout the holiday season, there are a few things you can do. Make sure to water

it regularly, as a dry tree can be a fire hazard. Check the water level in the stand daily and add water as needed. Additionally, keep your tree away from heat sources, such as fireplaces, radiators, and heating vents, as this can cause the tree to dry out more quickly.

Lastly, consider using a tree preservative or additive, which can help keep the tree fresh and healthy throughout the holiday season. These can be found at most local garden centers or home improvement stores.

Remember to take your time when picking your tree and enjoy the experience.

From dashing through the snow to driving home and decorating it with your favourite ornaments, your tree will be the backdrop to many wonderful memories this holiday season.

Happy Holidays.




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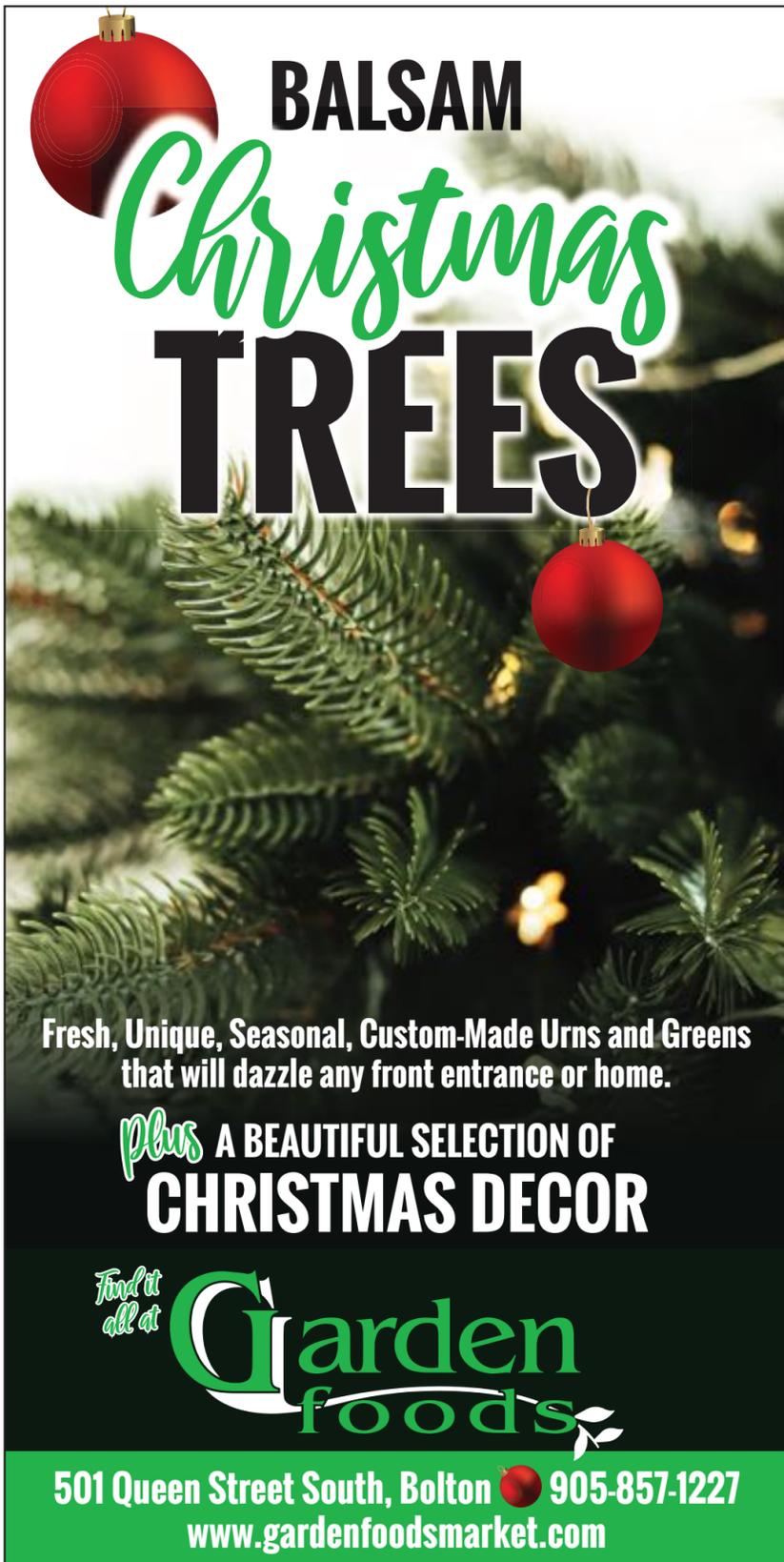
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IN MEMORIAM

STEWART, Dorothy A.
In loving memory of a dear mother who passed away November 18th, 2000.

Two bright eyes,
A tender smile,
A tender heart that knew no guile,

IN MEMORIAM

Doe's trust in God that all was right,
Her joy to make some other bright,

If sick or suffering one she knew,
Some gentle act of love she'd do.

No thought of self,
But of the other I know,
He said, "Well done, dear Mother"

See Ya!
Peter

STEWART, Jack D.
In loving memory of a dear father who passed away November 22nd, 1999.

In tears we saw you sinking,
We watched you fade away,
Our hearts were almost broken,

You fought so hard to stay,
But when we saw you sleeping,
So peacefully free from pain.

We could not wish you back
To suffer that again.
See Ya!
Peter

IN MEMORIAM

STEWART, Robert A.D.
In loving memory of a dear brother who passed away November 23rd, 2009.

God called him home,
It was His will,
But in our hearts

We love him still,
His memory is as dear today,
As in the hour he passed away.

We often sit and think of him,
When we are all alone,
For memory is the only thing,
That grief can call its own.

See Ya!
Peter

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MEN'S OUTREACH ORANGEVILLE - A support group and safe space for men to share their feelings and support one another. For more information contact mensoutreachorangeville@gmail.com. Starting Wednesday, Nov 1st, 7 pm to 8:30 pm and occurring weekly on Wednesdays at St. Marks Anglican Church, 5 First Ave, Orangeville, ON L9W 2Z5.

The Lord Dufferin Chapter IODE holds their meetings at the Lord Dufferin Centre on the 4th Tuesday of every month. We are looking for women who would like to help in the Community. Call 519-941-1865.

IF YOU WANT to keep drinking, that's your business. **IF YOU WANT** to stop drinking, that's our business. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Hot Line, 1-866-715-0005. www.aanorthaltoner.in.org.

DRUG PROBLEM? We've been there, we can help! Please refer to georgianheartlandna.org for a complete list of Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Call anytime 519-215-0761.

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ARE YOU A WOMAN living with abuse? For safety, emergency shelter, and counselling call Family Transition Place, (519)941-HELP or 1-800-265-9178.

FOR INFORMATION regarding **HEART and STROKE**, call Dori Ebel (519)941-1865 or 1-800-360-1557.

IF YOU or a **FAMILY MEMBER** are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit www.gatoronto.ca.

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUPS meet monthly for spousal & family support. Call (519) 941-1221.

LA LECHE LEAGUE Orangeville offers breastfeeding support. For more info call Erin at 519-943-0703.

ORANGEVILLE OVER 65 - Single Social Club. A place to meet and make new friends. We meet every Thursday at 5:30pm. Many activities. For information call Ken 519-278-6341 / Betty 519-942-3090.

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OBITUARIES

DAVE WOODWORTH
JUNE 29, 1966 - NOVEMBER 16, 2023

Our beloved Husband, Dad and best Grampy will be profoundly missed. Husband for 35 years to Danette (Gray), dear Dad to Amanda (Steve), Ryan (Kelsey) and Grampy to Arianna, Hailey, Maximus, Ella and Grandbaby #5 (March 2024). Beloved son of Valerie & Dennis Hamilton, Kenneth & Florence Woodworth, Son-in law of Joe & Elaine Gray. Cherished brother of Aimee (Marty) Vapsva and brother-in law of Geof (Angela) Gray, Glen (Laura) Gray, Denise (Wayne) McClure. Very special uncle of Lukas, Madison, Miles, Brianna, Jessica, Darcy, Nicholas, Megan, Matthew & Joshua. Dave will be missed by so many especially his friends, hockey team mates and those in the golf industry. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday December 3, 2023 from 2 to 4 pm at the Caledon Golf & Country Club, 2121 Olde Base Line Road, Inglewood. A private family funeral will be held. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com. If desired, donations may be made to Heart & Stroke (www.heartandstroke.ca) or Headwaters Health Care (www.headwatershealth.ca). Till we meet again Dave, please cruise the skies for us, play some hockey, shoot a few rounds of golf and enjoy the beer!
Love you to the moon and back!



DICKINSON, JOSEPH "JOE"

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Joe Dickinson on November 15, 2023 at the Headwaters Health Care Centre at the age of 84 years. Beloved husband of Susan "Jane" for 34 years, and of the late Colleen (1986). Loving father of Randy (Marilyn), Michael, Cindy (Nigel), and the late Jamie; and step-father of Jennifer (Cory), and Blair (Kelly). Joe's legacy extends to his grandchildren: Aaron, Bowden, Collin, Billy, Connor, Tim, Eric, Frances, and Lenny. Additionally, he was a loving great-grandad of Ondine, Charlotte, and Rain. The family wishes to express their deepest gratitude to the caring staff at the Headwaters Health Care Centre, E wing, for the exceptional care provided to Joe during his time there. Known for his great sense of humor and quick wit, Joe was a strong, kind, and caring individual. While he may not have always verbalized his love, it was felt by all who knew him. Joe had a deep desire to be in the know and be an active participant in life's events. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the E-wing at Headwaters Hospital, and the Alzheimer's Society, Dufferin County in Joe's memory. Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.peacefultransition.ca



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