



Canada Day is here Dufferin–Caledon!

I'm looking forward to celebrating with you again this year—starting with flipping pancakes at the Caledon Village Strawberry Festival, hosted by the Caledon Agricultural Society at the Caledon Fairgrounds (18297 Hurontario St.).

Annual Flag Contest is back!

Grab the flag poster from my newsletter

Snap a creative Canada Day photo
Share it with [#CanadaDayDC26](#) or email it to kyle.seeback@parl.gc.ca

Five 3' * 6' Canadian flags are up for grabs.

Show your pride—see you July 1st.

Kyle Seeback

M.P. Dufferin-Caledon

180 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Unit B
Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3
Phone: 519-941-1832
Toll Free: 1-866-941-1832
www.kyleseeback.ca
kyle.seeback@parl.gc.ca

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Canada Day
Strawberry Festival



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FREE ADMISSION

 For more information about the Festival, please call **416-697-7792.**

CANADA DAY FLAG CONTEST

Check out last year's winning photos for some creative inspiration!

To enter this year's contest:

- Snap a fun photo with your paper flag
- Post it with #CanadaDayDC26 or email it to kyle.seeback@parl.gc.ca
- Deadline: 11:59 p.m. on July 1st



Winners will be announced on July 3, 2026, on Kyle's Facebook page. Good luck—and have fun!

Kyle Seeback
M.P. Dufferin-Caledon
 180 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Unit B
 Orangeville, ON L9W 1K3
 Phone: 519-941-1832
 Toll Free: 1-866-941-1832
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FREE Thursday, June 25, 2026 Volume 46, Issue 26



SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Long-time community volunteer Judy Bennett was named Caledon's 2026 Senior of the Year at a ceremony held Tuesday evening. Bennett was lauded for her dedication to serving others, work to build and strengthen community connections, and support of numerous local initiatives. For more on Bennett's recognition, see Page A14.

TOWN OF CALEDON PHOTO

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17th annual Caledon Day festivities enjoyed by thousands at the CECC

BY JIM STEWART

The 17th annual Caledon Day attracted thousands of attendees in optimal late-Spring conditions to the Caledon East Community Complex on Saturday.

The event featured dozens of local vendors whose food trucks, booths, and tents filled the south and west parking lots of the CECC.

Six musical acts entertained guests from mid-afternoon to early-evening featuring classic rockers Grand River Band; the folk-roots sounds of The Wanted (Trio); the acoustic and electric duo EVARA; the folk rock melodies and smoky

voice of Bay Llagas; the soulful tenor saxophone and piano sounds of the Matthew & Richard Jazz Duo; and the Canadiana Band blasted out timeless hits from The Tragically Hip, Bryan Adams, Blue Rodeo, The Guess Who, Neil Young, and Loverboy to conclude three hours of live entertainment in breezy, sunny, 23-degree temps.

The musical acts and the masterful work of DJ Dave Puzzo led seamlessly to the Opening Ceremonies as three levels of politicians emerged from the gated VIP section and took their place on stage.

Mayor Annette Groves welcomed hundreds of guests encircling the stage and introduced a full

slate of dignitaries including Ward 5 Councillor Tony Rosa; Wards 4, 5, and 6 Regional Councillor Mario Russo; Secretary of State for Combating Crime and MP for Brampton North-Caledon Ruby Sahota; Deputy Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health, and MPP for Dufferin-Caledon Sylvia Jones; Wards 1, 2, and 3 Regional Councillor Christina Early; Ward 6 Councillor Cosimo Napoli; Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell; Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen; and the newly-elected Ogimaa Kwe (Chief) of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Margaret Sault.

Continued on Page A8



CELEBRATING CALEDON – Mayor Annette Groves welcomes guests to Caledon Day celebrations on Saturday, as MP Ruby Sahota, MPP Sylvia Jones, Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Margaret Sault, and members of Council look on.

PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

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“Come on Caledon!”

motionball’s Marathon of Sport Returns to community

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

motionball’s Marathon of Sport, a day of inclusion and athletic competition, is returning yet again to Caledon this September, and they’re looking for the Caledon community to step up and take part.

motionball’s Marathon of Sport is a day of “healthy” competition where teams compete in a variety of sports to raise awareness and vital funds for the Special Olympics Canada Foundation.

Community members and local organizations are tasked with forming teams to participate, and the more teams registered, the more local Special Olympics athletes get to take part.

Co-Event Director and Special Olympics athlete Jason Scorcia was part of the driving force in bringing the day of fun to

Caledon, and now he’s been able to watch it evolve over the years.

Co-Event Director Lucrezia Chiappetta says this year is shaping up to be the biggest yet.

This will be Scorcia’s fifth year taking part, and Chiappetta’s fourth.

Scorcia’s not the only Special Olympics athlete who’s been dedicated to the event from the very beginning; this year’s Honorary Athlete, Dawn Janes, has been attending since the first event in Caledon.

Not just in motionball’s Marathon of Sport, Chiappetta notes Janes partakes and volunteers at all motionball Caledon events.

For Janes, it’s a full circle moment. She says she likes attending the event and seeing new faces year after year.

And, most importantly, “to have fun.” For her mother, Wanda Janes, she says it’s all about seeing the socialization, ac-



(Left to right) Co-Event Director Lucrezia Chiappetta, Honorary Athlete Dawn Janes and Co-Event Director Jason Scorcia at Coffee Time in Bolton. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO EXPROPRIATE LAND

Expropriations Act, R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 363

In the matter of an application by The Corporation of the Town of Caledon for approval to expropriate land being described in Schedule ‘A’, for the purposes of downtown revitalization and public realm improvements, creation of public open space, implementation of the Bolton Community Improvement Plan 2023, and other municipal purposes, in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel.

Notice is hereby given that application has been made for approval to expropriate the land described in Schedule ‘A’.

Any owner of land in respect of which notice is given who desires a hearing into whether the taking of such land is fair, sound and reasonably necessary in the achievement of the objectives of the expropriating authority shall so notify the approving authority in writing,

- (a) in the case of a registered owner, served personally or by registered mail within thirty (30) days after the registered owner is served with the notice, or, when the registered owner is served by publication, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of the notice;
- (b) in the case of an owner who is not a registered owner, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of the notice.

The approving authority is:

The Council of The Corporation of the Town of Caledon
6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

The expropriating authority is:

The Corporation of the Town of Caledon
6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

Steven Dickson, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Legal Officer

THIS NOTICE FIRST PUBLISHED ON THE 18TH DAY OF JUNE, 2026



Schedule ‘A’

1. Municipal location: 39 Queen Street North, Bolton

All right, title and interest

ALL OF PIN 14358-0341 (LT)
Part of Lots 6, 7, 34, 35, Block 5 on Plan BOL-7 Bolton designated as Parts 1, 5 and 8 on Plan 43R-10267, in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel.

2. Municipal location: 43 Queen Street North, Bolton

All right, title and interest

ALL OF PIN 14358-0340 (LT)
Lot 43 on Plan BOL-9 and part of Lot 35, Block 5 on Plan BOL-7 Bolton as described in RO802628, in the Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel.

tiveness and movement it brings to everyone.

“It’s doing the activities along with the company and the friends and all that. It’s always seeing new people up, new athletes out,” adds Scorcia.

For his mother, Brenda Scorcia, that the day provides an educational experience for those who have never been around people with special needs, and pairing them in teams creates a strong, comfortable learning environment.

“If there isn’t anybody in your life with an intellectual disability, you don’t really have that opportunity,” Chiappetta adds on. “This really does give that opportunity. It really takes the fun back into fundraising.”

“It’s not just about building awareness and raising money for the Special Olympics Canada Foundation. It’s about the inclusivity of this particular event that makes it so unique, bringing everybody together for a good cause.”

“The more we get the word out, the better,” says Brenda Scorcia. “The more teams we have, the more athletes we can have.”

Chiappetta says in previous years they’ve been able to have 20 Special Olympic Athletes attend the event, but with at least 50 athletes registered with the Special Olympics Caledon chapter, they’re hoping to include even more athletes this year.

Participants can even sign up individually and be placed on a team for the event.

Chiappetta adds the event has its own “Caledon way” and that, with such strong relationships among motionball Caledon, Special Olympics Caledon, and all the parents and volunteers, it creates a very supportive atmosphere.

This year, the athletes are looking forward to a brand-new addition, karaoke, as well as some fun dance warm-ups.

“That’s my favourite thing,” says Janes, who also participates in Tishos Music Academy in Bolton.

She says her favourite parts are dancing and singing, specifically K-pop.

With the event date set and music playlists picked out, the co-event directors say they’re just waiting on more teams, participants, and sponsors.

“Come on Caledon!” says Chiappetta. One team looking forward to another year of fun-filled competition is the Bolton company, Sportscorp/Charrisma Travel.

This year marks their third year participating, and over the past two years, they’ve raised over \$6,500 for the event.

“We have a ton of fun participating every year and our team really looks forward to it as well,” says Lauren Harris with Sportscorp/Charrisma Travel.

She says that not only were they looking to support the local community when they first joined, but that Special Olympics is an organization “close to their hearts,” as some of their team members have children who are a part of Special Olympics.

On top of that, as Sportscorp/Charrisma Travel, they like to “get out and be active,” which makes it a perfect fit.

Shawn Ashton with Sportscorp/Charrisma Travel adds that not only is it a great cause, but it’s a great opportunity for their team to join together outside of work in a fun environment.

“The cause is what draws us, but the ability to kind of bring your team out outside of work, even if it’s just friends, getting together, it’s a good opportunity to support something local, have some good belly laughs and just be part of something bigger than yourself in your day-to-day life,” adds Harris.

“We have some pretty competitive people on our team too,” says Ashton, laughing that this is their “redemption” year after not winning last year’s dodgeball competition at the event.

As their team grows, they look forward to another fun day outside to get together and use it as an opportunity to build their team and connect outside of work.

Ashton adds that he’s sure there’s something new and exciting still to come this year, noting the effort put in by the organizing team of motionball Caledon.

“They put a lot of work into this year after year, and it’s nice to see it growing every year too,” he says.

With what’s set to be the biggest and best year yet, those looking to register their team, or as an individual, can do so at motionball.com/marathonofsport.



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PHOTO COURTSY OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

Caledon takes step forward in Argo Transit Micro-Transit pilot agreement

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At the beginning of April 2026, Caledon Council approved a motion to enter into a Micro-Transit Pilot Agreement with Argo Transit, bringing on-demand electric minibuses to Caledon communities, increasing transit options.

Commencing in the Fall of 2026, the 15-month pilot program will introduce Argo's on-demand transit service to Caledon.

Riders will be able to pre-book trips or request rides in real time through a mobile app or by phone.

The mini buses are fully electric, fit 18 at a time, are PRESTO-friendly, and are wheelchair accessible.

The pilot will serve Bolton, Caledon East, and Mayfield West/Southfields, as by the Town of Caledon, enabling the Town to evaluate the performance of an on-demand transit model in the local context.

The service will also provide connections to Brampton Transit, York Region Transit, and GO Transit.

"Caledon continues to explore innovative solutions to improve how residents move throughout our community," said Mayor Annette Groves. "This pilot reflects our commitment to delivering accessible, efficient and sustainable transit options while embracing new technologies that have the potential to improve service for our residents."

Argo's Smart Routing technology will pick riders up at their door, and combine trips headed in the same direction, for the cost of a standard transit fare.

"Caledon is shaping a transit service designed for the way its communities actually move. We're proud to provide the Smart Routing technology that powers it, bringing on-demand, door-to-door transit to Caledon for the first time," said Praveen Arichandran, CEO and Co-Founder of Argo. "The Town's leadership in exploring new approaches to public transit will improve accessibility, increase efficiency, and provide residents with a more convenient way to travel. We look forward to working with the Town to help shape the next generation of community transit."

Argo Transit currently operates in Brampton and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

"We're excited to partner with Argo to test a model that could help shape the future of transit in Caledon," said Domenica D'Amico, Commissioner of Engineering, Public Works and Transportation. "This pilot will provide an opportunity to evaluate a flexible transit model that can respond to rider demand while helping us better understand how innovative transit solutions can support our growing community."

Following the pilot, as stated in an April Council meeting, Staff will report back to Council on the pilot, with a summary of the results, findings, and recommendations of the Argo Pilot project at the halfway mark and at the end of the pilot.

Caledon Council selects interim Integrity Commissioner

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

In May of 2026, Caledon Council moved a motion initiating a procurement process for the appointment of a new Integrity Commissioner, and directed Staff to report back by the end of the current term of Council with options for interim appointments of an Integrity Commissioner.

At the June 23 Council meeting, Staff proposed making arrangements with the current Integrity Commissioner, Boghosian + Allen LLP, to provide integrity commissioner services until a replacement may be procured and appointed by Council.

The Staff report attached to the meeting stated that the rationale for this proposal is based on Boghosian + Allen LLP aligning "closest with the Ombudsman Ontario best practices outlined in their guide to municipalities due to its prior competitive procurement at the Town of Caledon, and meeting all other criteria by confirming their interest, serving as Integrity Commissioner for other municipalities, and best positioned to accommodate an anticipated short-term arrangement."

Four alternative options were also provided. In discussing the options, Councillor Lynn Kiernan expressed concern that this proposed option was contrary to the previously decided wishes of Council.

"The intention of Council was to seek alternative representation, if you will, and that was made very clear through the conversations and representation made by this Council," said Kiernan. "We have to be true to our word and our word was a different direction in May."

Councillor Dave Sheen voiced his agreement, adding that the proposed option does not

"reflect the spirit or the intent of the motion that was passed by this Council back in May."

"I support having an independent integrity commissioner, the role is essential for accountability and public trust my concern is how we get there," said Sheen, adding he hopes to see a "a plan for a fully open competitive procurement for the next term that is clearly aligned with the Ombudsman's guidance."

The Clerk stated that an alternative arrangement is required while they are completing Council's previous direction from May.

Councillor Tony Rosa put forward a motion to select one of the other four options: Meghan Cowan (Aird & Berlis LLP).

Cowan is a Partner at Aird & Berlis LLP and Co-Leader of the firm's Municipal Accountability Group, where she represents several Ontario municipalities as Integrity Commissioner.

Aird & Berlis LLP also serves as the Town of Caledon's Closed Session Investigator through Local Authority Services (LAS).

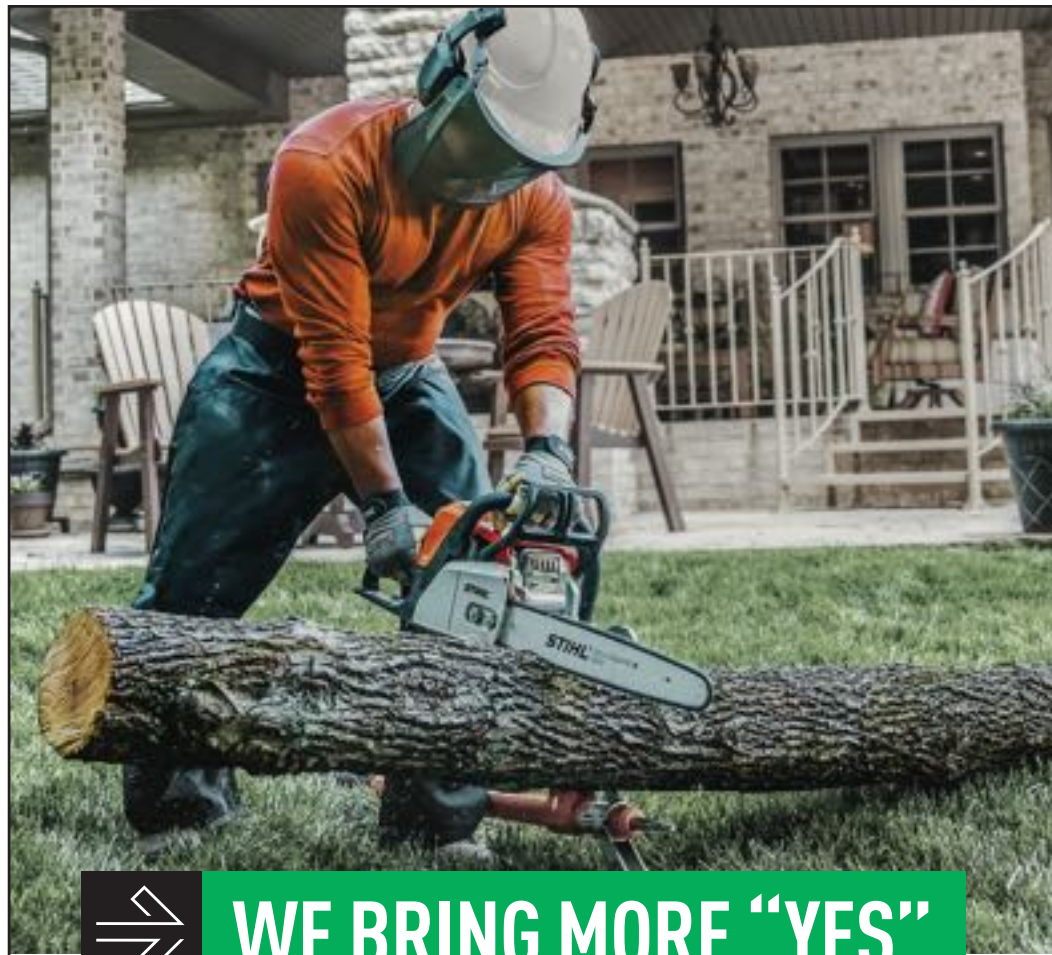
Rosa added that, as Aird & Berlis LLP currently serves as the Town of Caledon's Closed Session Investigator, they must have gone through "a previous process in order to represent the Town."

"Back in 2007, somebody would have went through the process to ensure that they were the right fit for Caledon in that capacity, so for me, this is probably the right alternative at this time, this is a firm that does work with us already, it's only for an interim period," said Rosa.

The amended motion passed unanimously, with all noted responsibilities to be provided by Meghan Cowan (Aird & Berlis LLP), effective December 1, 2026, until another Integrity Commissioner can be appropriately procured and appointed by Council.

CORRECTION

Last week's column by Sheralyn Roman, "Is Golf Good?", incorrectly stated the victim in a sexual assault investigation related to an incident that took place at the RBC Canadian Open was female. While the original press release provided by the Caledon OPP did not state the gender of the victim, Police confirm to the Citizen the victim is male. We regret the error.



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“LIFE JACKETS SAVE LIVES. NO EXCUSES, NO EXCEPTIONS.”

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is urging everyone heading out on the water to make one life-saving choice: wear your life jacket, every time, every ride.

Despite calm conditions and proximity to shore, many boating-related drownings occur when people least expect danger. Most of these tragedies happen in small vessels, like canoes and kayaks, and are preventable.

In 2025, nearly 80% of all boating fatalities investigated by the OPP involved individuals who were not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD). Adult males accounted for almost 90% of all boating fatalities on OPP patrolled waters. According to the Drowning Prevention Research Centre of Canada, 35% of water-related fatalities in Ontario are linked to swimming, while another 13% are attributed to walking, running, or playing near water, accounting for nearly half of all drownings when combined.

Young children, weak swimmers, and

non-swimmers should always wear a life jacket when near water, even in shallow areas. Supervision and proactive lifesaving decisions, like wearing a life jacket, are key to avoiding tragedy.

What You Can Do:

- Always wear a properly fitted, Transport Canada (TC) approved life jacket. Modern life jackets are lightweight, comfortable, and designed to save lives. Don't just bring it, wear it;
- Ensure there is a properly sized life jacket for every person on board;
- Keep all required safety equipment easily accessible and ready to use;
- Set the example, especially for children and new boaters;
- Check weather and water conditions before heading out.

Every year the OPP continues to share this important safety message across the province reminding the public that wearing a TC-approved PFD is one of the simplest and most effective ways to prevent water-related tragedies.

Make it a habit. Make it home.

OFFROAD SAFELY

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are reminding off-road vehicle (ORV) riders to operate responsibly and only in areas where they are legally permitted to ride.

The OPP continues to receive complaints involving dirt bikes and other off-road vehicles being operated on private property without permission. Recent incidents have resulted in damage to golf courses, residential lawns, community parks, agricultural land, and trails throughout the county.

These concerns are not limited to traditional gas-powered dirt bikes. The growing use of electric dirt bikes and other electric off-road vehicles is also contributing to increased complaints. Regardless of how a vehicle is powered, all ORVs are subject to the same laws and must only be operated in permitted areas.

Public roadways are not trails and should not be used for recreational riding or “exploring” with dirt bikes or ORVs unless specifically authorized by the local municipality. Riders must also ensure they hold the proper driver’s licence and, where applicable, have valid registration and insurance.

Operating an off-road vehicle on private property without the owner’s consent is illegal and can result in charges, fines, and liability for damages.

The OPP is also reminding the public that

stickers or manufacturer labels indicating a suggested minimum age for operation do not replace legal requirements. Riders and parents are strongly encouraged to do their own research to ensure they understand the laws in their area before operating or allowing the use of these vehicles.

The OPP is reminding parents and guardians of the important role they play in ensuring young riders understand and follow the rules and responsibilities associated with these vehicles. Before purchasing a dirt bike or off-road vehicle, residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with where and when they can be legally operated. Allowing youth to operate these vehicles without proper supervision or understanding of the law can lead to serious consequences, including property damage, injury, and legal liability.

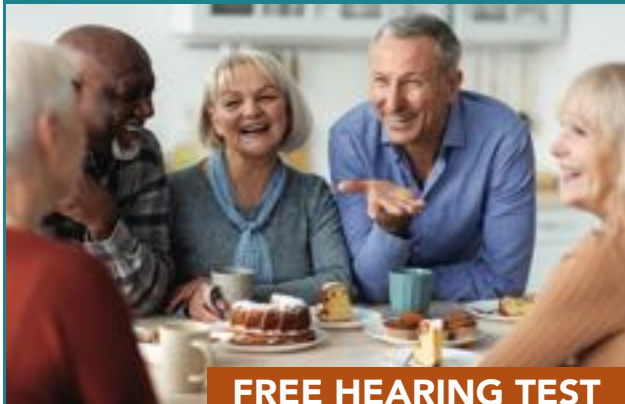
The OPP will continue to investigate complaints and conduct enforcement initiatives where necessary. Residents are encouraged to report illegal off-road vehicle activity and provide as much information as possible, including descriptions of the riders, vehicles, and locations involved.

Anyone wishing to report illegal off-road vehicle activity is encouraged to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122. In an emergency, call 9-1-1.

The Dufferin OPP remains committed to keeping our communities safe while promoting responsible off-road vehicle use.

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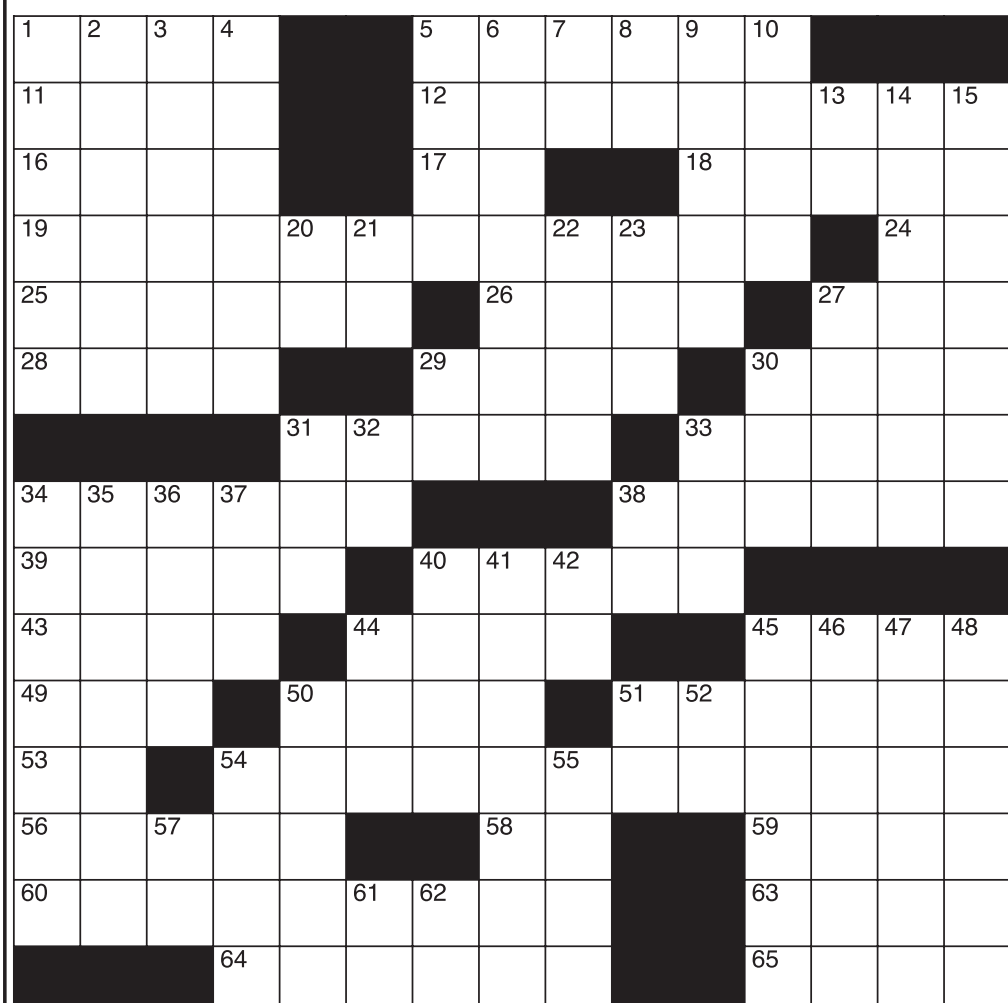
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- Excitedness
- Armed Forces branch
- Actor Harris
- Middle Eastern capital
- Air hostesses
- Partner to “Pa”
- Percussion instrument
- Popular computers
- Reduce light
- Asian mountain range
- Every one of two or more
- Absence of difficulty
- A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- Whittles
- Impact
- Serviceman
- A French river

Puzzle No.

- Prehistoric people
 - Messenger ribonucleic acid
 - ___ Clapton, musician
 - Ancient Greek sophist
 - Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
 - Singer Hansard
 - A way to disentangle
 - Atomic #93
 - Manifesting approval
 - Indigo bush
 - Former AL MVP Vaughn
 - Off-Broadway theater award
 - Fencers
 - Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
 - Relating to passerine birds
 - Arrange systematically
- CLUES DOWN**
- Colorless fluid
 - Of a main artery

Solution in the classifieds.

- Photographer’s tool
- Blues Traveler hit “But ___”
- Grew older
- Not the leader
- ___ Lang (country singer)
- A driver’s license is one
- Nests of pheasants
- Wildebeests
- Equal to one quintillion bytes
- Japanese three-stringed lute
- Type of cat
- It cools your home
- The ancient Egyptian sun god
- Pouches
- German trigraph
- Form of Persian
- Measurement unit
- Body part
- Bridge building degree
- Indicates position
- Political action committee
- Snack food
- Front part of a quadruped
- Locate
- Pitching statistic
- ___, myself and I
- City in Utah
- They play in the trenches
- “Can’t Touch This” rapper ___ Hammer
- Type of tree
- Performers
- Slang for mistake
- More open
- Most slick
- Needles
- University of Dayton
- Atomic #11
- Large fish of the mackerel family
- Not any
- ___ and behold
- Popular sports highlight show (abbr.)
- “The Great Lakes State”

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

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Forward-thinking milestones

Even though they weren't playing in the Greater Toronto Area at the time, apparently it was a celebratory atmosphere in the GTA last week when Team Canada won its first-ever World Cup game.

The game may have been played in Vancouver, but it seems geography didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm as I heard from no less than three people that at the precise moment the game was sealed in Canada's favour, pockets of cheers could be heard all around – and even from a great distance. In fact, one highly informal correspondent of mine reported that they could hear the commotion from the FIFA Fan Zone at Fort York clearly on the far side of Toronto Island, almost as if the party was happening right next to them.

In the interests of full disclosure, I've never quite been bitten by the bug that's resulted in the "Football Frenzy" so many people are experiencing right now (I'm saving my personal – and limited – sports-fan energy for Wimbledon over the next coming weeks) but I'm thrilled that so many people, some of whom would never have deigned to even consider watching a soccer match previously, are catching the fever and going all out in celebration.

Only time will tell whether the significant costs of bringing the World Cup to Toronto and Vancouver will have been worth it from an economic perspective, but if it's engagement the powers-that-be are after, it seems the return on investment has been pretty swift.

Of particular interest to me has been reading accounts of individuals, families, and groups from so many parts of the world that have made the pilgrimage here to catch their home team on our soil. It has been not only a chance for them to enjoy the game and maybe even enjoy some extra cachet among their fellow sports fans, but, for many, to explore a new city, country, and region for the very first time.

For residents of this country who were born abroad, it's also been a great opportunity to see those who now call this country home celebrate the successes of their homelands on these soils.

Overall, it's been a great opportunity to see Canada through a fresh lens – even if briefly borrowed.

As I wrote in this space last week, it is an invaluable reminder of how people from the outside looking in view this country, and it's provided some valuable food for thought on just what it means to be Canadian, how we go about celebrating it, and how we define ourselves moving into the future.

Those are often front-of-mind thoughts around this time of year with Canada Day just around the corner – and perhaps even more so now as this Wednesday's celebrations lay the groundwork for a milestone Canada Day next year, marking the 160th anniversary of Confederation.

Now, a 160th anniversary is not usually seen as a major milestone. Unlike a 150th anniversary, otherwise known as a Sesquicentennial, there isn't an obvious tongue-twisting alternative name for a 160th, but it's still a significant milestone – and opportunity – to take stock.

A May survey published by Strategy Online suggests Canadians are getting ready to celebrate the nation by getting out and exploring it, the pollster noting that Canada Day is "forecasted to be one of the least homebound major holidays this year." But the same poll finds that the passionate "Elbows Up" mentality of supporting the country through our spending habits so ably demonstrated last year might be on the wane.

"The consumer insights and data company's

2026 Annual Holiday Preview, fielded among more than 5,000 consumers, found that only 48 per cent of respondents plan to celebrate at home on July 1 – the lowest tally among major holidays tracked by the firm. By comparison, 73 per cent celebrate Halloween at home, while Christmas sits at 64 per cent. Overall, 61 per cent of Canadians surveyed said they intend to celebrate Canada Day in some form, trailing Christmas (86 per cent), New Year's Eve (70 per cent), and Easter and Thanksgiving (67 per cent). The data suggests Canada Day celebrations remain centred around communal and outdoor activities. Nearly half of respondents (46 per cent) said grilling or barbecuing are part of their plans, while 42 per cent expect to spend time with partners or family and 31 per cent plan to celebrate with larger groups.

"A separate Numerator poll of roughly 1,800 people suggest consumer patriotism and its effect on purchasing seems to be cooling. May's Tariff Statement Tracker includes a monthly survey of roughly 1,800 Canadian consumers. And the number of respondents who 'strongly agree' with the sentiment, 'I intend to buy only products made in Canada' has hit its lowest point since Donald Trump began imposing tariffs last winter at 17 per cent. That number was 26 per cent in February 2025 and 29 per cent the following month."

While Canadians are spending next week's holiday in the great outdoors, I hope some take the time for a bit of reflection on what it means to carry the badge of "Canadian."

By this time next year it will have been 10 years since the Canada 150 celebration – and, so many years on, I still even hesitate to use the word "celebration" as it was a rather fraught occasion in this country and, at the time, there didn't seem to be much to celebrate.

Politics were becoming ever-more polarized, the country was grappling with its complicated history of colonialism and the treatment experienced by First Nations people, and these two factors, coupled with myriad others, added layers of anger and frustration to what was, previously, a joyous celebration of red and white, of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

But a lot has happened in the ensuing decade.

The polarization of politics has continued apace, we've seen changes in leadership, we've seen a change in reign after 70 years, we've seen both action and inaction on the First Nations file, we've weathered a pandemic which exposed frays in our national fabric we had never seen before, (or, at least, were comfortable turning a blind eye to) which, in many cases, are still un-mended, we've seen Western separatism gather steam, threats to our national sovereignty, and we've become a reluctant player in a trade war in which there are no winners.

Maybe getting outdoors and experiencing the natural wonders of this country is one unifying factor on an ever-shortening list of things that seem to bring us together, along with hockey, more recently soccer, and even coming together to complain about everything we might feel is wrong with the country.

But, I hope many of you take next week's holiday as a chance to get out, explore the celebrations and activities our communities have to offer, reacquaint yourselves with friends and neighbours, and realise our commonalities are still more numerous than our differences, that the benefits of being Canadian far outweigh the cons, and maybe even try to look at this country through the lens of those visiting right now for whom Canada remains a land of promise, acceptance, and forward-thinking.



Putting family first on Father's Day

by Mark Pavilons



I deflected attention from myself to my family this past weekend.

I wanted to enjoy Father's Day by enjoying them. Nothing makes a parent's heart swell than seeing their kids happy, smiling, laughing, getting along.

I was fresh off my fifth chemo treatment, so this weekend wasn't the ideal time to celebrate. You tend to feel sluggish post-chemo. Plus, this time around, my taste buds took a beating and I lost a lot of my appetite.

I can't tell you just how sad I was not to have beer and BBQ on Father's Day. My forward-thinking daughter managed to get me a bevy of non-alcoholic beer to try.

But again, this day wasn't about me, it was about my children. They are what make me a father and they are my raison d'être and my legacy, each and every one.

It's strange to reflect on the development of our children, when they're still a distance from full maturity.

My oldest daughter is ready to start the next chapter of her life, living with her boyfriend in their newly purchased home. The house-hunting experience and final purchasing details were frustrating and stressful, but that's the process. You become all the wiser for sure.

They saw some nice homes and some real dumps for what they were asking. It's next to impossible to find anything – I mean anything – in the \$700k range in this part of Ontario.

At this stage of her life, I feel my work is largely done. I've tried to be there for her and have her back, giving her all the special ingredients she needed while growing up. Treating them well at a young age, is key. She's now assertive, smart, focused, pragmatic, frugal and determined. Not sure I was all those things at 28. I know I'm still missing a few of those things today.

Our Father's Day plans were a bit awry, so we spread out our evenings together with small activities. I don't have the emotional or physical energy to engage in much.

One of my suggestions was a family album night, where we look through old photos – in albums and on various smart phones – as a journey down memory lane. It generated a lot of smiles and laughs and that's what I was fishing for, since there were no chicken wings within sight.

Our kids fondly remember the 10-plus summers we spent at the Delawana Inn at Honey Harbour. Those were magical times and our children grew, literally, from toddlers to young adults over that decade. This family friendly resort and its staff helped shape our clan in so many ways. The times are etched in their minds and memories, and likely will be forever.

I remembered when Liam caught his first fish, on a misty dock. I remember the pontoon boat rides and family entertainment nights.

I loved providing what I could for my family over the years. I was never able to jet them off to far-away lands, but some of them made it there on their own, with our support of course.

I wish they could continue their world travels while they can – it's so important to witness this planet's beauty, first-hand.

Of course, judging from comments made from visitors to World Cup soccer games, once-in-a-lifetime experiences can be quite costly. Many are throwing caution to the wind just to wrap themselves up in these amazing adventures. And good for them.

My time for adventures is pretty much over, or so I believe. I mentioned to my family that should my cancer invade my spine, I don't want them pushing me around in a wheelchair. But resting in the sand, looking out at the lake on some sandy Ontario shore does have its appeal. At least at low tide!

In a pre-Father's Day fit of depression, I apologized to my family for being a burden, and not living up to my end of the bargain – to always remain calm, mellow and supportive. Maybe my fate is a fitting end to a mediocre life.

I find an occasion like Father's Day can place undue stress on family members. Just how do you show your dad how much you love and appreciate them with a card and an endless supply of ribs? Ok, it's a great start!

For most men, especially Boomers, they never shared their deep feelings with their dads. My dad kept a lot close to his vest and his pain turned into silence. I never fully understood him.

Our "I love yous" were few and far between. But when spoken aloud, they mattered. It was enough.

For me, though, I dish them out like candy to my offspring, every day and night before bed. I never want them to feel they are not loved. I would hug the stuffings out of them if they would let me, but you know these Millennials.

I don't know how deeply they hurt inside regarding my prognosis. I struggle with it so much every day in my own mind that I don't consider the impacts on my family members. I believe talking about it makes it more real, more painful, and they shouldn't have to go through that.

My oldest said I should embrace every good moment and each new day as it comes.

Easier said than done.

My wife bought me a new reclining sofa to help make things more comfortable for me. She stayed up until 3 a.m. searching Marketplace until she found it. And the Boyds came to our rescue with pick-up and delivery.

One thing I would tell my kids is that they never had to earn my love – it was theirs from the beginning. It was my honour and privilege to be their dad.

They, like all of us on this tiny blue ball floating in space, are miracles. Our existence is against all odds.

Kim often tells me about my characteristics shining through our young ones.

I seldom see it, because I see them as unique individuals with amazing qualities.

They are future, builders of the new world.

Any part I played in making that happen is just a bonus. I enjoyed every second.

As they continue to grow and mature, they will all leave the nest and set out to explore the world.

That is how it should be. They are solid, smart, funny, compassionate, loving individuals. I still can't believe I'm partially responsible for all of that.

My job may be largely done, but that's not to say I'm ready to leave this place. I only hope I have a couple more Father's Days to enjoy and reflect upon.

Submit your **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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

The CALEDON CITIZEN is a member of the Ontario Press Council, an independent body set up by the newspapers of the province to uphold freedom of expression and deal with complaints from readers. The Press Council encourages complainants to first give the newspaper an opportunity to redress their grievances. If not satisfied, they may then write to the Council, enclosing a copy of material that is subject of the complaint, at 80 Gould St., Suite 206, Toronto, ON M5A 4L8.

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



On a more serious note...

I like to think that everything I comment on in this space is serious in some way, even if occasionally I take a light-hearted view. Sometimes my comments come with a tongue planted firmly in cheek; other times I am deadly serious such as when we consider trucking and road safety, or the potential harms to our environment, roads and living standards from pits and quarries (blasting and otherwise).

When I tackle topics like Pride, especially during the month of June, my intent is to prod the reader and to prompt people to consider the world around them in a kinder light.

A topic on which I never want to be misconstrued, is sexual violence.

So today, on a more serious note, I'm revisiting a recent column that briefly mentioned the topic.

As a former Board member of Family Transition Place, amongst other volunteer roles I have held in the community, no discussion of gender-based violence, or sexual assault, consent, or any related matter is ever undertaken lightly and in such discussions, the facts matter.

Last week, I may have made a mistake.

An incident took place at a local golf course, prompting the Caledon OPP to issue a press release looking for a suspect in an alleged sexual assault.

Concerns were expressed both that I did not read the release, yet also made assumptions about its contents. One part of that statement is true and while regrettable, it has provided this opportunity to issue an apology and more importantly, to have a discussion on the nature of sexual assault and on who its victims are.

The press release read by this author on June 14 referenced "the victim, an event worker."

I incorrectly inferred the victim to be a female and commented (not blaming in any way, I must be clear, the location where it occurred) how unfortunate it was that even in broad daylight women often don't feel safe.

Most women would, I think, agree with me that we are often on high alert, anywhere we go and yes, even in broad daylight. As well, most women I know absolutely have reason to feel that generally speaking, we are more at risk of becoming a victim of sexual assault. I need only look to our neighbours just north of us, where at Island Lake in Orangeville, two separate incidents of alleged sexual assault took place just last week – again, in broad daylight.

Regardless, I made a mistake and later apologized in a telephone conversation directly to the individual who reached out to share their concerns with me.

I'm human, and more than willing to apologize when necessary. To me, that's part of what having integrity means. You own your errors, apologize and learn from the experience.

Which, brings me back to the far more important topic of sexual assault, consent and gender-based violence, too. This entire situation has made it possible to remind us all that we should know better.

That unwanted sexual contact of any kind can happen to anyone whether male, female, non-binary or however you identify as an individual.

We've been made to understand the victim was not a woman, although they were clearly a victim nonetheless. Maybe it's truer to say that many people of all genders have reason to navigate the world in fear for their safety.

This is not the fault of the location where the assault occurred nor was that ever inferred.

It's not acceptable, ever, under any circumstances, whether in broad daylight with TV cameras around, or walking on a public trail enjoying the outdoors, or under cover of darkness, or in the privacy of one's own home.

Sexual assault and gender-based violence are never ok, and I think on that, surely we must all agree.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

MAYOR ANNETTE GROVES
MAYOR GROVES' COLUMN



Bail and Sentencing Reform Act (Bill C-14) is now law

This new law makes more than 80 changes to the Criminal Code and strengthens bail and sentencing rules, especially for repeat offenders and people who commit violent crimes.

Given the concerning increase in violence directed at our police officers, I am very pleased that these changes have been introduced.

Under these changes, it will be harder to get bail for people accused of repeatedly breaking the law or of serious crimes such as violent auto theft, organized crime, home invasions, human trafficking, and violent extortion. The law also increases penalties for serious crimes by allowing longer sentences in some cases and limiting the use of house arrest for certain sexual offences, including offences against children.

These changes were developed through extensive discussions with governments and partners across Canada including Caledon.

To support these changes, the federal government is providing funding to help provinces and territories improve how bail-related data is collected, reported, and analyzed across Canada.

Better data will help governments understand what is working, identify areas for improvement, and continue to strengthen public safety.

On July 5, 2025, a resident of Caledon suffered long-term, life-altering injuries in

a four-vehicle collision in Brampton that resulted in impaired driving charges causing bodily harm, among other charges, for a five-time repeat offender dating back to 2010. At the time of the collision, the offender was on bail with the condition that he did not drive a motor vehicle, and he was on three separate lifetime driving bans

Last October, I attended the federal government's press conference announcing the Bail and Sentencing Reform Act – an important step toward strengthening community safety and accountability in our justice system.

I want to thank Minister Fraser for leadership and advocacy on this issue, and for bringing together municipal voices to support safer communities across Canada.

"These sweeping reforms reflect extensive consultation and close collaboration with partners across the country. We heard your concerns, considered your feedback carefully, and worked hard to reflect those perspectives in the legislation. The result: a stronger Criminal Code. Thank you for your collaboration throughout this process."

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C., M.P.

Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

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Caledon Day festivities enjoyed by thousands at the CECC

Continued from FRONT

Many of the dignitaries were invited by Mayor Groves to deliver greetings from their respective jurisdictions.

MPP Jones delivered succinct, upbeat greetings from the Province of Ontario and described the event glowingly: “What an amazing day to celebrate the community we call home.”

The engaging Deputy Premier offered the invitation to all attendees to “visit the vendors, enjoy the evening, and make new friends.”

After Jones’s invitation to the crowd, MP Sahota noted the communal nature of the gathering, but also used the stage to deliver a concise treatise on the importance of law and order.

“We’re celebrating as a community to-

day and it’s an opportunity to unite as a community. As Secretary of State, I’ve been introducing new legislation because this community has asked for change. We’ve put forth a record-breaking number of bills to strengthen the Criminal Code. All of this is so important to create a peaceful country. This is a community that really cares about protecting its neighborhoods.”

Chief Margaret Sault’s words of reconciliation also struck a timely chord and reinforced the importance of belonging to community.

Elected in December 2025, the new Ogimaa Kwe reminded the crowd, “June is National Aboriginal History Month and I bring greetings from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Events and spaces like these remind us about how important

it is to belong. Events like these occur through the power of community spirit and the dedication of volunteers. This is a celebration of community in its best form. Enjoy the day. Enjoy the music. Most importantly, enjoy one another.”

After describing the myriad connections between the Town of Caledon and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Mayor Groves used the event for an important announcement to advance this theme.

“I am so thrilled that the Province of Ontario will be building the first Aboriginal hospice in the country. In Caledon. We are determined to build our relationship with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This relationship must be based on trust and respect. The Land Acknowledgement we read at public events is not just words on paper.”

After celebrating the Town and Province’s deepening ties with the Mississaugas of the Credit, Mayor Groves segued to another historically-significant social group and service club in the community.

“I’d like to recognize our Royal Canadian Legion on its one hundredth anniversary next month. I wanted to thank Larry Weltz [of the Alton Legion Branch 449]. Thank you for your service and for serving our country.”

Mayor Groves invited Councillor Russo to the podium and a congratulatory certificate was presented to Weltz by Russo on behalf of the Town of Caledon.

After acknowledging Weltz’s contributions to the community and the Legion’s upcoming centennial celebrations, Mayor Groves shifted her hosting duties to DJ Dave Puzzo who rolled enthusiastically into the Civic Awards segment of the Opening Ceremonies—recognizing and honoring eighteen residents that have made the Town of Caledon a better place to live.

Each award winner in attendance walked across the stage, shook hands with the

dignitaries assembled, and received their certificate and hug from Mayor Groves whose warm greetings towards each resident expressed her authentic appreciation of their contributions to community life in Caledon.

Seven residents were recognized for their contributions to Community and Social Services: Jennifer Malcom of Bethell Hospice; Jo-Anne Fiore, Amo Ilic, Lynn Baker, Mike Fiore, and Paul Smith from BrightStart Caledon Family Centre; and Naseem Shad from Community Volunteer Income Tax Program.

Three residents were recognized for their contributions to Sports and Recreation: Mike Louro of the Caledon Minor Hockey Association U12 Caledon Hawks; Terry Lawrence of the Caledon Tennis Club; and Victoria Kring from the Caledon Minor Baseball Association.

Five residents were recognized for their Environmental Leadership and all were associated with ecoCaledon: Betty deGroot, Cathy Pley, Fely Ragudo, Lucrezia Chiapetta, and Paula Oake.

Lastly, three residents were presented with the prestigious Distinguished Citizen Award: Diana Mollicone, Lori Robinson, and Mojgan Schmalenberg.

After the 18 community leaders were given their due recognition for significant contributions to life in Caledon, the rest of the evening was comprised of three performances: Rikki Lee Wilson fronted the Taylor Swift Tribute Band; the headliner show was provided by Canadian country music star Brett Kissel; and the full day of activities was capped off with fireworks which served as colorful punctuation marks to a day of community celebration.

In addition to the range of musical acts, ceremonies, and civic award presentations, the Caledon Community Services hosted Velocity.

The annual cycling event raised funds to support Caledon Seniors.

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“From Learning to Earning: Turning Potential into Purpose” by Mary Falcone, Manager, LIFE for Youth, Caledon Community Services



Data from Statistics Canada shows that youth ages 15 to 24 continue struggling to find meaningful employment,

with May’s unemployment rate at 13.4 per cent.

But the state of the labour market isn’t the only challenge young people face when looking for work.

At Caledon Community Services (CCS), our Youth Employment team supports youth who may be unfamiliar with navigating the labour market, unsure of their career path or lacking the real-world experience needed to secure a job.

Martin knows what it feels like to try and not get a chance. After graduating from the University of Guelph in engineering, he sent out resumé after resumé with no response. Like many young graduates, he faced the same barrier: no experience meant no job, and no job meant no experience.

“I just couldn’t find work... I was desperate,” he says.

LIFE for Youth changed that, providing training and support that helped him secure a placement at Omori North America. Soon, he was

leading projects and delivering results. For Martin, LIFE for Youth was more than just employment training - it was a path forward towards a future he could believe in.

“It’s connections. It’s real-life skills,” he shared. “It’s confidence in my next step.”

And Martin wasn’t the only one who benefited. By giving him a chance, Omori North America also saw real results for their business.

“It was an excellent experience,” said Don French, President and CEO of Omori North America. “Martin brought new energy and ideas our team didn’t even know we needed. That’s the value - it goes both ways. You’re giving youth experience, but you’re gaining fresh thinking and real contributions in return. It’s a win-win for the business and for the youth, and I would absolutely recommend it.”

If you’re experiencing similar challenges or know a friend or family member who is, our youth team is here to help!

Visit www.ccs4u.org, call 905-584-2300 ext. 232, or email youth@ccs4u.org to learn about eligibility and how you can create a brighter future. Enrollment is now open for upcoming sessions and space is limited.

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.

Mary Falcone Manager, LIFE for Youth, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 232 or mfalcone@ccs4u.org

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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.

Canadian Multiculturalism Day – Saturday, June 27, 2026

Join us at the Caledon Seniors Centre at 7 Rotarian Way, Bolton on Saturday, June 27 from 10 AM to 3 PM as we celebrate cultures from around the world with music, dance, activities and delicious food! This is a free event!

Coffee and Community are Brewing at the Booktown Café!

Join us for this free program hosted by Palgrave United Community Kitchen (PUCK), for conversation, cards or table games, and community connection. Enjoy free coffee, tea, cold drinks, and light snacks. When: Every Tuesday

Time: Drop in between 10 am – 12 pm
Cost: FREE!

Where: 34 Pine Ave., Palgrave
The café is a fully accessible, secular space located within the Palgrave United Church. For more information: info@palgravekitchen.org or www.palgravekitchen.org

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PHOTO BY JANINE TAYLOR

Annual Bolton Truck and Tractor Pull set to draw thousands on June 26

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Gear up for a night of high-horsepower hoopla, the Annual Bolton Truck and Tractor Pull is returning on June 26.

The event, run by the Albion & Bolton Agricultural Society, was established in 1978 and is entering its 48th year.

The Albion & Bolton Agricultural Society says the event has grown from a small local tractor pull to a full-blown community festival with something for all, attracting almost 9,000 attendees just last year.

The event truly does have something for everyone, with live music, Bavarian gardens, food trucks, a halftime show, and Kidsland, complete with balloon animals, face painting, and various exhibits.

There will also be the Grain Farmers of Ontario discovery zone, a jumpy castle, and giveaways throughout the night.

Part of the giveaways will be a children's draw, where children can enter to win a toy tractor donated by Equipment Ontario and Premier Equipment.

Brand new this year, Heather French, 1st Vice President, says there will be a live band featuring Hillbilly Martini.

Pulling will kick off at 6 p.m. on June 26 with Hot Stock 4x4 Trucks, 5,600 lbs.

French says this year's event will feature 16 different classes of trucks and tractors pulling.

This year, there will also be a raffle titled "A Grand in Your Hand."

Tickets are \$5 each for two chances to win \$1,000, and French says they will donate a portion of the proceeds to Caledon Community Services.

Over the years, the Albion & Bolton Agricultural Society has donated \$50,000 back to the community through its events.

This is an Ontario Truck and Tractor Pulling Association-sanctioned event, and tickets can be purchased online at Boltontractorpull.ca.

Residents make new memories at 2026 Caledon Fair

It was a blast from the past and a chance to look to the future over the weekend as the Caledon Agricultural Society hosted the annual Caledon Fair. This year's Fair, the theme of which was "Now & Then" offered something for everyone – from agricultural displays, showcases of traditional home arts, the ever-popular demolition derby, inflatables for the kids, a classic car show, Bavarian garden, live entertainment, as well as a chance to get in the saddle with the Welsh Pony Horse Show and the Canadian Horse Show.



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“One tick bite can destroy a person’s life”

Council requests Ontario Government investigate and implement measures in reducing tick populations and effects

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

According to the Public Health Agency of Canada and Ontario Public Health, a sustained northward migration of blacklegged tick populations, driven by warming winters and expanding deer and rodent habitats, has resulted in more Ontario communities now falling within confirmed Lyme disease risk zones than at any point previously on record.

At the June 23 Caledon Council meeting, a motion was put forward requesting that the Government of Ontario investigate and implement measures to reduce growing tick populations and mitigate their associated public health risks.

Put forward by Councillor Doug Maskell, the motion added that measures may include safe and effective tick control methods, public education campaigns and coordinated regional strategies and that the Province consider increased funding and support for local public health units to

address tick-borne disease prevention.

The motion brought forward concerned residents and Council members.

Delegating that evening was Kimberly Fosbury; her son has been battling Lyme disease for the past eight years.

Partway through her son’s soccer season, which she added he spent much of searching in grass for the ball, he collapsed in what appeared to be a seizure, and has spent much of the last eight years bedridden.

It took her family more than two years to receive a Lyme diagnosis, during which they saw more than half a dozen specialists at Sick-Kids.

“I’m here to tell you that ticks are more than just a nuisance, that one tick bite can actually destroy a person’s life.”

“Once Lyme goes chronic, two to three months beyond the bite, there is no cure. There is no cure for chronic Lyme disease,” Fosbury told Council.

She says prior to her son’s illness, he was a “a bright, active young man, lots of friends, and sociable,” and had a goal of getting a



ONTARIO NATURE IMAGE

scholarship to Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study computer programming.

“This past couple of years has been very difficult because most of his friends have been graduating and starting their careers and their lives, and he hasn’t been able to do any of that,” said Fosbury.

“Me, as the primary caregiver over these past eight years, I’m physically, emotionally, financially exhausted, but there’s no end in sight, all from one tick bite, one tick bite. His Lyme symptoms are horrible when he goes through an episode. There’s nothing I can do except watch him writhe in pain and beg for me not to let him die, because up to ten per cent of Lyme patients can contract Lyme carditis and currently, we spend eight and a half hours at Cortellucci (hospital) on Saturday because his heart is being affected.”

She estimates they’ve spent over \$100,000, with “more to come.”

“The sad part is our family is not alone. Since we’ve had the diagnosis, we’ve encountered many other families right here in Bolton and in Caledon that are going through the same battle,” said Fosbury.

Fosbury said tick mitigation and control are essential, adding that it should be a cohesive approach throughout Canada when it

comes to education.

“Prevention is really key and we need to protect our citizens, especially our children who are the most vulnerable to tick bites,” she said. “I don’t want anyone else to suffer like my son and our family has suffered over the last eight years.”

“We need to put out an education campaign, how to prevent and what we can do,” said Mayor Annette Groves.

Added Maskell: “Hopefully this motion, and other motions that are coming out across Ontario, will spur the Ontario government and the federal government to come up with some comprehensive measures. This is a serious problem that is only getting worse.”

Agreement was shared around the Council table.

Councillor Tony Rosa added it’s disheartening to hear of local school trips being cancelled due to the increasing tick population, “students are not getting the full programming and opportunities because of this,” he said.

Councillor Nick de Boer added that in his business in farming, for the past ten years, due to ticks in the fields, much of the information relied on came from New York State.

“I know somebody who was exposed to

a tick in New York, came back to Ontario. They denied that there was anything wrong because they didn’t consider ticks being a problem in Ontario and he ended up being paralyzed,” shared de Boer.

Councillor Lynn Kiernan said after living here all her life, this is the first year that she has stopped hiking in the forests and provincial parks.

It was also discussed that Peel Region does not actively publish data on tested ticks, unlike other regions in the area.

“I’m happy to speak to the medical officer of health at Peel Region to understand why Peel isn’t publishing, if they are not publishing,” said Groves. “Because I think it is important, I don’t think people recognize the seriousness of Lyme disease and what it can do to someone.”

Other efforts were also discussed that evening including the potential for Staff to be directed to move towards monitoring in local parks, involving Credit Valley Conservation and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, as well as to review service-level standards for cutting grass.

The motion was passed unanimously.



NEWS

Subscribe to the Town’s email newsletter at: caledon.ca/enews

Final Property Taxes are Due

Property taxes are due Thursday, July 2, 2026. Regular late payment fees apply. For payment options visit: caledon.ca/tax.



CULTURE DAYS



Call for Participants - Culture Days 2026!

Culture Days returns this year, from September 18th to October 4th! This national celebration of arts, culture and heritage will take place across Caledon and seeks to eliminate barriers, engage residents and attract visitors while celebrating vibrancy in our communities.

For more details and to apply visit caledon.ca/culturedays

Interested in participating?

We are looking for participants for the following events:

- **Caledon Creative Arts Festival (September 26)**
Performers, Vendors, Workshop Leaders and Food Vendors.
- **Studio Tour (October 3 & 4)**
local artists interested in opening their studios and showcasing their work.
- **CultureFest (October 3)**
Performers, Workshop Leaders and Food Vendors.



CALEDON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Here’s your chance to nominate an athlete, builder or team for the 2027 Caledon Sport Hall of Fame inductee class.

Deadline for nominations is Sunday, July 12, 2026.

To nominate someone today, visit Caledon.ca/CSHOF.

The three categories for induction are: Athlete, Builder and Team. Nominees for all categories, to qualify for induction must:

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BUSINESS



YOUR SOURCE FOR BUSINESS IN CALEDON

Julzz Hair Salon celebrates one year in Caledon East

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Julzz Hair Salon is celebrating one year of bringing clean beauty to Caledon East, and they celebrated with the community on June 13.

Owned and operated by local Caledon resident Giulia Tomasone, she founded her salon in hopes of creating a space that combined beauty and wellness, and she celebrates a full year of doing just that.

“It feels incredibly rewarding and humbling,” says Tomasone, reflecting on the past year. “Opening Julzz Hair Salon was a dream, and I’m so grateful for the support of my clients, family, and community over the past year.”

When she first opened her business, she knew she only wanted to carry local, organic, and all-natural products.

When Tomasone’s mother was pregnant, she became sensitive to certain products, leading her to leave the industry. Now in her own business, Tomasone wanted to ensure she created a space for all.

She shares that all-natural products can benefit everyone, including people with sensitivities or allergies, scalp concerns, hormonal imbalances, and those simply trying to reduce toxin exposure.

“My favourite part has been building meaningful relationships

with my clients and creating a welcoming space where they can relax, feel confident, and leave feeling their best,” says Tomasone.

When meeting with clients, she offers personal consultations to ensure she understands their history, preferences, and sensitivities.

Those meaningful relationships were felt in her salon this June, as family, friends, and residents gathered to celebrate the anniversary.

Councillor for the area, Doug Maskell, attended the event and presented a certificate on behalf of Mayor Annette Groves.

“Your passion, dedication, and contribution to the local business community have made a meaningful impact,” read Maskell. “May this milestone be the first of many, and may your business continue to thrive and enrich the community for years to come.”

In his role of Ward Councillor, he added how important small businesses are to small towns such as their own neighbourhood.

Celebrating with those around her, Tomasone says she’s looking forward to many years to come.

“I’m excited to continue growing the Julzz Hair Salon team, expanding our services, and helping even more people discover healthy, beautiful hair through clean and organic haircare,” she says.



(Above) Giulia Tomasone is pictured with her parents and Councillor Doug Maskell. (Right) Tomasone celebrates the first anniversary in style.

PHOTOS BY
RILEY MURPHY



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Grand Valley

Caledon celebrates 7th-annual Caledon Italian Heritage Day

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Downtown Bolton was alive with Italian culture and heritage this month as the community came together to celebrate Caledon Italian Heritage Day.

The annual event, organized by the Bolton Italian Cultural Centre, featured local vendors, classic dishes, and live performances for a day of fun celebrating Italian culture.

Walking along the streets downtown, attendees could spot everything from classic delicacies to cultural activities and even a song or two as various acts took over the massive stage gracing Downtown.

All day long, both local musicians and musicians from Italy itself took to the stage to entertain the huge crowds gathered around.

On the docket for Saturday were Bruno Monardo, Selena Villa, local band The Trio Kings, Vinz DeRosa and Rosita, NRG Band, and, directly from Italy, Romantic Italian Tenors and Collage.

Anna Meo, President of the Bolton Italian Cultural Centre, says the event itself takes a year of planning and organizing.

Over the past seven years, she's watched the annual event grow immensely within the community.

"We started with very few people seven years ago and it's becoming bigger and bigger and bigger. It gives us a lot of gratitude not only because there are Italian people here but because they see different cultures as well join in and having fun with us," says Meo.

"Our philosophy is we really need to share our culture, and we really need to enjoy other cultures as well, so seeing all this, it's a blessing."

With the expected growth in Bolton, she adds they hope to welcome more people for years to come.

While the day was under full swing, Meo said she's always nervous for the big day.

"But overall, when you see people enjoying themselves, it's a gratitude," she says.

"I want to say thank you to all the people here that participated. I want to say thank you to my directors, my group, and also thank you to the Town of Caledon, the Mayor, the Council and all the people that work for the Town of Caledon," added Meo.

"We got a lot of support, and it's wonderful because sometimes you don't get that, so we are very lucky and we're privileged, we're privileged by God."

Councillor Tony Rosa said the day of celebration is a personal event for him.

"When the government recognized June as Italian Heritage Month in Canada in 2017, it was about recognizing sacrifices that my family members made to really create a better life for those of us around," explained Rosa.

His mother was just 11-years-old when she immigrated to Canada herself, and at 12, she went to work, arriving with just an empty suitcase.

"When we look at those types of sacrifices, young people don't have to go through that today," said Rosa. "For me, recognizing the contributions of Italian Canadians across this country is very important because there's a lot of immigration stories, not only with the Italian community, but it's an immigration story that really represents all of Canada, multicultural Canada, where people have chosen for a better life here, but it's not been easy to get to where we are today. So, having opportunities like this to celebrate those contributions is very important to me and very important to this community."

He noted that seven years ago, less than 1,000 people attended the event, and now it's up to tens of thousands.

"I'm really pleased to announce that you can't find a hotel room anywhere. You cannot make a reservation in a restaurant," said Rosa, adding that people have travelled from all over just to come to the event.

Not only were authentic Italian bands performing that day, but Rosa notes that iconic 1970s band from Italy, Collage, is celebrating their 50th anniversary this very year.

"We thought it was a great way to bring them here and share their music with us," said Rosa.

"All I want to say is thank you very much to all the volunteers. This would not be possible without people giving up their time to help put this thing together, and it really puts Bolton, Ontario and Caledon on the map."

The day continued on with the celebrations into the night, with dancing and singing for hours to come.



SIP AND SMILE! (TOP) A warm welcome for Italian Heritage festivities. (ABOVE) Some of the performers take a break to enjoy the day's festivities. PHOTOS BY RILEY MURPHY

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Judy Bennett is Caledon's 2026 Senior of the Year

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A well-known volunteer across numerous organizations has been recognized as the 2026 Senior of the Year: Judy Bennett.

Bennett volunteers at a number of local organizations, including the Caledon Seniors' Centre, Bolton Business Improvement Area (BIA), Bolton Kin Club, Caledon Meals on Wheels and ecoCaledon, and the award recognized her "exceptional volunteerism and longstanding contributions to the community."

According to a Town of Caledon media release, through Bennett's involvement with these groups and numerous community events and initiatives, she has "helped strengthen connections, support residents and enhance quality of life throughout the community."

"Through her leadership, compassion and unwavering commitment to giving back, she continues to inspire others and help build a stronger, more connected

community," said the Town.

"Congratulations to Judy Bennett on this well-deserved recognition," said Mayor Annette Groves. "Judy's dedication to serving others, strengthening community connections, and supporting local initiatives has had a meaningful impact on residents across Caledon. Her leadership and generosity exemplify the spirit of volunteerism that helps our community thrive."

"Judy's commitment to community service is truly inspiring," added Judith D'Souza Soares, Commissioner of Community Services. "She has helped foster connection, inclusion and well-being throughout Caledon. Her contributions demonstrate the important role seniors play in building strong and vibrant communities."

The Senior of the Year award, was presented in partnership with the Government of Ontario and celebrates a local senior over the age of 65 who continues to enrich the social, cultural or civic fabric of their community.

Headwaters announces inaugural Tony Pringle Memorial Award recipients



HONOURING HIS LEGACY: The inaugural Tony Pringle Awards were presented at the Headwaters Health Care Centre Annual Awards Ceremony on June 23. On hand were Tony's wife, Sandy Dayes, and his three children, Anne, Bill and Drew.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY SAM ODROWSKI

A new scholarship program created at the local hospital honours the legacy of a dedicated community leader and champion of health care excellence.

The Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF) announced the inaugural Tony Pringle Awards on June 24, established in memory of Tony Pringle, who served the community relentlessly.

Pringle served on the HHCF's Board of Directors from 2021 until his passing in 2025.

As vice-chair and a member of the finance and audit committee, he helped guide the foundation's work and played an important role in the Smart Headwaters campaign, the largest fundraising campaign in the HHCF's history.

Pringle was known for his generosity, wit, and unwavering commitment to Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC). He was a strong advocate for high-quality patient care and support for health care professionals.

"Tony had an incredible ability to see the potential in people and the impact they could have on patient care. The Tony Pringle Memorial Awards are a meaningful way to honour that belief by giving staff the opportunity to grow, learn, and bring even greater skills back to our hospital for the benefit of our community," said K.C. Carruthers, CEO of HHCF.

Established in his memory, the Tony Pringle Memorial Awards were created to complement existing nursing awards by supporting the professional development of non-nursing staff. The awards provide funding for edu-

cation, certifications and conferences that help employees build skills and advance their careers.

Tony's family said the awards reflect values that were important to him throughout his life.

"Tony cared deeply about this community and the people who dedicate their lives to caring for others. On behalf of our entire family, we are incredibly proud to see his legacy continue in such a meaningful way. Supporting education and professional development was something he truly valued, and we hope these awards will help staff continue to grow their skills and deliver exceptional care to patients for years to come," said Sandy Dayes, on behalf of Pringle's family.

The first-ever recipients of the Tony Pringle Memorial Award are Juliann McArthur (Master of Leadership), Kristy Erin Caulfield (Paramedicine), Sherry Armstrong (Dialysis Technical Assistant Certification), and Tiffany Larsen (Hand Therapist Certification).

Each recipient will use the funding for educational opportunities aimed at strengthening their skills and supporting patient care at HHCC.

"The Tony Pringle Memorial Awards reflect a shared commitment to investing in people, the dedicated professionals who deliver compassionate, high-quality care every day. By supporting ongoing learning and development, the awards ensure that Tony's legacy lives on through the continued growth of staff and the advancement of patient care at Headwaters," reads a press release from HHCF.



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WHAT IS CANADA DAY?

Canada Day is a federal statutory holiday that celebrates the formation of the Canadian Confederation on July 1, 1867. On this date, three separate colonies named the Province of Canada (an area later known as Ontario and Quebec), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were united into a single dominion within the British Empire called Canada. The holiday originally was known as Dominion Day, but was later renamed Canada Day in 1982 when the Canada Act severed legal attachment to the Parliament of the United Kingdom.

CANADA DAY TRADITIONS



FIREWORKS AND FUN
Massive celebrations honouring Canada Day, affectionately known as "Canada's Birthday," take place each year. Ottawa, which is Canada's capital city, is one of the best places to see fireworks and enjoy revelry near Parliament Hill. This year, everyone will celebrate the 159th anniversary of Canada Day. Nearly every Canadian city hosts Canada Day events and celebrations.



PARADE ROUTE
Many Canadian towns host Canada Day parades. Major cities like Montreal, Vancouver, Toronto, and Ottawa are known for large-scale parades. However, even smaller towns will organize parades for their residents as part of Canada Day festivities. Cobourg, Niagara Falls, Sittsville, Aurora and Brantford host parades.



TRUE COLOURS
Red and white are on full display for Canada Day. Canadians also have an extra thing to celebrate during 2026 Canada Day festivities, as the year marks the 61st anniversary of the Canadian flag. The flag, with its iconic maple leaf and red and white stripes, is arguably the most recognizable symbol of Canada. Those who want to promote the flag and Canada Day can use this official digital toolkit: www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-flag-canada-day/toolkit.html.



BARBECUE BONANZA
Of course, what would Canada Day be without friends and family gathered by the grill for a summertime cookout? Plan plenty of red-and-white menu items and turn up a favourite summertime music playlist.



HAPPY CANADA DAY

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Canada Day

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AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IS FULL SPEED AHEAD WITH CANADA DAY FUN

BY BROCK WEIR

Another successful Caledon Fair is in the books after festivities this past weekend, but the Caledon Agricultural Society is not taking a break – it's full speed ahead with Canada Day fun.

The Society will once again host the Caledon Canada Day and Strawberry Festival at the Caledon Village Fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 1.

Featuring free admission, the day includes free balloons and a piece of Canada's Birthday Cake at 12 noon, a classic car show, an all-day strawberry breakfast, a barbecue with strawberry desserts, a vendors' village, craft show, and much more.

The day begins at 8 a.m. with the start of the pancake breakfast, followed by the opening of the vendor village and food booth at 9 a.m.

Additional attractions, such as the car show, pony rides, petting zoo, and more begin at 10 a.m., followed by the opening of the Bavarian Garden at 11 a.m.

The formal part of the day is expected to begin at 11.30 a.m., with opening ceremonies at 12 noon.

The day's entertainment includes Anthony the Drummer at 9.30 a.m., Four Paws Flying Entertainment dog agility at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., The Wanted Band at 1 p.m., and a presentation for the best entries in the Car Show at 2.30 p.m.

While Caledon's celebrations focus on the sweeter side of Canada, elsewhere in Peel, there's something for every taste.

Mississauga's celebrations will run from 4 – 10.30 p.m. with a showcase of Canada's rising music stars and biggest acts:

- 4:00 pm – DJ Jelz live spinning the Splash Party at the Fountain
- 6:05 pm – Sauga Sound Collective; Bombastic global beat makers at the saugaLIVE Stage
- 6:20 pm – Official Ceremony with Mayor Carolyn Parrish and Members of Council
- 6:40 pm – Freestyle Soccer Show at the North Side Stage
- 7:00 pm – Tedy, Pop-power house and rising star at the saugaLIVE Stage
- 7:30 pm – Sauga Sound Collective; Bombastic global beat makers, at the North Side Stage
- 8:00 pm – Aiona Santana, Latin-pop star at the saugaLIVE Stage
- 8:35 pm – Sauga Sound Collective x Freestyle Soccer show at the North Side Stage
- 9:00 pm – bbno\$, rapper and viral TikTok sensation at the saugaLIVE Stage
- 10:00 pm – Fireworks finale presented by Tim Hortons

Young revellers will also have the chance to participate in Camp Canuck, featuring a fountain splash party, soccer stylings, story times presented by the Mississauga Public Library and much more.

For further information, visit <https://www.mississauga.ca/arts-and-culture/events/canada-day-2026>.



CANADIAN PRIDE COULD HELP YOU WIN CROSS-COUNTRY TOUR TO CELEBRATE CANADA'S 160TH BIRTHDAY

BY BROCK WEIR

Canada marks its 159th birthday on Wednesday, July 1, and ahead of its milestone anniversary celebration next year, expressions of your Canadian pride could help you win a trip to explore everything this country has to offer.

The Government of Canada has invited residents from coast to coast to submit a video expressing their pride in the country for a chance to win one of four VIA Rail trip this year valued at \$5,000 and a Canada Day 2027 VIP Experience on Parliament Hill.

All you need to do is record a short video "showing how proud you are to be Canadian."

The contest is sponsored by the Department of Canadian Heritage, which provides a few helpful tips on how to get your video started:

- Say "Happy Canada Day"
- Sing the National Anthem
- Share a message celebrating or expressing pride in Canada
- Share an anecdote or an experience
- Express what makes you proud to be Canadian
- Showcase a place, a tradition, or something that symbolizes Canada for you

Videos for the VIA Rail experience must be submitted by July 15, 2026 at 4 p.m. EST, with the prize draw taking place the following day. Submissions for the Canada Day 2027 VIP Experience will be accepted through February 15, 2027, at 4 p.m., with the prize draw taking place February 16.

If you get an early start and submit your videos by the end of this week, your videos could be shared during the Canada Day noontime show from Parliament Hill.

Entrants must be legal residents of Canada and have reached the age of majority in their province or territory of residence.

If more than one person features in your video, only the person who submitted the entry form will be considered a contest participant.

Each travel credit is valid for one reservation and for a single round-trip itinerary, for a maximum of four people.

The Canada Day 2027 VIP Experience includes accommodations for four people in the National Capital Region for three nights, with breakfast included, between June 29, 2027 and July 3, 2027.

For more information on the contest and how to submit your content, visit www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/o-canada-station.html.

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BMX RIDERS BRING HIGH-FLYING ACTION TO ORANGEVILLE'S ALDER RECREATION CENTRE ON CANADA DAY

Celebrate Canada Day with a full day of family-friendly fun, including an inflatable zone, free swimming, soccer activities, a photo booth, face painting, airbrush tattoos and more.

The Town of Orangeville's Canada Day event will be held on July 1 from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Alder Recreation Centre. Then, at 10 p.m., head to Murray's Mountain for the drone show to cap off the day.

Don't miss this year's main stage entertainment featuring the BMX Krusher Stunt Team in action. Head to the red rink to watch the athletes soar through the air as they perform thrilling tricks and gravity-defying aerial maneuvers.

This year, in place of the traditional fireworks show at Island Lake, residents are invited to gather at Murray's Mountain at 10 p.m. for a spectacular drone light show presented by Illumin. Using the night sky as a canvas, 250 drones will light it up in a cinematic, choreographed performance, serving as the perfect finale to a great community celebration.

"We've heard from residents that they wanted us to explore new, safer and more inclusive ways to cap off the day celebrations," said Mayor Lisa Post. "A drone show was a natural fit, lighting up the sky in a way that is both visually stunning, while also being considerate of those with sensory sensitivities, pets and wildlife."

"While the Town has moved away from fireworks displays, residents are reminded to follow safe practices when setting off fireworks at home," said Orangeville Fire Chief John Snider. "This year's drone show offers a safer way to celebrate while still giving residents a memorable evening to enjoy."

"We were excited to hear that the Town is exploring a drone light show this year," said

Yasmine Slater, superintendent at Credit Valley Conservation. "We value our ongoing partnership with the Town of Orangeville and encourage everyone to come out to Island Lake Conservation Area to enjoy hiking, picnicking, fishing and paddling this Canada Day."

Listed below is a schedule of events for July 1 in Orangeville.

Opening ceremony – 12 p.m.

- Greetings from mayor and council, Kyle Seeback, MP and the Honourable Sylvia Jones, MPP
- Singing of O Canada
- Cake cutting

Krusher BMX Stunt Team's "Big Air Bag Show X Large" (red rink)

- 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- Five BMX athletes propelled from a massive 16' quarter pipe trailer
- Performing a variety of aerial maneuvers at incredible heights
- Big air bag landing
- Three 20-minute shows, followed by a 20-minute meet and greet with athletes

Free swim events – 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

- Two free, one-hour swims
- 275 spots available per swim
- 50 per cent pre-registration is available 75 hours in advance
- 50 per cent drop-in spots available on Canada Day
- All swimmers must follow the aquatic admission standards available at orangeville.ca/swimming.

Free family fun zone (inflatables)

- green rink – 12 to 5 p.m.
- 26' rock wall

- 27' Mount Rushmore slide
- 65' mega obstacle course
- Bouncy castles

Neighbourhood Block Box

- Kick off the new Block Box season with crafts and games
- Meet the Block Box team

Soccer activities

- Interactive soccer games, including the hardest shot competition and the shooter tutor

Orangeville Public Library table

- Alder Branch will be closed
- Library staff to host a table with activities and information on the summer reading program

Other activities

- Face painting
- Airbrush tattoos
- Professional photo booth

Illumin Drone Show

- Murray's Mountain – 10 p.m.
- 250 drones will provide a cinematic, choreographed performance designed to create a memorable and high-impact visual moment for the community

Parking is available at Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre, Princess Elizabeth Public School, Orangeville District Secondary School, Grant Evans Education Centre and County of Dufferin Court House.

The Town of Orangeville would like to acknowledge the Government of Canada's support for Canada Day through both the Celebrate Canada grant and Celebrate Canada Program, Soccer 2026 component.

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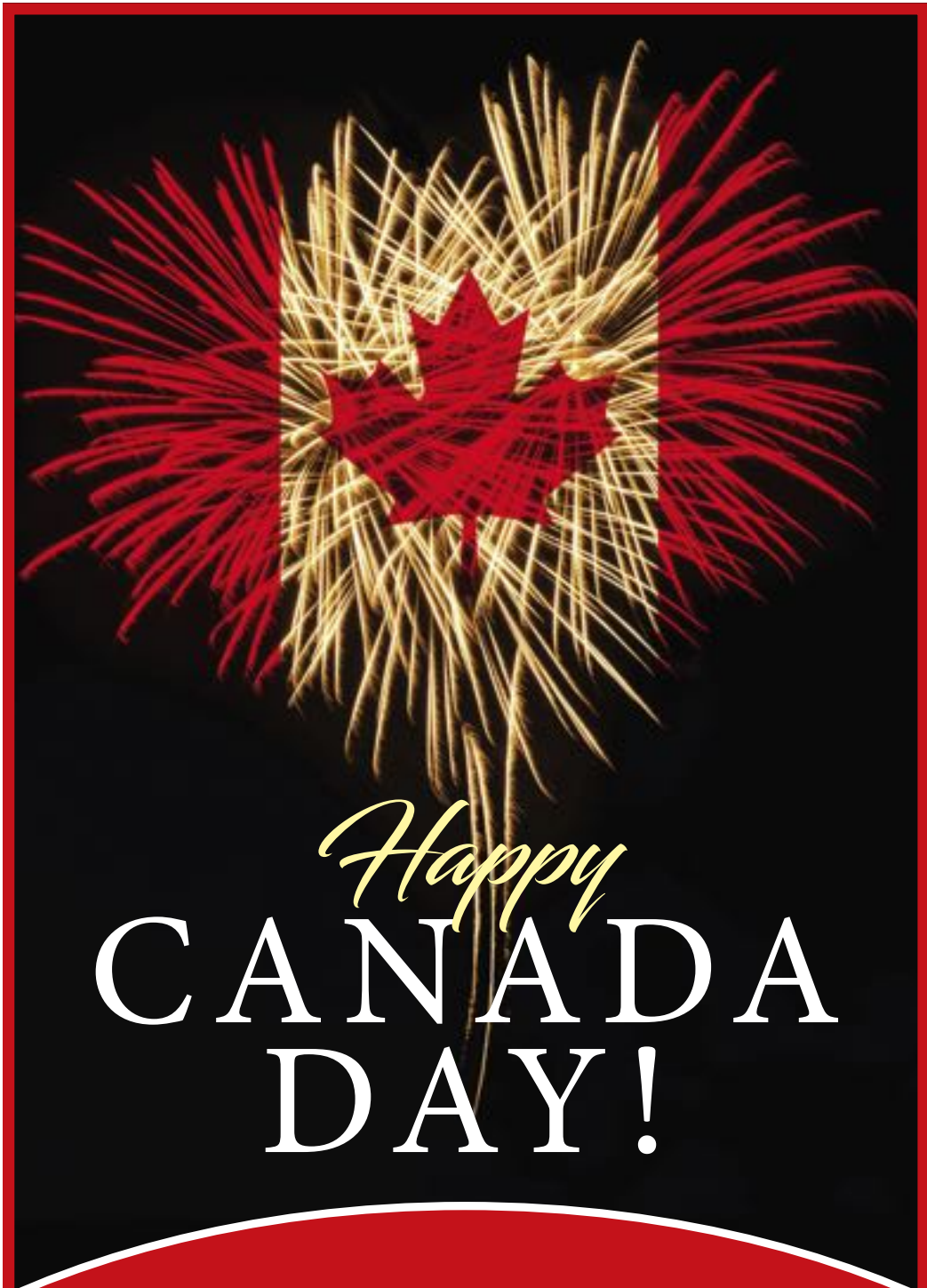
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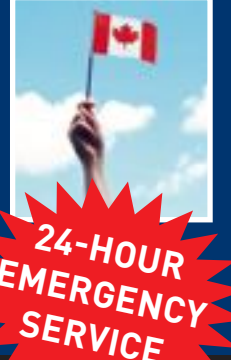
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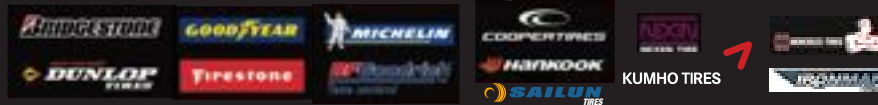
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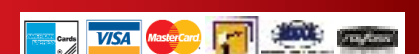
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CELEBRATE CANADA IN THE HEART OF ONTARIO'S CAPITAL

Celebrate Canada Day at one of the province's most historic and iconic landmarks, the Legislative Building at Queen's Park.

Visitors can participate in a full day of free, family-friendly programming to mark the country's 159th birthday, starting with a high-energy parade led by Hitmen Drumline, and followed by:

- **Opening ceremonies** with emcees Sam East and Astrid Moulin, the national anthem performed by Natalie Morris, and a performance by Tribal Vision Dance;
- **Musical and special performances** by Impulse Steel Orchestra, Benji Crane, Enchanted Strings, Surround Sound, Blessings Flute, Dance Migration, and a headline performance by The 99s;
- **Kid-friendly performances** by Stunt Ventriloquist Tim Holland, Lei'ala Dance School, Sonshine and Broccoli, Magic Wij, and Wayland Li Wushu;
- **Circus workshops**, visits from special characters, hula hoop and bubble fun zones, self-guided building tours, midway rides, inflatables, crafts and activities, photo opportunities and an interactive art installation with Keenan D'Abreo

This free event runs July 1, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To tour the Legislative Building, please note that airport-style security screening will be in place, with the last entry at 4:00 p.m. No pre-registration required.

More details, including a full schedule of events, are available on the Legislative Assembly of Ontario's website at www.ola.org/en/office-assembly/whats-happening/canada-day-2026-queens-park



CANADA DAY Strawberry FESTIVAL

JULY 1
Starts at 9 am
Caledon Fairgrounds
18297 Hurontario St., Caledon Village

This year's festival will kick off this free family-focused celebration with our traditional pancakes and strawberry breakfast in the morning, followed by a day of entertainment and activity for the whole family! The classic car show will showcase all makes of beautifully restored autos, live entertainment is on tap, our vendors are eager to serve, the Agility Dog Show with tail-wagging fun, and a great big inflatable activity center is ready for the kids. Beer, burgers, music with bands, and fun are waiting for your family while the exhibits hall will have artisanal vendors and a great big garage sale! Come and visit your neighbours for a fun day in the sun, celebrating our country, and help us raise the flag at noon with members of the Caledon Concert Band. **o CANADA!**

Caledon Fair
Caledon Agricultural Society
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For more information on the Caledon Canada Day and Strawberry Festival, go to:
www.caledonfair.ca

HAPPY Canada Day

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CALEDON'S FAVOURITE TREES COULD BE IN THE SPOTLIGHT THROUGH ONTARIO TREE PAGEANT

BY BROCK WEIR

The Downy Woodpecker is now winging in a lofty position after being named Caledon's Official Town Bird after a public vote, but some of the more picturesque places these birds might peck could also soon be in the limelight – with your help. Tree Trust, a grassroots organization dedicated to promoting the health and longevity of urban trees, is seeking submissions for the Best Tree in Ontario for the 2026 Ontario Tree Pageant.

If you have a favourite tree in the community, you're invited to snap a photo of it and share a few words about why it deserves to be celebrated.

"Do you have a favorite tree that holds a special place in your heart? A towering oak in your backyard? A graceful willow near a river? Or a majestic roadside maple? Share a photo of your special tree along with a few words on what it means to you," says Tree Trust. "That's all it takes to lend your voice to the growing chorus that sings the praises of trees while highlighting their value to our economy and environment. You just might win a prize too!

"Think of the competition as a beauty pageant for trees. Our biggest and best trees make our communities more attractive and inviting. Mature trees enhance our neighbourhoods and are good for business. At the same time, there's more to 'legacy trees' than looking good. You could say that their beauty is beyond 'bark-deep.' Tree of the Year reminds us why a love of trees is far from superficial. Our biggest and healthiest trees are stable, lifelong companions that just keep on giving. The carbon they store brings us cleaner air. Shade reduces the need for air conditioning. Root systems slow stormwater runoff, protecting our waterways. A natural habitat for birds and wildlife."

High quality photos are being accepted now through August 3 at pageant@treetrust.ca. Entrants must include their name, tree species (if you know it), the location of the tree, and why it deserves to win in up to 30 words.

Winning trees will be announced in September and submissions will be reviewed by a formal judging panel:

- **Judy Maddren**, M.S.M., Retired CBC Radio Journalist;
- **Mike Schreiner**, Leader of the Ontario Green Party and MPP for Guelph;
- **Terry Schwan**, Professional Forester; Member, Board of Directors, Forest History Ontario;
- **Paul Zammit** - Instructor, School of Environment and Horticulture, Niagara College.

Everyone who enters will be considered for one of three prizes: a \$100 Lee Valley Gift Card, a gift basket from the Royal Canadian Yacht Club and a 2027 Family Pass to Ontario Parks.

For more information, visit treetrust.ca.

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Strawberry AND VANILLA CHEESECAKES WITH A GINGER COOKIE BASE

INGREDIENTS

- 4 1/2 ounces ginger cookies, crushed
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons caster sugar, divided
- 11 ounces Greek vanilla yogurt
- 3 1/2 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 8 ounces strawberries, hulled and diced
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 handful small mint leaves, to garnish



DIRECTIONS

1. Stir together crushed cookies, melted butter, and 1 tablespoon sugar in a mixing bowl until cookie crumbs are moist. Divide between 6 serving glasses and chill until needed.
2. Combine Greek yogurt, cream cheese and vanilla extract with remaining castor sugar in a mixing bowl, beating until sugar has dissolved, about 2 minutes.
3. Divide mixture between glasses, spooning on top of biscuit base. Cover and chill for 1 hour.
4. When ready to serve, purée half the strawberries with lemon juice in a food processor.
5. Spoon on top of cheesecakes and garnish with remaining strawberries and mint leaves.



Here is a photograph of a 1946 community picnic at Rosehill school. Rosehill school still stands today as a private residence, at Highpoint Side Road and Kennedy Road. Local farmer Michael Armstrong noticed wild roses growing along the banks of area creeks and named his property Rosehill Farm. That name was adopted by the local school, and later the Women's Institute club. From 1935 to 2002, Campbell's Cross Women's Institute provided rural women an opportunity to get together, learn, and contribute to the community. Their members were from the agricultural area around Kennedy Road North and King Street area, then "First Line East and 27th."

Artifacts courtesy of PAMA.

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Ceramic plaque featuring Canada's coat of arms was given to the Town of Caledon by former owner of the Rosehill Schoolhouse in Caledon.

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CANADA DAY

Strawberry Festival




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Tickets must be purchased in advance for both the Strawberry Pancake Breakfast and the Festival Play Area. A portion of Festival sales will go to Caledon Community Services.

CANADA DAY SCHEDULE

We've got a GREAT line-up for July 1st including your favourite Play Area activities. Tickets are required for Canada Day.

9am	Festival Play Area Opens – Farm Animals, Jumping Pillows, Pirate's Cove, Discovery Barn and more!
9am-5pm	Farm Store Open
9am-11am	Strawberry Pancake Breakfast
10am	Opening Ceremonies
10:15am	Retro Rockers Band
11am	K-9 Dog Show
12pm	Retro Rockers Band
1pm	K-9 Dog Show
1:45	Magician Dick Joiner
3pm	K-9 Dog Show
4pm	Farm Closes

PANCAKE BREAKFAST HOURS
9 AM - 11 AM

Canada's Birthday kicks off at 9 a.m. with Downey's Farm serving scrumptious pancakes topped with Downey's own strawberries & whipped cream. Breakfast is available from 9am-11am.

Be sure to purchase your tickets in advance online.

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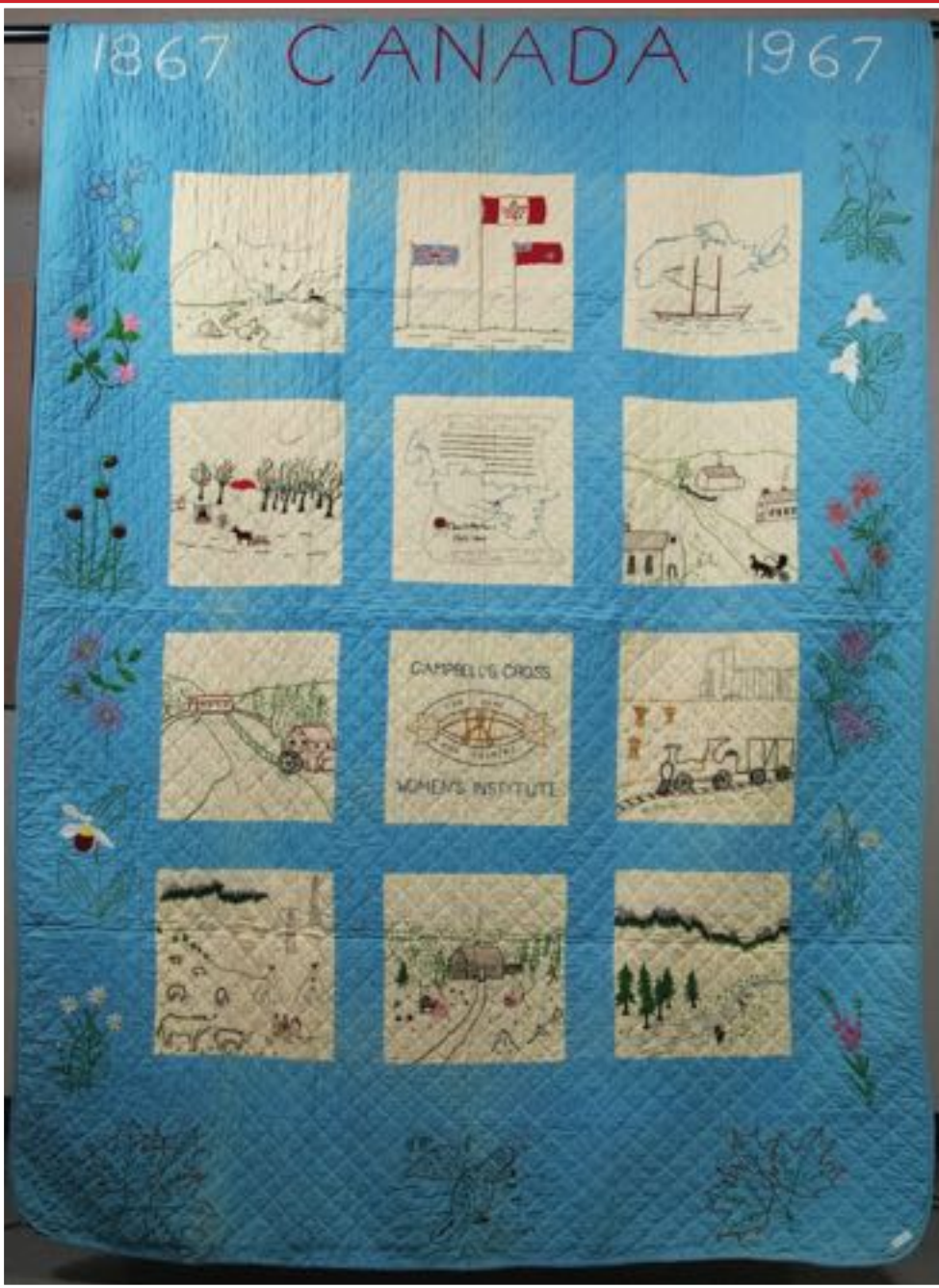
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Centennial quilt made by the Campbell's Cross Women's Institute to celebrate Canada's 100th anniversary.

Artifact courtesy of PAMA.



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CANADA DAY

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Hall Wolfpack Track team romps through ROPSSAA en-route to medals at OFSAA

BY JIM STEWART

The Robert F. Hall Wolfpack Track and Field team completed a successful 2025-26 season and their haul of 17 medals at ROPSSAA told the tale.

Wolfpack Head Coach Michael Chondronikolas summed up a satisfactory Spring season by his student-athletes.

“It was great seeing the growth—track’s an individual sport, but seeing the athletes cheering each other on was very satisfying. Seeing the guys embrace the team mentality and for them to make steady improvement was great to see, too.”

Coach Chondronikolas selected two performances as the most memorable in 2026.

“We saw incredible performances at OFSAA from athletes that are dedicated to their craft. All the OFSAA medalists and qualifiers really put the school on the map and it was their third straight year being medalists at the provincial championships against national caliber competitors. Jeremiah Addo won gold in the 200M race. In the 4 x 400 M Relay, Spencer Brown, Owen Kenney, Keltrick Amanatey, and Jeremiah earned a silver medal with a Personal Best of 3:20. The team’s been train-

ing together for two years.”

It’s been a school year laden with championships for Coach Chondronikolas and the veteran mentor reflected on the success of the Wolfpack football team and the track and field team in 2025-26.

“For me, it’s been by far the most satisfying season—if you equate success to winning championships, then yes, it’s been magical from winning ROPSSAA, the Metro Bowl, and an OFSAA football banner in the Fall to seeing the track team do so well at ROPSSAA and OFSAA in the Spring. I didn’t get to these levels as a high school athlete, but when I became a teacher, I wanted to give back and give student-athletes a chance to achieve these kinds of results. We left a good footprint at OFSAA and our athletes’ time and effort really showed.”

After Hall’s football team ran the table in the Fall by winning four regional and provincial titles, Coach Chondronikolas’s track team captured seven events at ROPSSAA with senior sprinter Jeremiah Addo winning three gold medals. The speedy Addo dominated all the elite sprint events—100M, 200M, and 400M—at the regional meet.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROBERT F. HALL WOLFPACK

Joining Addo as ROPSSAA gold medalists were Keltrick Amanatey in the 400M Hurdles, Josia Jackson in the High Jump, and Kierara Mighty in the Long Jump. The final golden performance by the Wolfpack belonged to the 4 x 400 relay team comprised of Addo, Amanatey, Spencer Brown, and Owen Kenney.

Hall’s track team also secured silver medals in eight events.

Brayden Thompson put forth a series of fine performances in field events—winning second place honors in Javelin, Discus, and Shotput. Abigail Mercer captured a silver in the grueling 800M race while Abreal Okyere finished second in the High Jump. Spencer Brown complemented his gold medal with a silver in the 200M race and two Hall foursomes won

the Open Girls 4 x 400 relay and the Senior Boys 4 x 100 relay.

Rounding out the ROPSSAA medal haul were bronze medal winners Tristan Thomas in the Shotput and Brown made a third podium appearance at the regional meet by coming in third in the 400M race—completing his necklace of gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Coach Chondronikolas acknowledged the advantages of coaching football in the Fall and track in the Spring at Hall: “It’s great to see the kids showcasing their talents as multisport athletes. In track, many athletes have come over from other sports with transferable skills and they discover that they can have great success in a range of track and field events.”

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Brewers split pair of road games in Lisle and Ivy



Chater drives in six in Bolton's 13-3 romp over Lisle

BY JIM STEWART

Brewers' veteran shortstop Brett Chater was a one-man wrecking crew in Lisle on Friday night and spurred Bolton to a 13-3 win over the Astros.

Chater drove in six runs, blasted out three hits including a home run and a double, scored three times, and pitched a scoreless inning of relief during which he struck out two Astros.

The hitting heroics of the reigning North Dufferin Baseball League MVP made a winner of Brewers' starter Charlie Hughes who went four innings, striking out eight Astros and walking only one.

Chater's hitting and Hughes's pitching

got Bolton back in the win column after a one-sided 14-5 home field loss to the Orillia Majors on Monday night snapped the club's four-game undefeated streak.

Carter Burnside and Jaineel Purohit each added two hits and two runs scored to the Brewers' offensive attack versus the Astros.

In addition to pounding out eight hits, the Bolton batters showed their patience by drawing nine walks in the mercy-shortened five-inning contest.

Chater continued his red-hot ways in Ivy on Sunday afternoon, collecting two more hits and scoring two more runs, but the Brewers bowed to the Rangers 7-4 despite outhitting the home side 10-8.

Two-spot hitter Ben Sterritt delivered three knocks—including a double—and drove in two for Bolton.

Jack Larmer added a hit and an RBI to the visitors' ten-hit attack.

Josh Wilkins, Adam Vanderheyden, and Brett Scott drove in two runs each to pace

Ivy's offense.

Wilkins's home run was the big blast of the contest.

Rangers' starter Ryan Barr earned the W—pitching 5 1/3 innings, allowing one earned run, striking out five, and scattering eight hits in his quality start.

Brewers' starter Carson Burns took the loss—surrendering seven earned runs, but also striking out seven Rangers and walking only two in six innings of work.

The Brewers (5-6-1) fell behind 3-1 after the first inning and never held the lead against the Rangers who improved to 8-2-0 with the home field victory.

After the Brewers narrowed the Rangers' lead to 3-2 at the top of the fifth, Ivy responded with two more runs at the bottom of the inning to make it 5-2. When Bolton pushed across another run at the top of the sixth, the Rangers plated two more runs to stifle the visitors' comeback attempt.

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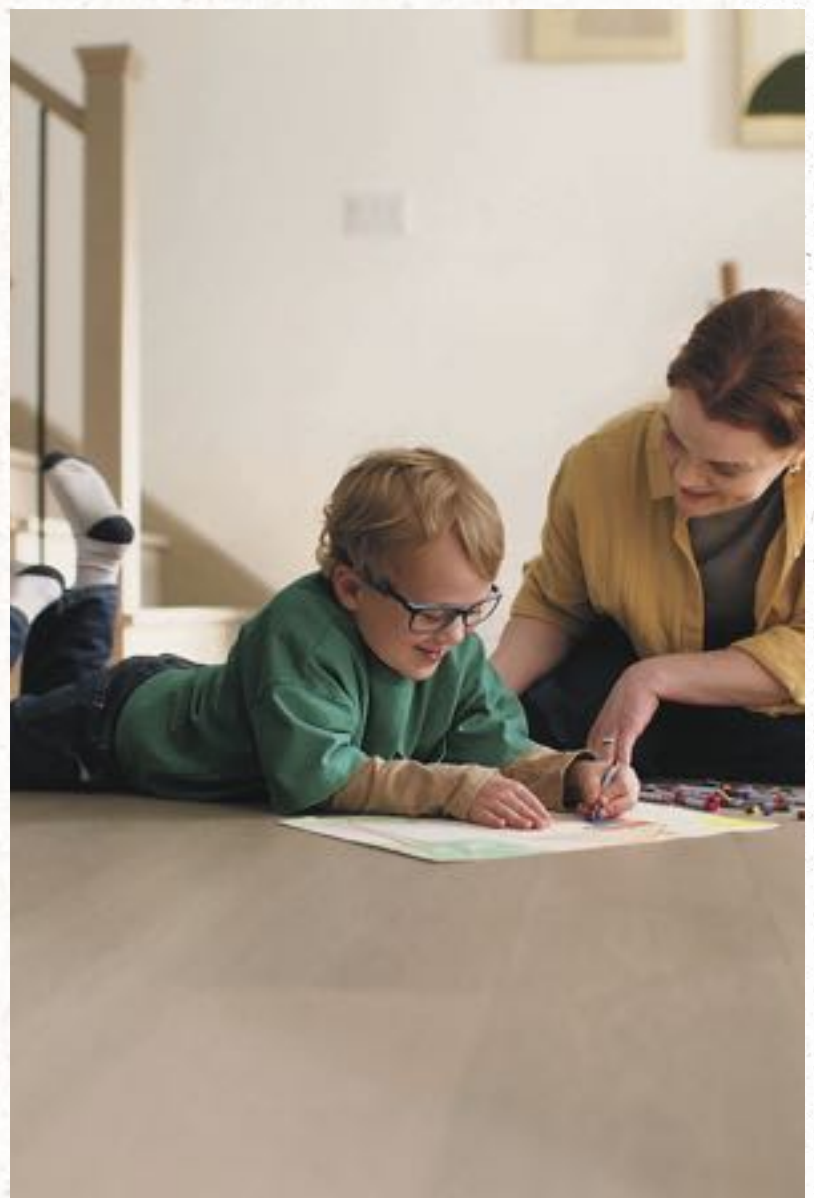
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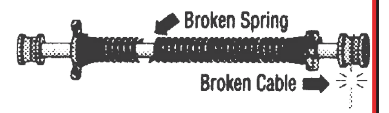
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CVC opens 26-hectare Lake Ontario conservation area

Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) has officially opened the Jim Tovey Lakeview Conservation Area in Mississauga, marking the completion of a 26-hectare shoreline restoration project along Lake Ontario.

The conservation area, opened May 29 with sunrise and ribbon-cutting ceremonies, was developed in partnership with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Peel Region. The site converts a former industrial shoreline into restored habitat, trails and public green space.

The opening included participation from Indigenous representatives, municipal leaders and representatives from all orders of government. A sunrise ceremony was led by Knowledge Keeper Mark Sault, recognizing the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation as treaty holders for the lands and waters where the site is located.

The conservation area includes restored

wetlands and shoreline habitat, along with trails, boardwalks, lookouts and gathering spaces. It also includes Indigenous place-making features such as Entrance Gateway Drums and an Indigenous Teaching Amphitheatre.

The project was funded by Peel Region, with additional support from the federal government. Officials say the site incorporates more than a decade of planning and reused material from regional infrastructure projects.

CVC says the site is intended to support habitat restoration, biodiversity and public access along Lake Ontario. It is now open to the public.

Credit Valley Conservation manages the Credit River watershed, which includes Orangeville and surrounding parts of Dufferin County.

More information is available at cvc.ca/JimToveyLakeviewCA.

Celebrate Canada Day Week with Free Fishing

Province offering free fishing across Ontario from June 27 to July 5

To celebrate Canada Day and encourage more people to enjoy Ontario's world-class outdoors, Canadian residents can fish for free across the province from June 27 to July 5 without purchasing a fishing licence or Outdoors Card.

"Whether you're a lifelong angler or casting a line for the very first time, our government is making it easier and more convenient to enjoy all that Ontario's world-class fishing has to offer," said Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources. "With free fishing available across the province, Canada Day week is the perfect time to get outdoors, spend time with family and friends, and create lasting memories on the water."

Recreational fishing is a key part of Ontario's economy, supporting local tourism and jobs in communities across the province. Free fishing opportunities like Canada Day week provide a chance for people to learn more about fishing on Ontario's lakes and rivers.

For families participating in free fishing from June 27 to July 5, all conservation licence catch and size limits, fishing sanctuaries and other fishing regulations still apply.

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J.E.H. MacDonald (1873–1932), *Forest Wilderness* (detail),
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 JUNE 25TH - JULY 1ST
 Terms and Conditions: Get \$20 off with a minimum spend of \$100 at Garden Foods between June 25th and July 1st, 2026. One-time use coupon must be scanned and relinquished at time of transaction. Only one coupon redeemable per purchase. Coupon is not valid with other offers. Photocopies will not be accepted. \$100 spend is before taxes and fees and excludes gift cards, lottery, alcohol and pharmacy (where available). Longo Brothers Fruit Markets reserves the right to add, remove or modify items on this promotion without prior notice. Other restrictions may apply.

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SAVE AT LEAST \$2.00 Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream 414-450mL tub or Häagen-Dazs Novelties 3 pack selected varieties
4⁹⁹

SAVE AT LEAST \$2.98 ON 2 Lay's Potato Chips or Smartfood Popcorn 175-235g pkg Individual \$3.49 selected varieties
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SAVE AT LEAST \$3.00 Bertolli Extra Virgin Olive Oil Organic or Original 750mL-L bottle or Carapelli Premium Extra Virgin Olive Oil 500mL bottle selected varieties
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SAVE AT LEAST \$1.50 Garden Foods Pasta Sauce 1L jar selected varieties
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THIS WEEK'S GARDEN PICK!
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EARN 100 POINTS
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