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FREE Thursday, May 21, 2026 Volume 46, Issue 21



Minister Stephen Lecce, Minister Rob Flack, MPP Sylvia Jones, Mayor Annette Groves, MPP Joseph Racinsky, MPP Zee Hamid, and Minister Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria are pictured at Wednesday's announcement in Caledon. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

"Fine Has to Match the Crime"

Ontario government introduces proposed changes to AMPS for Illegal Land Use

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario Government is set to introduce a change to the Planning Act that would enable municipalities to impose administrative monetary penalties (AMPS) for illegal land uses.

The amounts would be set by individual municipalities, subject to legal con-

straints, and are intended to promote compliance with local by-laws.

These changes to the Planning Act were said to help prevent illegal land uses, including for trucks and the operation of commercial trucking activities on land not zoned for industrial use.

"We intend to give municipalities the authority to impose administrative monetary penalties on individuals or corporations who contravene zoning by-laws,"

said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, at the May 20 press conference in Caledon. "You have to follow the rules."

"Truckers and trucking companies are an important part of our economy. They keep Ontario's economy moving. We need them. They just have to play by the rules," said Flack.

Continued on Page A13

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DMZ finds permanent home in Caledon

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

In March of 2025, the Town of Caledon officially announced its partnership with Toronto Metropolitan University's DMZ to launch the Humber River Centre Business Incubator powered by DMZ.

Now, over a year later, it's found a permanent home here in Caledon.

Continued on Page A14



The panel during the DMZ Caledon Open House at the Humber River Centre on May 14th. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Get in Motion for a Great Cause: Jack Ride Returns to Caledon for 2026 event



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

show of support coming together in one day to do this ride is a great energy," says Braithwaite. "If we can actually get together with this many people in one day [who] care enough to come out and do this then there's a lot of hope for Canada and moving forward in young people's mental health journey."

Braithwaite says they love hosting the event in Caledon, as not only have they always been well received, but it also provides the perfect routes for the event.

"We know that so many young people are affected early on by mental health unwellness, and why wait till they go into crisis and that's what Jack.org does. If you want to be part of the solution, this is your way of doing so, whether you're ...riding, walking, running just getting in motion that day really shows the support of young people that you're connected to, whether they're in your family [or] your community this is a great way to come out have a fun day, but at the same time raise some funds so we can continue to do the great work we do in early intervention prevention in Caledon and around across the country when it comes to preventing youth mental health crisis and with the hopes of fewer young lives lost by suicide."

There's something for everyone at Jack Ride, with routes ranging from as little as 10k to 25k, 75k, and all the way to 100k.

Also, a gravel ride is available for those looking to do something a little different than traversing the hills.

You don't even have to participate in the ride itself; with live music, food, and more, Braithwaite encourages the Caledon community to come out for the event either way, as there's a lot to explore on the day and ways to support youth mental health.

Braithwaite says the event moves "pretty fast," so he encourages riders to show up early to make sure they have everything they need and to make it to their start on time.

Those looking to participate can register prior to or on the day of; just make sure to bring your own bike!

Taking part in the 10k himself, Braithwaite says he looks forward to meeting different people at this year's ride and hearing their stories.

And really, it comes down to what Canadians can do to support youth.

"Day in and day out we're bombarded by a lot of negativity and some real hard facts that our young people are the unhappiest they've ever been," says Braithwaite.

"Coming out of COVID, young people across the country are struggling, we're losing way too many people by youth suicide, the second leading cause death in Canada; with all that negativity there, with Jack Ride, what it is is positivity. We can move forward, we can do better, we will do better," he says.

"Just by the fact that 800 people are willing to come out on a Saturday in May to show that support, to raise over a million dollars towards young people's mental health and doing better is a huge sign of hope, and gives me a ton of hope coming out of that. It's a wonderful day of momentum towards better mental health for young people across Canada."

He adds that those looking to support don't have to participate on the day of; he encourages you to grab your friends and family and set out on your own Jack Ride this May.

To register ahead of time for the event visit www.jack.org/jack-ride.

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Jack Ride, an event that raises funds for critical mental health education and prevention programs, is returning to the Caledon East Community Complex for yet another year, and they invite you to bring your bike this Saturday to join.

Taking place on Saturday, May 23, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., more than 800 riders are set to descend upon the Caledon East complex for a morning of biking in support of youth mental health.

Jack Ride began in 2010 when Eric Windeler and Sandra Hanington founded "The Jack Project" after the tragic loss of their son Jack, a first-year student at Queen's University.

Since then, the Jack Ride with Jack.org has taken off, raising over \$10 million in 16 years.

Across every province and territory in Canada, cyclists work to raise funds for mental health education for young Canadians.

And, you can participate in person this year here in Caledon.

Michael Braithwaite, President and CEO of Jack.org, says that although the event itself is about the bike ride, it's truly about seeing how many people across Canada can come together for a day of healing and hope for young people's mental health.

No matter what route you choose for the Jack Ride, Braithwaite notes you'll be right beside someone who has, in some way, been affected by mental unwellness.

"It's a real special day," he says.

"Almost every Canadian has somehow been affected by mental health themselves, or in their family, but to see that

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Leaving Legacies: Nick de Boer looks back on 23 years as Caledon Councillor

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

“I just felt it was time,” says Councillor Nick de Boer, sitting in the office of his family’s farm, noting he’s looking to get back to where it all began.

Just weeks ago, Ward 4 Councillor de Boer announced on his personal Facebook page that he would not seek re-election in October’s municipal election in October.

“It’s probably time to come back and do this,” he says, looking around.

de Boer and his family are generational farmers in Caledon, operating De Boers Market, and serving the community for decades.

After more than two decades in office, de Boer is closing this chapter, returning full-time to the farm and the family business at his heart.

The farm is run by him and his children, but with more kids on the way, he feels it is time to step back in and away from council.

A “true family business,” de Boer remarks, as he knows the community will continue to see the fifth generation of farmers scrambling about in the store.

Focusing his time and energy back on the farm is a full circle for de Boer, as he came from the agricultural sector when he first joined Council.

“I really want to get back to those roots that got me into this,” says de Boer, referencing the various agricultural groups he hopes to soon get back to volunteering with.

Stepping away from Council, he knows he’s been able to leave behind many worthwhile projects.

Part of what prompted de Boer to run for Council in the first place was the need for more ice pads in the community, and the vision for the Caledon East Community Centre was a driving force.

“The only recreation facility Caledon had built at that time was the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness, everything else was inherited from the townships,” explains de Boer. “Hockey was growing, the community was growing.”

de Boer adds that his late wife, Donna de Boer, played hockey and hoped to get their own girls into hockey and grow the league.

But, with limited ice time available in Bolton, it was proving a challenge.

When de Boer first joined Council, he says he worked with other Council members to see the benefits of a facility in Caledon East and, along with it, two brand-new ice pads.

de Boer took a hands-on approach, adding that he often walked into the centre as construction was ongoing to see the project as it moved along.

For 19 years on Council, de Boer watched as the vision for the complex came to life, something he had promised in his very first campaign.

Because of this, they were able to meet the needs of the Caledon Female Hockey Association, the Caledon Coyotes, as well as the Caledon Hawks.

He adds that the league has grown immensely since then, with Caledon now seeing some of its players in the Professional Women’s Hockey League (PWHL).

Over his two decades on Council, de Boer also led the Johnston Sports Park project, supported the Caledon East Sec-



de Boer and his family stand outside De Boer's Market.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ondary Plan during the planning of all areas of Caledon East Development, and supported the building of St. Michael’s Catholic High School.

When it came to taxes, he aimed to maintain Caledon’s affordable tax rate, and also advocated for various issues such as land for industrial growth, increased investment in roads and parks, and more.

Looking back on standout moments, he notes many, including the complex coming to life and putting Caledon on a strong financial footing, with a lot of credit to Town Staff.

Also, he says when the Caledon Equestrian Park hosted the equestrian events for the Toronto 2015 Pan American Games, it created a legacy in the Palgrave facility.

“We’ve got the two premier facilities in Ontario, and that’s the Osprey Valley for golf, and the equestrian facility,” says de Boer, noting that both of these Caledon centres now act as legacy pieces in history.

“I’m happy with what we’ve accomplished,” says de Boer.

He adds that over the years he’s been able to learn from those around him, whether it be former Mayors or Staff.

“I’ve enjoyed working with everybody, and maybe that’s part of why it’s so easy to consider not running, I really was having trouble figuring out what I would want to do,” says de Boer. “When you look at what we’ve accomplished, a lot of stuff’s going to fall into place now.”

With master plans in place, he knows where various facilities will go and how the communities will follow.

“I’ve enjoyed it, all the people you meet, all the people in Caledon,” says de Boer, adding that to this day he’s happy to receive calls from community members, even if he no longer serves their Ward.

“It’s been enjoyable, from the people, the jobs, the stuff we’ve been [able to] accomplish.”

With de Boer stepping away from Council, he’s not stepping away from Caledon.

The community will still see him remain active in the community as a volunteer with various organizations and farm groups, down at the farm, or even taking to the skies as he looks forward to once again getting use out of his private pilot’s license.

de Boer’s connection to Caledon continues on, through the farm, his volunteer work, and the community he’s long called home.

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DRUG TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATION

Members of the Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have laid numerous charges against an individual following a recent warrant execution.

“In April 2026, the Caledon CSCU entered into a drug trafficking investigation,” say Police. “With the assistance of Dufferin CSCU, a search warrant was executed upon a residence and a vehicle in the City of Brampton.

“Officers seized approximately 81 grams of Opium, and items consistent with the sale and trafficking of drugs, including a cell phone, digital scales, and packaging materials.”

As a result of the investigation, Jaspreet Singh, 24, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Trafficking in a Schedule I substance - Opioid - two counts;
- Possession of a Schedule I substance for the purpose of trafficking – Opioid.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

If you suspect illegal activity in your neighbourhood, you can report it to Caledon OPP

at 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

DISTRACTION THEFT WARNING

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) remind residents of Caledon to be cautious of distraction related thefts.

“On May 4, 2026, at approximately 2:00 p.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a theft in the area of James Street, Bolton, in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “Shortly after, at approximately 3:30 p.m., officers responded to another report of theft in the area of Prescott Drive, Bolton, in the Town of Caledon.

“In both of these reports, the suspects targeted lone, elderly individuals, wearing jewelry, and asked for help with directions. During the interactions, the suspects had the victim’s try-on a necklace and when the suspects went to remove it, they also removed the necklaces the victims were wearing prior to the interaction.”

The two suspects are described as a male

and a female, approximately 40-50 years old, of self-admitted Serbian descent, with accented speech, operating a sports utility vehicle (SUV).

This investigation remains ongoing. For anyone with information regarding these or other distraction thefts, please contact the Caledon OPP 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

Please visit <https://rcmp.ca/en/bc/safety-tips/theft-and-vandalism/distraction-theft> for more information about distraction thefts.

FATAL COLLISION INVESTIGATION

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), alongside Dufferin County EMS and local fire services, responded to a fatal two-vehicle collision involving a passenger vehicle and a motorcycle in the Town of Mono.

“On May 16, 2026, shortly before 11:30 a.m., emergency crews were dispatched to Hockley Road (County Road 7) following reports of a serious collision,” say Police.

As a result of the collision, the driver of the motorcycle, a 51-year-old male from Oakville, was pronounced deceased. The driver of the passenger vehicle sustained minor injuries.

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

Members of the OPP Technical Collision Investigation (TCI) unit attended the scene to assist with the investigation.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information or dashcam footage related to the incident is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122. To remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or submit information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

OPP’S YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SET FOR AUGUST

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are pleased to announce that the annual Youth Leadership Program will be held from Tues-

day, August 4, 2026, to Friday, August 7, 2026, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

By definition, leadership means, “action of leading a group of people or an organization.” Since 2003, Caledon OPP Community Mobilization Unit (CMU) officers, along with the Optimist Club of Caledon, have been engaging with local youth to demonstrate the importance of community service, involvement, compassion, and leadership in their community.

During this four-day program, students will be given the opportunity to engage in a variety of community activities aimed at giving back to their community while interacting with Caledon OPP officers and fellow students.

Applicants interested in applying to the program must meet the following criteria:

- Be a resident of Caledon;
- Currently in high school (grade 9 to 12);
- Be motivated to actively participate;
- Possess a genuine interest in contributing to the community in a meaningful way;
- Be a team player and work well with others.

Applicants are required to submit an OPP permission form signed by the applicant’s parent/guardian along with a brief essay (minimum of 250 words) written by the applicant. The essay should outline reasons for the applicant’s interest and identify what the applicant has to offer to the program.

OPP permission forms are available through email by contacting 17463@opp.ca. If email is not an option, contact us by calling (905) 584-2241 to make alternate arrangements. Space is limited so please return the permission form and essay to the Caledon OPP detachment (drop-off or email) no later than July 5, 2026. Successful applicants will be notified during the week of July 13, 2026.

In addition to earning a sense of satisfaction from being able to give back to their community, participants will also gain 40 hours of community work, a requirement to graduating high school.

For more information regarding the program, please contact 17463@opp.ca.

This program is supported by the Optimist Club of Caledon and relies on community support and involvement to ensure its continued success. All donations go towards the operational expenses associated with the program.

For instructions on how to donate, please contact Sue Montgomery from the Optimist Club of Caledon at suemontgomery@live.ca.

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18. What a kid does on Halloween	41. Get away	15. Women’s patriotic group	33. MLB lefty reliever
21. Monetary unit	42. Something you might hit	17. When you anticipate getting	34. An assembly of witches
22. Using dry humor	43. Soviet Socialist Republic	somewhere	36. High energy lasers (abbr.)
23. Ocean	CLUES DOWN		
24. Greek goddess of	1. Abstain from	19. Functions	

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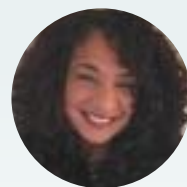


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BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Maximizing Summer

After a long, arduous winter that extended far longer into May than it had any business to, there was a cause for celebration this past weekend when warm weather mercifully coincided with what is, for many, the unofficial start of the Summer Season.

Victoria Day has come and gone, leaving the early foundations of a Canadian summer in its wake, even if the season doesn't technically arrive until the Solstice on Sunday, June 21.

Now, Victoria Day means different things to different people.

Officially, it's an observance of the Sovereign's Official Birthday in Canada, pinned to the third Sunday of each May, a permanent birthday salute to Queen Victoria, the monarch that oversaw the creation of modern Canada and who is often cited as the "Mother of Confederation."

The more history-minded of us might be rather orthodox in celebrating the occasion as it was originally meant to be observed, but Victoria Day isn't necessarily everyone's cup of tea – it is, after all, National Patriots Day in Quebec.

Thankfully Victoria Day can be a choose-your-own-adventure kind of affair.

To that end, this year I have to say I opted to hop off my historical high horse to embrace the spirit of the new season.

The promise of some much-needed warmth after an unseasonably cold and consistently rainy late April and early May, had so many of us counting down the days – and looking for ways to maximize the sun and heat while the going was good.

And maximize it we did.

The weekend kicked off with a lovely barbeque hosted by a friend, which was a great opportunity to catch up, as well as meet several new people, from many different parts of the world, in fact, who offered some unique and valuable perspectives on some of the biggest issues facing our world today. All in all, an enlightening evening in the great outdoors with great company.

The outdoorsy theme continued on Sunday with a family trip to an outdoor antique market near Hamilton. An outing that was also something of a do-over for Mother's Day celebrations, it was a wonderful morning and afternoon of treasure hunting – and, thankfully, there were no shortage of Queen Victoria portraits, busts, commemorative tea cups, and more, to satisfy my history nerdery – followed by a beautiful patio dinner.

Monday, the first Victoria Day in quite some time in which I had an actual day off, was a leisurely day in the City of Toronto, particularly the waterfront area.

The areas around Harbourfront, the Toronto Islands, and places in between, are always fascinating, and a unique place to unplug and reconnect amid a truly bustling metropolis. It's special ability to allow you to unplug, if only for a little bit, continues unabated, but some of the challenges ahead were never too far from mind.

Walking westward along the boardwalk just behind Harbourfront Centre, for instance, it was hard to miss how exposed the city's landmark Cinesphere, the iconic heart of what was once Ontario Place, has become as work continues to controversially transform the site for generations to come.

It was also hard not to think how much this landscape will change in the coming months, for better or worse, and how so many unanswered questions surrounding the site and the deal may influence what we see down the road.

The view of the Cinesphere was blotted out

from time to time by aircraft landing on and taking off from Billy Bishop Airport.

A vital transportation hub on the island, its future is being questioned as the Province of Ontario flexes its muscles to significantly expand the airport to allow for jets, despite the opposition of the City of Toronto, the residents who live on the island, the majority of residents in the city beyond the waterfront, and advocates who have been sounding significant environmental alarms.

A quick ferry trip across the water only highlights both the environmental significance and the fragility of the island itself as a brief walk along the beach near the airport reveals a shoreline that has been nothing short of decimated by the winter elements, a problem that gets worse with each passing season, and little done to address it.

The start of summer – officially or unofficially – was a busy one, and that's a pace that is only set to continue until it, well, doesn't.

As the end of May approaches, it often feels like it is crunch time for so many people in the community to get stuff done, cramming in just about every announcement, gala, school fair, fundraiser, and more into a very short period of time, the idea being that once June wraps up, the entire community either decamps to a cottage or tunes out to enjoy the slower pace of the season and all that comes with it.

While I believe that has long been an outmoded idea as the economic realities of cottage ownership, vacation planning, and even weekend getaways are what they are, it's an idea that persists – and that's a shame, particularly in an election year.

Whether it's the transformation of Ontario Place, the potential expansion of Billy Bishop Airport, and the environmental precariousness of the island its attached to, all of these decisions, or lack thereof in the case of island restoration, are all three issues that rely and have relied on something that all too many of us take for granted today – the simple vote. And at all levels of government.

The approach of summer might seem like a time to slow down where you can, take in all the season has to offer, and recharge your batteries. While that's all well and good, it's important in a municipal election year like this to stay engaged, consider your own priorities, the future you want for yourselves and others, and the best possible paths to achieve those goals.

Municipal politics has never been the "sexiest" politics offered by our three levels of government but, at the end of the day, it's the level of government that has the most immediate impact on your lives.

To that end, it's essential to stay in the loop rather than go into the voting booth uninformed – or, worse, not at all.

On the other side of the coin, if you're running for a leadership position in our communities, you're gearing up for one heck of a job interview.

Summer might be a great time to attend events, shake some hands, get your faces out there, and gain some new name recognition, but it's also a great time to be used wisely in getting your positions out there, listen to what voters are saying, and show how you'll be able to foster what the community is looking for.

Economic circumstances largely beyond our control will likely make the arguable summer exodus a thing of the past, at least for the time being.

The only thing we can do is make the most of it – for now and in the future.



A sense of humor is what keeps us humans going

by Mark Pavilons



"Laughter is the closest distance between two people." – Victor Borge

Life is funny, in every sense of the word. My trusty lexicon defines funny as "causing light mirth and laughter ... amusing ... seeking or intended to amuse ..."

It can also mean something different, peculiar, perplexing even suspicious or eccentric.

While most of us believe humans are the only ones with a funny bone, some of our animal brethren share our joy. Apes, rats, dolphins are known to share a good rib-tickler.

While they may not be able to grasp the total nuances of a good knock-knock joke, they can experience laughter. And that, my friends, is what makes everything on this planet so very special.

Can you imagine a world without laughter? Heck, I laugh 10-15 times per day, and sometimes at myself. My family members often catch me chuckling under my breath.

Laughter in humans is inherent, and children as young as 15 weeks express themselves this way.

Really, what's funny at 15 weeks? Fact is, babies laugh before they can speak. Cool, eh?

Some scientists argue there are some very good reasons why we smile and laugh. It's a mechanism that everyone on the planet recognizes, regardless of language or culture. Laughter tickles many parts of our brains, from the prefrontal cortex and hypothalamus to the limbic system.

Most of us laugh to express joy and this feel-good mechanism also releases tension and even "psychic energy." Laughter is also used as a therapeutic tool.

Mark Twain said the human race's one really effective weapon is laughter.

Laughter, according to talk show host Stephen Colbert, is medicine. "It's an entire regime of antibiotics and steroids. Laughter brings the swelling down on our national psyche and then applies an antibiotic cream."

And there's the rub. Was humour invented, or is it part of what we are as a species? What creature could survive the harsh, cruel world if it were not for flippancy, jocularity, whimsy and playfulness? We'd surely go insane.

Yet it literally took us thousands of years to embrace humor. It wasn't used the same way we use it today until the 18th century. Previously, few scholars, writers or philosophers gave it much thought. Sure, Shakespeare played around with comedy, but his tales were far from humorous. Plato even said "the ridiculous is a certain kind of evil ..."

Of course, there was little to laugh about in Medieval Europe and the Puritans surely didn't express themselves thusly.

For such an intrinsic and necessary part of human nature, I find it funny (pun intended) that the brains of our forefathers neglected tomfoolery.

From an early age, I recognized the power of levity. The value of a well-placed wisecrack is immeasurable. Apparently, studies have shown that the vast majority of men and women value a sense of humour in their partners.

So, through my school years, I was, more often than not, the class jester, promoting amusement at every chance. Sure, it landed me in the principal's office from time to time, but it was well worth it.

As complicated as humans are, I have always found humour to be a rather simple thing. It levels the playing fields, all the time. It has the ability to bring people together – even a room filled with strangers.

Humour has to be spontaneous, reflect life, and be hard-hitting at times. What's wrong with making you laugh and think at the same time?

To me, humour is like a shovel, digging my way out of a dark and dreary hole. It doesn't really matter how I ended up in this void, but jocularity is often my ladder, the only way I can climb out.

When one is stricken with a life-altering ailment or disease, humour becomes even more important. During my time so far "coping with cancer," I must say that a few wisecracks have saved me from misery. I've lived my entire life with playfulness in my heart, why give it up now?

I've even welcomed the odd one-liner from my family members, remarking on my chemo-induced hairstyle. If clowning around could lead to a cure, I'd be all set.

I will continue to fight the dark shadows with my balloon sword and well-placed jabs.

Studies have also shown that keeping those funny bones clanging can improve one's health.

In my cancer journey, I will admit I've been dragged down more often than I should have permitted myself to be. My shiny armor of laughter has been dented and tarnished, but I will not admit defeat.

From relieving stress to boosting creativity and productivity, laughter is the key. It's been said that a sense of humor is how we experience and navigate life's challenges.

I don't know if a positive outlook and frequent guffaws will improve my immune system. What I believe is humor is a great tool to create social bonds, workplace relationships and even enhance our family dynamic. Most of my family members think I'm nuts and the smirks begin before the strange words even leave my lips. I am glad they have all developed their own, unique senses of humour. It's a gift.

Mix it with a dash of sarcasm, facetiousness and mockery, and you've got it made!

"Laughter heals all wounds, and that's one thing that everybody shares. No matter what you're going through, it makes you forget about your problems. I think the world should keep laughing." – Kevin Hart

Caledon Citizen
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LETTERS
TO
THE EDITOR

brock@lpcmedia.ca • 905-857-6626

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Our Readers Write

Caledon people built things. Ottawa needs to get back

Caledon has been (T)Sold!

One would be hard-pressed to rank the many issues facing Caledon right now, but surely aggregate must be at, or near, the top. From proposed blasting quarries, ongoing pit and quarry expansion requests, the industry related dangers on our roads, and to our environment and water supply, aggregate operations are extracting a heavy toll. Add in Caledon's Site Alteration By-Law and the work of the Aggregate Resources Community Working Group and what you have is a significant amount of time, energy and resources directed at managing gravel.

"Told" or "Sold," one wonders if any of this matters.

That last comment arises as a direct result of the arrival of a letter, sent to Mayor Annette Groves from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Robert Flack. In it, he notes that he "understands" the Town has made draft amendments to its Official Plan that would "reinstate mineral-aggregate related policies that were altered or removed by the Ministry." Further, he notes that the Ministry undertook a review of those modifications to ensure "they align with the provincial policies, plans and legislation," (in other words, what Doug Ford wants for Caledon). In the same paragraph Minister Flack goes on to state, unequivocally, that the review was done in consultation with other ministries and is "not subject to appeal." Finally, in language that is certainly open to interpretation, but which has been interpreted (by me and others) as a possible threat, he comments, "the Ministry expects the Town to implement the mineral aggregate policies now in force ... without further changes."

To me, what this actually says is: "Dear Caledon, you have no say in the matter of aggregate policy as the Doug Ford provincial government has already told us their position and there is no negotiation, or most of the land around Highway 413 has al-

ready been sold to developers and we need your gravel to build highways and homes." Finally, and frankly, it might as well also say that they (the provincial government) have no real concern for Caledon residents, nor the impact on the air we breathe, the water we drink, our general welfare or that of the environment either.

Minister Flack's letter ends with the admonishment that he "strongly recommends" that Caledon "proceed with implementation" of the plans that the government had previously approved, without any changes, and that failure to do so might mean the "Ministry may need to take further action to protect provincial interests."

In other words, Caledon, despite the appearance of democracy, the provincial government "may" or "will" override your decisions whenever it so determines that doing so is necessary.

The letter and an associated conversation came before Council on Tuesday of this week.

Councillors, staff, consultants and members of the public all weighed in on its contents. Calling the letter "very stern," Mayor Groves sought clarity on the position Caledon might take in response, particularly knowing the province could declare a provincial interest and override any Council decision.

Councillor de Boer commented that resident concerns about air quality (for example) if addressed in legislation, would not necessarily impact actual gravel extraction so it would not be an "unreasonable request" to still try and influence provincial policy on residents' behalf.

Other Councillors commented similarly, and asked for clarity about whether we could direct staff to continue working on our own policies (seeing this as an "inflection point" to continue the conversation with the Minister) or if this was simply a waste of time given the province

could override Council? Several comments stood out, including one referencing that it was "unique" to get this kind of letter from a Minister, and that the province could indeed very easily override Council saying, "it's their sandbox." Drawing a comparison to other provincial decisions that stomped on local Council decision-making authority, such as speed cameras or the size of Toronto City Council (for example) Councillors were encouraged to weigh the ongoing effort and expense of continuing this battle against any likely possibility of influencing the province's final decision.

After hearing from delegates including Deb Wilson on behalf of the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group who referenced the four years of hard work from Town staff, Council, her group and others like it, and a June 2024 victory against the gravel industry at the Ontario Land Tribunal, Council was asked to try and find a way to continue to fight on residents behalf. After further discussion, both Councillors and the FCPG asked simply that we attempt to engage in a "meaningful dialogue" with the Minister. In other words, do not give up just yet. Mayor Groves committed to making a phone call to the Minister, while staff were directed to reach out to the Minister's office and report back to Council on June 16.

Either way, much of Caledon has been "sold" out to developers and this letter was certainly an example of Caledon being "told" what to do. Whether the province will at least consider resident health, and water and environmental concerns as an excuse to re-engage in any "meaningful dialogue" remains to be seen.

Caledon residents know how to build things. The business builders, the contractors building houses before the rest of the GTA is awake, the farmers who've worked the same land for generations — they all understand something that seems to elude official Ottawa: you must create value to spend it.

For decades, this community has voted Conservative because Conservatives at least paid lip service to that idea. But somewhere along the way, federal politics stopped being about competence and started being about performance. Canadians are now paying the price, literally.

I was one of those business builders. With the help of many talented people, I founded and built two high tech companies that changed the way things are done around the world in our industry. Our customers were global household names. We attracted very smart people and paid them well while they created world-beating technology. They raised their families right here. They supported local businesses. Collectively we brought a lot of money into Canada through our exports, the vast majority of which went to taxes and directly into the Canadian economy.

Canada faces a genuine economic reckoning. The trade chaos with the United States has exposed what happens when a country lets itself become a client state rather than a sovereign economic power. We have vast natural resources, a highly educated workforce, and access to both oceans. Yet we've allowed our industrial base to hollow out, our productivity to lag, and our trade relationships to depend almost entirely on one neighbour who has made clear it will not always act in our interest.

The answer isn't tariff wars or nationalist chest-thumping. It's doing what Caledon entrepreneurs do every day: figure out what the world needs, build it better than anyone else, and find the customers. There is no shortage of talent and determination here. Canada can and should be a global leader in energy, agriculture, critical minerals, advanced manufacturing, and technology. That's not ideology, that's the core of a sustainable business plan.

And here's the part that gets lost in the left-right shouting match: We are in a tough spot. We need all hands on deck. Government and Opposition must collaborate to build a better Canadian capability.

When Canada earns its way in the world, we can afford the things that define us — healthcare, strong communities, support for those who need it. Our social programs aren't a luxury. They're what a prosperous, confident country does. But prosperity has to come first. You can't write cheques on an empty account. Canada needs a thriving private sector that competes on the world stage.

I found that Canada's newest political party, the Canadian Future Party, understands this. Not left, not right — forward. Evidence-based policy, fiscal discipline, and a clear-eyed view of what Canada must become to thrive in a turbulent century.

The Leader of the Canadian Future Party, Dominic Cardy, will be at the Palgrave Equestrian Centre, 200 Pine Ave, Palgrave on Monday June 1 to speak and take your hard questions. Admission and parking is free. Start time 7 pm. All are welcome. RSVP requested but not required at phildeon.cfp@gmail.com

Find out more: <https://www.thecanadianfutureparty.ca/who-we-are/policy>

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ARTS & CULTURE

Rotary Club of Caledon Wines of the World returns for 27th Year

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Returning to the Caledon Equestrian Park on Saturday, June 6, is the Rotary Club of Caledon's biggest fundraising event of the year: Wines of the World.

The Rotary Club encourages the community to attend a night of fun, while supporting a great cause.

Attendees will be able to "sip their way" around the world with more than 30 wines to sample, including favourites from local win-

eries.

For those who aren't wine drinkers, local craft beer from Caledon Hills Brewing Company will also be available.

The Rotary Club is encouraging guests to come hungry, as Absolute Catering will bring various delicacies, along with spit-roasted pig from Coyote Enterprises.

Entertainment will include live music from The Edge and the excitement of the Angelstone Grand Prix.

100 per cent of the proceeds from the event support local and international Rotary projects and initiatives, allowing them to contin-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ue giving back to the Caledon community.

Janice Bezanson, Treasurer for the Rotary Club of Caledon, says that Wines of the World is their cornerstone fundraising event, from which they raise the majority of their funding to give out throughout the year.

In the 27 years of Wines of the World, more than \$500,000 in proceeds have been returned to the community.

This year, 10 per cent of proceeds will also be donated to Alpha Dogs Robotics.

Each year, the Rotary Club selects a charity or organization to which a dedicated percentage of its funding is directed; last year, 10 per cent was directed to Bethell Hospice.

Bezanson adds that they support the Alpha

Dogs throughout the year and thought the dedicated funds would be a great way to support them.

"It's nice to see the kids in the high school and the community, they have such a passion for it. And, they always need new tools and new toolboxes," says Bezanson.

The event will run from 6 – 9 p.m., and parking is available on site.

Tickets are \$100 per person, non-alcoholic tickets are available for \$40, and discounts apply for groups of 10 or more.

The Rotary Club is also currently seeking sponsors for the event, those interested can contact them at portal.clubrunner.ca/165.



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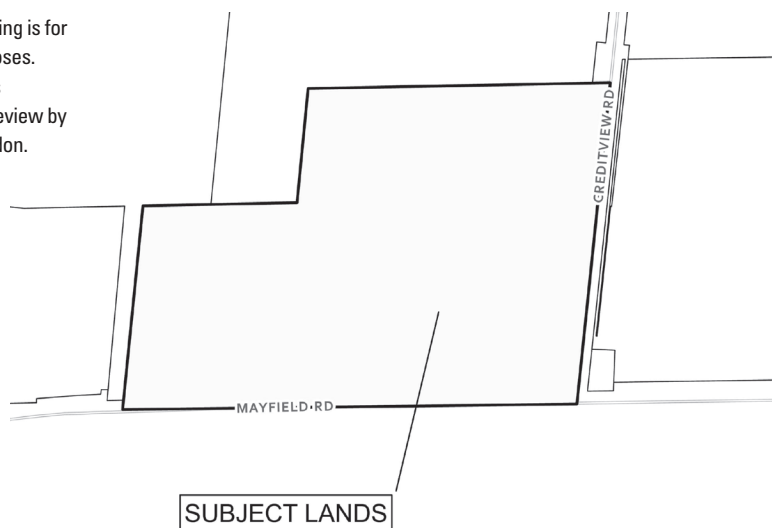
Notice of Intention to Remove a Holding Symbol (H) From Zoning By-law 2006-50, as amended

The Town has received the following application under Section 36 of the Planning Act:

FILE NUMBER: RZ 2026-0009 (related file: SPA 2024-0092)
APPLICANT: Glen Schnarr & Associates on behalf of 12100 Creditview Developments Limited
LOCATION: Southern portion of 12100 Creditview Road
Part of Lot 18, Concession 4

DESCRIPTION:
The purpose of the application is to amend Zoning By-law 2006-50, as amended, to remove a holding symbol (H) to permit the construction of a commercial development within Phase One of the Alloa Secondary Plan. The area where the holding symbol (H) removal applies is noted on the map below.

*The aerial mapping is for information purposes. The application is currently under review by the Town of Caledon.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including supporting material, please visit www.caledon.ca/notices or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to access any materials related to this item in an alternate format please contact Records and Information Services by phone at 905-584-2272 x.2366 or via email at accessibility@caledon.ca.

WRITTEN COMMENTS:

You may provide input by:

- Submitting written correspondence to planning@caledon.ca. Please note that written comments will form part of the public record.

- Contacting Planning staff or the Lead Planner during office hours by phone or email (See contact information below).
- Booking an appointment to visit Town Hall to speak with Planning staff. Visit caledon.ca/development for more information.

LEAD PLANNER:

Tanjot Bal
Senior Planner, Development & Design
Planning Department
905-584-2272 ext. 4418
Tanjot.bal@caledon.ca

Notice Date: May 21, 2026

Village of Inglewood Association to host one of the biggest community days of the year

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Village of Inglewood Association (VIA) is hosting a community plant sale and village-wide garage sale this Saturday, May 23, giving the community a chance to explore all that Inglewood has to offer.

The day will begin at 8 a.m., with the start of the Village Garage Sale.

The VIA has prepared a map of all participating homes, ensuring residents can pop by every one.

At 9 a.m., the Garden Club Plant Sale begins at the gazebo right outside the fire hall and runs until 11 a.m.

At 11 a.m., down McLaughlin Road, the excitement will continue from The Lost Bear to Coywolf Coffee, where there will be a Business Street Market and the Coywolf Outdoor Market featuring 20 plus local vendors.

"At Coywolf Coffee, we host an annual Spring Market, so I thought it would be a fun opportunity to expand that idea into a larger community-wide event, bringing together residents, local businesses, vendors, and visitors for a full day of shopping, exploring, and connecting in the village," says Jessica Lawrence, Cafe and Retail Manager, Coywolf Enterprises.

She notes the idea for the Inglewood Village Market and Garage Sale came from a collaboration with the Village of Inglewood Association, who were already planning a neighbourhood garage sale.

"What started as a neighbourhood initiative has grown into something bigger that will bring visitors from outside of our community to enjoy our little slice of heaven," she says.

She encourages those to keep an eye on Coywolf Coffee's Instagram and Facebook accounts for event updates, schedules, and the official event map ahead of the day.

Visitors are encouraged to come early, wear comfortable walking shoes, and plan to spend the day exploring everything happening throughout the village.

Parking may be busier than usual, so carpooling is encouraged whenever possible, along with being mindful of residential streets and local traffic.

Event parking will be available at the Inglewood Community Centre and the Inglewood Arena, and guests are encouraged to use these locations when visiting the event.

Closing out the day of fun, from 1 – 4 p.m., there will also be a barbecue and live music.

The VIA invites you to take a trip and experience all that Inglewood has to offer this Saturday.



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Step into an enchanting summer evening at one of Caledon's more anticipated events, set against the breathing backdrop of the Caledon Equestrian Park. A venue as elegant as the occasion itself. This year Wines of the World will be held during Angelstone Grand Prix horse jumping event making this a truly unique evening. The Rotary Club of Caledon invites you to experience this special night that celebrated community spirit, global flavour and local talent.

Wines of the World offers guest the opportunity to sip and savour exquisite wines hailing from renowned vineyards around the globe, as well as selection from our own Ontario wine region. Whether you're a seasoned sommelier, a curious newcomer to the world of wine, there is something delightful for every taste.

Complementing the wines is an unforgettable culinary experience crafted by Absolute Catering, featuring a wide variety of delicious food options sure to satisfy every palate. Guests will also enjoy the mouthwatering aroma and flavour of a pig roasted on site by Coyote Enterprises, adding a unique and memorable touch to the evening. From fine wines to exceptional food, this is an experience not to be missed.

As the sun sinks below the horizon, you will be entertained by Caledon's own The Edge as they perform a wide variety of crowd-pleasing rock, pop, and alternative hits spanning from the 1960s through the new millennium. Blending classic favourites, energetic 80s pop, and iconic 90s alternative rock, The Edge will keep the atmosphere lively and the dance floor moving all evening long.

The is more than just an evening of wine and entertainment it's a celebration with purposes. 100% of the proceeds raised will go directly to support vital local end international projects. 10% of the proceeds will be donated to the Alpha Dogs Robotics. Your presence makes a difference.

Tickets are \$100 with a special \$40 alcohol free options available for those who want to enjoy all the food, music and atmosphere without the wine.

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Fellowship, Friendship and Fun: Probus Club of Bolton and District celebrates 30th anniversary

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

More than 100 members packed the halls of the Albion Bolton Community Centre on May 14 to celebrate the Probus Club of Bolton and District's 30th anniversary, both in style and in line with the club's motto: fellowship, friendship and fun.

Probus Clubs are volunteer-based, non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian organizations that provide opportunities for seniors to get together for meetings, excursions, and fun activities, while prioritizing mental and physical activity.

These clubs believe that strong social connections help people live longer and healthier lives.

The Bolton Probus Club is celebrating 30 years of doing just that.

Founded in May of 1996, Bolton Probus' history is woven with Carl Henry Ingebertson's legacy.

Ingebertson was stated to be "one of the most influential figures in the development of Probus in Ontario" and was instrumental in the creation and early development of the Probus Club of Bolton.

At the celebration, members took the time to recognize his history and help lay the foundation for their club.

President Graham Ferguson noted that over 100 members attended that day, explaining that at their meetings, more than 60 members typically attend.

He says their events range in style and flair from walking groups to kitchen events, book clubs, barbecues, and more to keep their members connected and having fun.

Lining the tables in the back were sign-up sheets for their various upcoming activities. Members could be seen scrawling their names for movie night, tribute band performances, and even a donkey sanctuary tour.

Chuck Heroux, District Director for Ontario District 2, attended the event that day as well, noting that meeting Probus mem-



Acting Mayor Doug Maskell presents President Graham Ferguson with a certificate recognizing the anniversary.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

bers across the district is one of the best parts of his job.

When he visits Probus Clubs, he adds, he is often told by members that Probus "saved their life."

Heroux explains that the club's goals of fighting social isolation are key and why staying connected through groups like this is so important.

Various local organizations supported the celebration; Fortinos, Giant Tiger, Mars Canada, and Home Depot each con-

tributed to the celebration that day.

Acting Mayor Doug Maskell attended the celebration, sharing that both his mother-in-law and father-in-law are members of Probus Clubs themselves, often noting the opportunities they have to connect with the community, and the activities they've gotten up to.

"We know that one of the great pains of retirement for many people is some isolation, as we move away from some of those work colleagues we might have had, may-

be a family moved away, it's very, very difficult to maintain those connections in our community. And so, Probus plays a really important role in creating new connections and maintaining other ones over the course of many years," said Maskell.

"The great thing about Probus is its motto, fellowship, friendship, and fun, and when I look out here I can see people who are happy to be here today, who are keeping those connections within their community and with each other."



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Council moves ahead with proposed aggregate policy updates despite Minister warning

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At May 19's Planning and Development meeting, Caledon Council decided to move ahead with their proposed aggregate policy update process, despite having received a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Rob Flack, weeks earlier.

In a May 4 letter, Minister Flack noted that Caledon Council had prepared a draft amendment to its Official Plan that would "reinstate mineral aggregate-related policies that were altered or removed by the Ministry."

"The decision is final and not subject to appeal. The Ministry therefore expects the Town to implement the mineral aggregate policies now in force, as approved through Official Plan Amendment 1, without further changes," stated Flack.

"I strongly recommend that the Town withdraw its proposed amendment and proceed

with implementation of its current Official Plan, including the mineral aggregate policies

approved through Official Plan Amendment 1. If the Town does not do so, the Ministry

may need to take further action to protect provincial interests."

At the May 19 meeting, Staff presented three options to Council: Proceed, Revise or Withdraw with the proposed official plan and zoning by-law amendments, ask-

ing them how Staff should proceed with the matter.

This began when, back in January of 2026, the Province approved the Town's Official

Plan Amendment #1 (Mineral Aggregates) with numerous modifications. Council then directed staff to review the modifications to OPA 1 and report back by April 21 on priority matters for inclusion in a potential further OPA.

Following this, staff proposed that a zoning by-law amendment (ZBA) be prepared to repeal and replace the previous aggregates ZBA.

Since then, public engagement sessions have been held, and drafts have been posted to the Town's website.

Staff added that if they do proceed, the Province could potentially declare provincial interest and effectively become the approval authority, and Staff would expect that would result in similar modifications to the first amendment that the Province made.

"I think the province has given the corporation a pretty clear direction, what they think about the contents of OPA1 and what they think about this constituent assignment so far," says Joe Nethery, Lead Planner.

Council debated pushing back on the matter and what would be most beneficial to the residents of Caledon, noting potential room for negotiation, especially when it comes to air quality, something Council members noted directly affects residents

of the community.

Councillors also noted that this was an opportunity to discuss the letter and the draft with the Minister.

Debra Wilson of the Forks of the Credit Conservation Group delegated to Council, saying that reading the letter from the Province that "states the Town's proposed amendment would work against these provincial objectives is not just puzzling, it's ridiculous."

"We just want to talk, and truly, that's not a lot to ask. It certainly doesn't need to be met with a not-so-veiled threat," says Wilson.

"We are calling on the province to immediately withdraw its ultimatum and engage in meaningful consultation with the Town of Caledon regarding the revised aggregate policies. We maintain that municipalities must retain the ability to protect their communities, drinking water and natural heritage while balancing provin-

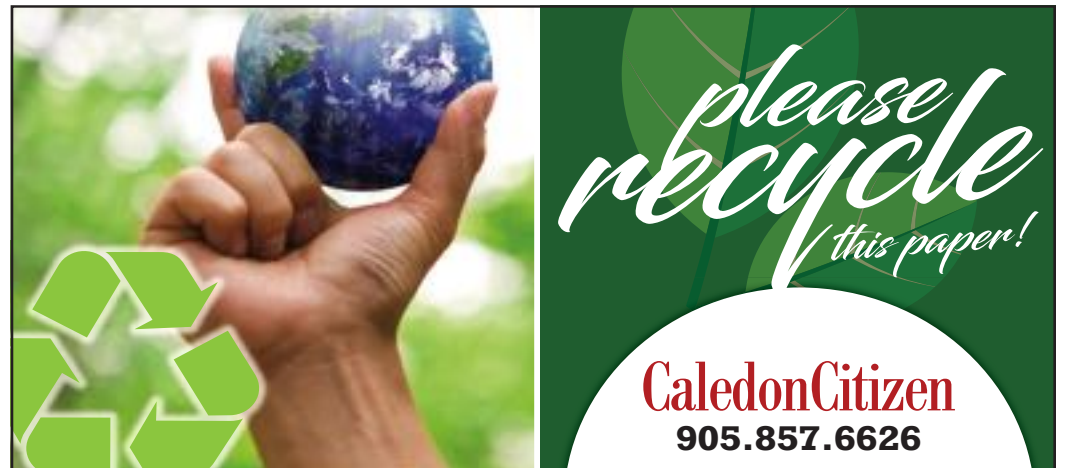
cial interests," says Wilson.

Council echoed Wilson's point, noting the opportunity to have consultation with the Minister in response to the letter, adding that what they're asking needs to be communicated, that it does not "impact the provincial mandate or the provincial interests."

A recommendation report on the proposed OPA is set to come forward at the June 16 Planning and Development meeting for Council consideration.

Staff informed the Council that, between now and that time, there is an opportunity for Staff to have conversations with the Minister's office regarding these proposals.

Council moved to wait until the June 16 meeting, where they will be able to see the recommendation from Staff, presented with all the information and justifications.



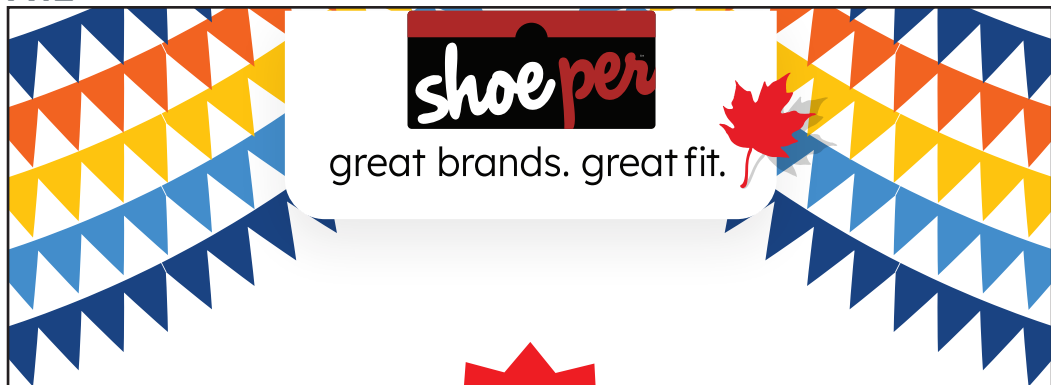
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Caledon Seniors Centre tees up for 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon Seniors Centre's (CSC) annual golf tournament, taking place on Tuesday, June 23, at Glen Eagle Golf Course in Bolton, returning for its fifth year, and this year is set to be par for the course!

The yearly golf tournament is a key fundraising initiative for the centre, allowing them to continue running their numerous programs for seniors in the Caledon community.

Serving seniors in Bolton, Caledon East, Caledon Village, Southfields, Valleywood and Inglewood, the centre aims to promote active living and healthy lifestyles for adults aged 55 and over.

"The impact of the Caledon Seniors Centre extends far beyond physical wellness helping ease social isolation by creating a welcoming space where friendships flourish and no one feels alone," says Beverley Nurdan, Centre Manager, in a press release.

Proceeds from the tournament help the centre not only continue to grow and sustain their programs, but also directly support activities that promote social interaction, physical fitness, and lifelong learning for seniors.

New this year to the tournament will be a 9-hole tournament, providing a faster-paced option alongside the classic 18-hole.

CSC states this year's event is shaping up to be the best yet, and those who register before June 1 are entered into the Early Bird Draw with a

chance to win a foursome at Glen Eagle for any weekday round of golf.

When it comes to registration, 9-hole golfers can register as an individual for \$120 or join as a foursome for \$440, and 18-hole golfers can register as an individual for \$165 or join as a foursome for \$640.

Registration includes a BBQ lunch on the patio at 12 noon, and both tournaments will be played in a scramble format, with the 9-hole tournament shotgun starting at 9:30am and the 18-hole at 1:00pm.

Fees also cover cart rental, chances to win prizes and more.

Golfers will also have the opportunity to win the Hole-in-One grand cash prize of \$10,000.

Running alongside the grand prize, there will be key prizes for Closest to the Pin, a Putting Contest, Landing on the Green, Closest to the Pin, and all golfers will receive a free welcome bag.

"The Caledon Seniors Centre Golf Tournament is a significant fundraising event for the Centre. It is more than just a day on the green, it's a powerful way to support the well-being of seniors in our community," stated RaDeana Montgomery, Fundraising Coordinator.

With their fundraising goal set for \$100,000 for the 2026 tournament, Montgomery said this will ensure they can continue to offer existing and future programs for a healthy lifestyle.

Golf registration is online at caledonseniors.ca/fundraising-events/charity-golf-tournament.

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Ontario government introduces proposed changes to AMPS for Illegal Land Use

Continued from FRONT

Flack said this proposed legislation would save municipal partners both time and money, reducing the time and effort that's needed to go to court.

He noted the toll that illegal truck yards take on communities, citing noise, odours, excessive lighting, and adverse effects on agricultural lands.

Currently, municipalities can prosecute offenders who contravene zoning bylaws, but doing so requires significant staff time and may take years to resolve in court.

Municipalities can now immediately address these issues through AMPS.

The AMPS can be assigned to the land title, property owner, or corporation.

Flack added the AMPS are designed to enforce compliance proportional to the offence, "the fine has to match the crime."

"This has been an issue that's been a long-standing issue for us here in this community," said Mayor Annette Groves, noting a time when Caledon was battling 300 illegal truck yards.

"Not only does it have an impact on our quality of life here, but it certainly has an impact on our roads," said Groves. "We fought for change...we raised it at AMO, we raised it at ROMA, and we are so proud of the work that the community did."

"This was one of the key areas that we had to target to ensure we got everyone into compliance," said Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "If you do it the right way, there is a benefit to doing that. If you're doing it the wrong way, the full force of the law will be applied."

"Illegal truck yards have been a major concern for residents across Caledon, disrupting rural communities, damaging local roads and threatening the integrity of our agricultural land," said Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon.

"These proposed changes would give municipalities the stronger enforcement tools they need to crack down on unlawful land uses, protect our communities and preserve the farmland that is so important to our region."

Alan Boughton, who sits on the Illegal Land Use Task Force, said they've seen too low of fines that also remain unpaid, either switching ownership or moving to another yard.

"The only way we're going to have a positive effect is to put the maximum fines on for the repeat offenders, attach it to the tax roll, so that if they go to flip the land out to somebody else, you've got to discharge the fine on the tax roll before you can do the transfer. It's really that simple," says Boughton.

"The fines have to be such a major deterrent to stop them from doing what they're doing, and it has to be attached to the tax law."



Rob Flack addresses the crowd gathered in Caledon Town Hall on May 20.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Public Notice Peel Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

King Street and Emil Kolb Parkway Watermain and Sanitary Sewer Project Project 24-1190

Background:
The Flow | South Caledon Program is a capital program led by Peel Region to expand water and wastewater infrastructure across Peel Region. The Flow | South Caledon Program will support both current and future service demands by constructing new watermains, sanitary sewers, sanitary forcemains and both water and wastewater facilities across the south Caledon and Bolton communities. These improvements will expand system capacity for new neighbourhoods, and employment areas, while ensuring residents continue to receive clean, safe, and reliable drinking water and effective wastewater services.

The Project:
As part of the Flow | South Caledon Program, Peel Region is undertaking the King Street and Emil Kolb Parkway Watermain and Sanitary Sewer, Project 24-1190. The project includes the construction of new underground watermain and sanitary sewer infrastructure along King Street, extending 675 metres west of Humber Station Road to Emil Kolb Parkway. The watermain will then continue south along Emil Kolb Parkway to King Street West to the future Macville Booster Pump Station.

These servicing improvements form part of Peel Region's broader commitment to delivering the infrastructure necessary to support provincial housing objectives and long-term community needs.

Public Information Centre :
Peel Region will be hosting a Public Information Centre (PIC) to provide residents and businesses with an opportunity to learn more about the planned works, review project information, and speak directly with members of the Project Team regarding potential impacts.

Date: Thursday June 4, 2026
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: Albion Bolton Community Centre, Auditorium
150 Queen Street South, Bolton

The Public Information Centre will be held as an informal drop-in session. Members of the public are welcome to attend at any time during the event to review project display materials and speak directly with representatives from Peel Region and the Project Team. For those unable to attend in person, all PIC materials will be posted on the project webpage following the event at peelregion.ca/construction/project-24-1190.

Keeping you informed:
Peel Region values your input and encourages you to review the PIC materials and submit any comments or questions by July 5, 2026 through the online form available at peelregion.ca/construction. To learn more about this project and the broader Flow | South Caledon Program, please visit peelregion.ca/flow-program. You can also sign up to receive e-notices and project updates at peelregion.ca/construction/signup. If you have any questions, require additional information, or would like to contact us directly, please contact the Project Team at 905-791-7800 x 4409 or construction@peelregion.ca. Peel Region is committed to providing accessible services and programs. If you require accommodations to participate, please contact us directly.

The Project Area:

This notice was first issued on May 21, 2026

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DMZ finds permanent home in Caledon, helping local entrepreneurs build stronger businesses



PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Continued from FRONT

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May 14 not only celebrated the opening for the next cohort of businesses, but it also marked the Humber River Centre Incubator's evolution into DMZ Caledon following the pilot year, a change DMZ marks as a "long-term bet on Caledon's entrepreneurs."

During the pilot year, DMZ Caledon engaged 47 local businesses through targeted workshops and mentorship, and 15 startups partici-

pated in its inaugural cohort.

Now, applications have officially opened for the next cohort, and local leaders and businesses gathered at the Humber River Centre to celebrate.

At the celebration, a panel of entrepreneurs from the first program discussed what they had learned.

Members included Zainab C. Williams from FundEvolve, an AI-powered financial wellness platform, and Taylor Arrowsmith and Shaina Lindeyer from the bakery Blissfully Baked x The Little Almond.

Lindeyer and Arrowsmith began the conversation by saying they were stuck at the "what's next" part of their business, unsure of how to grow or what the right next step was.

"When we found out about the DMZ program here in Caledon, we did not hesitate to join when we were told we should, and we took a lot from it," said Arrowsmith.

Williams said she didn't "need to be convinced" when she was told about DMZ Caledon.

"DMZ is already well-known as a platform that launches really great entrepreneurs, and having access to it in Caledon was just a game-changer."

She had just finished refining her product and wanted to explore ways to better communicate with users.

The founders reflected on turning points in their businesses during their twelve-week incubator program, which ranged from finding new resources to social media integration.

Founders can meet with "mentors" and program leads to learn specific new skills, have in-depth conversations, and even build customized plans.

Williams said one of the most impactful moments for her was during a mentorship session when the mentor reviewed every aspect of her business and gave her back a 360-degree perspective.

"Just taking that back, it made me realize that I was focused more on building and building and building instead of remembering why I was building," said Williams.

The founders also spoke to tangible results they saw through the program.

One of the sessions was on social media, where Arrowsmith and Lindeyer learned about targeted ads. From there, they were able to implement them and heard directly from customers about the impact it had on their reach.

Williams said being able to speak with mentors who had been on a similar path before her and seeing their journey made a big impact.

"For a lot of us entrepreneurs, we always think that when you're thinking about technology, you're just associating yourself with Toronto which, in fact, we have such a large base here in Caledon of really fantastic entrepreneurs and by having an actual ecosystem like this, it opens so many doors and so many possibilities to realize that you're not alone on this journey," said Williams. "When the Town of Caledon supports entrepreneurs, it starts to foster that community of innovation, of collaboration."

With Caledon expected to grow to a city of 300,000 residents by 2051, the topic that day was how to ensure local businesses became a strong part of that growth.

"When we think about the future, we think about housing and schools and all those kinds of things, but we also have to think about what does the economic future of Caledon look like?" asked Acting Mayor Doug Maskell at the kick-off event. "It's going to change profoundly in the next 20 years. When I come to an event like this and I see the future before me and where we're going to go and where we're going to grow, it makes me feel that we're moving in the right direction."

Caledon's CAO Nathan Hyde also noted the expected growth, adding that "Caledon is small, but Caledon is mighty, and we're going to get where we need to go through partnerships."

Hyde remarked that the Town of Caledon knows strong communities are built through partnerships, and that is why the partnership with DMZ has been "so impactful."

"What began just as a pilot has quickly become a strong example of how smaller communities can build thriving innovation ecosystems outside of major urban centers," said Hyde.

"This work demonstrates how strategic partnerships can foster local innovation while connecting Caledon entrepreneurs to broader regional and global networks."

Dr. Roberta Iannacito-Provenzano, Provost and Vice-President, Academic at Toronto Metropolitan University, provided remarks from TMU, reflecting on when the program first launched a year prior.

"Our goal was simple, yet ambitious, to see what happens when you bridge the gap between world-class start-up resources and the immense talent pool here in Caledon. In just 12 months, the momentum has been nothing short of extraordinary," said Iannacito-Provenzano.

She also noted that communities such as Caledon demonstrate that with the right support systems, mentorship and partnerships, "dedicated entrepreneurs can thrive everywhere."

"Innovation, I really believe, is not about geography, it's about opportunity," said Iannacito-Provenzano.

Iannacito-Provenzano said she is excited to see the program sharpen its focus on sectors that are "vital to Caledon's future," such as housing and community development innovation.

As the program enters its second year, it was stated that DMZ Caledon will focus on housing, supporting founders developing solutions across construction, planning, design and related service industries.

Abdullah Snobar, Executive Director of DMZ and CEO of DMZ Ventures, said that when they began working with smaller communities, the partnerships proved "very rewarding and fruitful."

Snobar echoed Iannacito-Provenzano's earlier point, saying that their incubator isn't just about working with cities that have "big skylines," but instead about working with everyone, "and that's where true prosperity starts to flourish."

"People in Caledon know how to build businesses because they focus on things like trust, relationships, and the community buy-ins," said Snobar. "They roll up their sleeves, they solve real problems, and more importantly, they build with grit and hustle."

"Entrepreneurship doesn't belong to big cities alone. It belongs to people willing to take risks and solve problems and bet on themselves. Communities like Caledon offer founders something incredibly valuable."

Snobar said at DMZ, they believe innovation grows strongest when communities have the tools to build from where they are, rather than moving cities to try to build from there.

With applications now open for future cohorts, supported by the Town, selected founders can utilize the program for free and access services such as mentorship and coaching, founder development programming, workshops, and more.

Applications close on July 10, 2026.

Notice of Application for Approval to Expropriate Land

Form 2 Expropriations Act

In the matter of an application by the Ministry of Transportation for approval to expropriate land, pursuant to s.11(2) and subsection 11.1(3) of the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act*, being in the Geographic Township of Chinguacousy, Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel, Province of Ontario.

For the purposes of: Subject lands are required for the proposed ROW of Highway 413, Highway 410 extension and freeway to freeway ramps, transitway, and interchange ramps from west of Kennedy to Dixie along the Highway 413 alignment and from Mayfield to Highway 413 along the Highway 410 alignment and all works related hereto.

Notice is hereby given that application has been made for approval to expropriate the land described in the schedule attached hereto.

The approving authority is the Minister of Transportation with an address of:

Minister of Transportation
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8
416-327-9200

Any owner of lands in respect of which notice is given, who desires to comment on the proposed expropriation of the land for the described purpose(s) may do so by submitting the comment within the time stated herein to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Transportation Infrastructure Management Division, Ministry of Transportation, in writing.

The Ministry will review the comments for their technical/engineering information, having regard to the need for the land for the purposes of the project.

The Assistant Deputy Minister must receive the comments within thirty days after the owner is served with this notice, or within thirty days after the first publication of the notice.

The comments must be sent:

By e-mail to: Property.Process@ontario.ca

Or by mail to: Assistant Deputy Minister
Transportation and Infrastructure Management
Ministry of Transportation
4th Floor, Garden City Tower
301 St. Paul Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7R4

Please include the municipal address of the land in the comment.

The expropriating authority is the Minister of Transportation with an address of:

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8
416-327-9200

Minister of Transportation

Per:
c/o Brigitha Thillainadarajah
Conveyancing Supervisor
159 Sir William Hearst Avenue
3rd Floor, Bldg. D
Toronto, ON M3M 0B7

SCHEDULE "A"

All right, title and interest in the following lands in Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel, Province of Ontario, being:

- ALL of PIN 14297-0098 (LT), being Part of Lot 24, Concession 1 East of Hurontario Street, Geographic Township of Chinguacousy, Town of Caledon; shown as Parts 1 to 5, all inclusive, on a plan filed with the Ministry of Transportation as P-5152-0064 being a Reference Plan deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Land Titles Division of Peel as Plan 43R-42191.
- PART of PIN 14297-0167 (LT), being Part of Lot 23, Concession 3 East of Hurontario Street, Geographic Township of Chinguacousy, Town of Caledon; shown as Parts 3 and 4 on a plan filed with the Ministry of Transportation as P-5152-0061 being a Reference Plan deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Land Titles Division of Peel as Plan 43R-42160.
- PART of PIN 14297-0168 (LT), being Part of Lot 23, Concession 3 East of Hurontario Street, Geographic Township of Chinguacousy, Town of Caledon; shown as Part 2 on a plan filed with the Ministry of Transportation as P-5152-0061 being a Reference Plan deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Land Titles Division of Peel as Plan 43R-42160; AND shown as Part 4 on a plan filed with the Ministry of Transportation as P-5152-0063 being a Reference Plan deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Land Titles Division of Peel as Plan 43R-42169.
- ALL of PIN 14235-0673 (LT), being Part of Lot 22, Concession 3 East of Hurontario Street, Geographic Township of Chinguacousy, Town of Caledon; shown as Parts 3 and 4 on a plan filed with the Ministry of Transportation as P-5152-0050 being a Reference Plan deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Land Titles Division of Peel as Plan 43R-41897.

THIS NOTICE WAS FIRST PUBLISHED ON MAY 7, 2026.

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“Player First, Community First”: Fafnir’s Hoard aims to create community space in Bolton

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Bolton’s newest local game store, Fafnir’s Hoard, is working to create a community hub for all to enjoy in their own Town, something the owners never had themselves.

Fafnir’s Hoard is owned by three Bolton locals, Austin Thayne, Ben Langlotz, and Gianluca Rizzo, friends for years who came together to create the local gaming store, brand new to Bolton.

When they were in school, Thayne and Langlotz used to drive to Orangeville just to find a community and space to play the collectible trading card game, Magic: The Gathering.

Now, they’ve set out to create what they never had growing up in Bolton.

Thayne went to school for entrepreneurship, initially partnering with another venture beforehand. It wasn’t until a delayed flight home from Calgary that Langlotz and Thayne sat down to discuss the possibility of the business.

“I’ve been playing the trading card games longer than I’ve known either of them combined. So, it was always something I really loved. I didn’t think it was really feasible to do something like this,” says Langlotz.

“I’m [was like] hey, why don’t we just do it?” says Thayne.

Rizzo was the missing piece of the puzzle, bringing in the ever-popular Pokémon knowledge, and the three set off to create a collaborative space for all to enjoy.

Fafnir’s Hoard serves as more than just a trading card store; they hold weekly nights where people can gather and come out to play, such as their Friday Night Magic or Drop-In learning sessions.

More than that, they encourage the community to bring their own games and just enjoy the space.

They have seating throughout for those to drop in and play, and a retail section with single and sealed products to complement and support those hobbies.

Thayne says in-store they promote the



Ben Langlotz, Gianluca Rizzo, and Austin Thayne in Fafnir’s Hoard.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

trading card games, and then sell the trading cards themselves and the accessories that go along to help facilitate play.

They soft-launched in February of 2026 and have since held their official grand opening in Caledon.

“The community support and reception has been incredible,” says Langlotz. “People have been really looking for a space like this in Town, so many people are driving 30, 40 minutes.”

Seeing the community come out and support the way it has, Langlotz says, is “surreal.”

“For me, it’s the people who make the hobby,” says Rizzo. “So for us, the people that we deal with on a daily basis, they’re great people. It’s a cakewalk to deal with these people because they just make our day better.”

Thayne says they very deliberately chose to open their business in Bolton as “we grew up here and we knew there was

nothing to do.”

He adds that even their hours were deliberately set, they’re open six days a week, excluding Tuesdays, and keep their store open until 10 p.m. and 11 p.m.

“We don’t charge for tables or anything. You can just come hang out with your friends, bring your own board game,” says Thayne. “Just a place to hang out that isn’t the bar or the Tim Hortons parking lot.”

Thayne adds they want to be able to provide the space and, in turn, receive feedback on what they should lean into to better facilitate their customers’ hobbies.

“Their engagement and their feedback has been really helpful with strategically developing the products and the games and the companies and brands we choose to work with,” says Thayne.

“The community becomes a little family,” adds Rizzo. “The regulars come around all the time and they don’t come here just to play, they come here to see

people they know.”

“Everybody gets together to hang out and it becomes that space where you’re not just hanging out with your friends, you’re doing something you want to do.”

As their business grows, they’re looking forward to growing into niche areas and more underserved games.

They say the most important thing is that their store is for everyone.

“There’s no real barrier to entry. If you just want to pop in and play your game, pop in and play,” says Thayne.

“Pop in and learn, too. If someone has an interest and even just a curiosity and they want to come check it out, learn a game,” adds Langlotz.

“Anybody can come. It’s not meant for a specific age group. You can be 55, you can be 30. Anybody’s welcome. Anybody can play with anybody else. And at the end of the day, all we ask is you have fun,” says Rizzo.

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Ontario

Meagan Bebenek Foundation and Myah's Wings partner on fundraiser for paediatric brain tumour research



BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Meagan Bebenek Foundation and Myah's Wings, two local organizations fundraising for pediatric brain tumour research, are partnering with Christopher Belausoff from Mount Alverno Luxury Resorts to bring a night of fundraising fun in support of a great cause.

On May 23, from 7.30 p.m. – 12 midnight, the Bet on Hope fundraiser, in honour of Myah's Wings, will run at Mount Alverno Luxury Resorts in support of the foundation.

This charity fundraiser will be an evening filled with entertainment and impact, featuring an open bar, food stations, and a faux casino, all while guests dance to a live DJ.

All proceeds raised during the event will help fund critical research and bring families one step closer to "better treatments, better outcomes."

The Meagan Bebenek Foundation runs many programs, events, and funding opportunities to better support, raise awareness, and provide critical funds for further research on pediatric brain tumours.

Myah's Wings holds yearly fundraisers in honour of Myah Windham, a young girl from Orangeville who battled with Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG), an aggressive and inoperable brain tumour.

Myah passed away in 2015, but her legacy lives on through Myah's Wings and the community that continues to fight for better outcomes for children facing brain cancer.

Now, organizations are working together to fight for a future in which no child should have to endure what Myah did.

Kara Simpson, Director of Operations with the Meagan Bebenek Foundation, explains that through the Canadian government's cancer funding budget, only about seven percent of it is dedicated to pediatric cancer research.

"Then take an even smaller sliver of that for brain tumors," says Simpson. "That's why these fundraisers are so important, it's private philanthropy, private foundation, private money that's helping move the needle."

"This has been our model for 25 years, we've seen some amazing results come to the table and come to fruition, but there's still so much more to go," she adds. "No child should be having to walk this path, let alone have a death sentence because of it."

The foundation is celebrating its 25th year in 2026, and to mark the occasion, they have committed to funding 25 research projects this year alone, each valued at \$25,000.

Myah's Wings hopes to raise \$25,000 on its own to support one of these projects.

Myah's Wings and the foundation have a long history together, and it all began with a hug.

26 years ago, the founder of the Meagan Bebenek Foundation, Denise Bebenek, established the organization following the passing of her five-year-old daughter, Meagan, to a rare and inoperable brain tumour.

"She felt gratitude for the doctors, the researchers, and everybody who had helped them along the journey with Meagan," explains Simpson. "When Meagan passed, and they were leaving the hospital, she had this vision of hugging the hospital and just wrapping arms around everybody who had helped her, but everybody who was also going through something similar."

And so, the human HUG around the hospital that had treated Meagan began, and it grew into a year-round movement.

Simpson explains that Myah herself was a patient at the hospital, and she and her family participated in the hugs and Meagan's Walk.

She adds that when Myah passed, her family wanted to continue that legacy and build the memory of Myah.

They have now been long supporters of the foundation, and attend the hug every year, since Maya has passed. They also do a lot of work locally in Orangeville to fundraise.

"They've been supporting us from inception, Myah's Wings is one of our MBF families, and one of our family teams who does this fundraising, and so it is full circle," says Simpson. "We're all about community, nobody can go through a journey like this alone so to see community come together, that's where something special happens."

"It's a fun night, an amazing price point for what you're getting, but just all in support of this little girl's story," she says.

Nichola Windrim says they always try to promote and include the community in what

they're doing, not just for fundraising, but also for awareness.

She explains that many are unaware of the limited funding pediatric brain tumour research receives.

"It's so important and especially when we've had to live it and deal with the loss and the tragedy," says Windrim. "The reality of a doctor looking at you and saying there's no hope, we can't do anything, go home and enjoy your time, it's not okay. We know the researchers and doctors work hard, but it's not fair. It's not fair to the kids and it's not fair to the families."

Windrim adds that since Myah was diagnosed in 2011, there is still no different treatment to this day.

Even when Myah was diagnosed, Windrim says there had been no change in treatment since the 1960s when Neil Armstrong's daughter, Karen Armstrong, was diagnosed with DIPG.

"Treatment has not changed," says Windrim. "Because of the foundation, there's some trials and there's some really positive things that are coming, but it's because of Denise and the foundation that a lot of these things are happening."

During their annual fundraising events, Myah's Wings has raised \$16,000 for the foundation, from her birthday to her angel day.

"She was a very special little girl, and she continues to be some crazy special light that people are connected to, and she helps us," says Windrim.

Looking at the event, Windrim says she's unsure how much will be raised, but even if it raises awareness among a few more people, it's "considered a success because the more people know, then the further the word goes."

She says the night will be a celebration of hope.

Tickets are \$100, and the event has a capacity of 150 people, so the foundation encourages you to get your tickets early.

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HOW CHILDREN CAN HAVE MEMORABLE SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCES

AS hours of sunlight increase, thoughts may turn to summer vacation. For many children, summer vacation wouldn't be the same without camp.

Adults may have their own fond memories of going to summer camp when they were children because of the opportunities it presented to be independent and meet new people. Campers often bond over shared experiences, whether they are planned activities or unexpected "disasters" like a rainstorm washing out a canoe trip. That is why so many parents choose to carry on the summer camp tradition when they have their own children.

However, some kids may not be ready to jump right into the summer camp lifestyle. Such youngsters may need extra reassurance and support to make the most of their time at camp. The following are some tips for making summer camp an enjoyable experience.

PLAN AHEAD

Families can visit the camp in advance and get a lay of the land. Knowing what to expect in terms of facilities and activities can assuage some anxiety. It also will help campers hone in on what to pack and what to expect over the summer.

TRY MANY NEW ACTIVITIES

Summer camp is about expanding boundaries and interests. Campers should sign up for many activities, including those that normally may be out of their wheelhouse. A camper may be pleased to learn that a new craft activity or a sports game piques his or her interest.

CONNECT WITH FELLOW CAMPERS IN ADVANCE

If the camp has a social media presence,

follow the camp's posts and connect with other like-minded campers even before they arrive. Talking with others who share similar interests can help campers feel more comfortable about meeting up once they arrive at camp.

DEVELOP A RAPPORT WITH CAMP COUNSELLORS

The saying "you only get one chance to make a first impression" extends to campers meeting camp counsellors. When campers interact with counsellors for the first time, they should be outgoing, polite and open to new ideas. Counsellors will appreciate easy-going campers and could be good resources of useful information, such as how to score an extra dessert at mealtime.

FOLLOW THE SAFETY RULES

While campers may spread their wings a bit at summer camp when not under the watchful eyes of parents, any mischief should not come at the expense of safety.

Campers should stick to the safety protocol so that camp is not memorable for the wrong reasons.

CHANGE ANOTHER CAMPER'S EXPERIENCE

A camper who recognizes a fellow camper is reserved and shy can invite that person to come sit with other friends at meals or to participate in an activity. This can help build a lasting friendship and make camp that much more enjoyable for someone in need.

Summer camp season is on the horizon and campers can take several steps to foster memorable and fun experiences along the way.



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THE BENEFITS OF ATTENDING Summer Camp

Summer camp is something akin to a rite of passage for millions of youngsters each year. Many adults look back fondly on their experiences at summer camp, often crediting such times as formative periods in their lives.

Summer camp benefits children in myriad ways. Recognition of the many advantages of attending summer camp can serve as a great reminder of just how fun it can be for children to spend their time away from school at a camp of their choosing.

CAMPERS CONTINUE TO SOCIALIZE THROUGHOUT SUMMER

Socializing isn't just for the school year. While children in high school might be independent enough to come and go with their friends during summer break, kids who are still in elementary school or middle school might not be old enough to handle such freedom. That can make it hard to stay in touch with friends, which in turn can contribute to feelings of boredom and loneliness. Camp provides ample opportunities for young children to socialize during a time of year when they might not see their school friends as often as they're used to.

CAMPERS CAN EXPAND THEIR HORIZONS

Though some summer camps are exclusive to residents of certain communities, many tend to feature children from numerous towns or municipalities. Such camps provide an opportunity for campers to expand their horizons by engaging with youngsters who come from different backgrounds. Indeed, the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University notes that summer camp may be the first time children spend substantial amounts of time with people whose backgrounds differ from their own.

CAMP CAN GET KIDS OFF THEIR DEVICES

Modern children are growing up in a digital world, and parents know how hard it can be to get kids to put down their devices and get outdoors. But the key to making that pivot could be access to outdoor play spaces. A 2025 study from researchers at the University of Michigan published in the journal Health and Place found that efforts to reduce kids' screen time are more successful when children are given a chance to play outside. Many summer camps are structured around outdoor play, making them a potentially invaluable ally as parents seek to help children cut back on the time they spend using their devices. Children who do not attend camp and live in households where both parents work or in single-parent households where Mom or Dad works may be forced to spend much of summer indoors, which could increase the frequency with which they turn to devices to occupy their time.

CAMP ADDS STRUCTURE TO SUMMER DAYS

Once a school year ends, the structure a school day provides vanishes into thin air. Couple that with extracurricular activities that go on hiatus during summer vacation, and kids accustomed to structure are left with little to do and no need to schedule their time. That can add an aimlessness to summer days. Camp can provide the structure kids are accustomed to but still offer a break from responsibilities like homework or the commitments required of extracurricular activities.

There's no shortage of benefits to enrolling youngsters in summer camp, where kids can socialize, grow and get off their devices while engaged in structured but stress-free activities.





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QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE ENROLLING IN A SUMMER CAMP



Millions of children spend a significant portion of their summers at camp. The American Camp Association reports that 26 million children enroll in summer camp each year, and many of those youngsters make memories that last a lifetime while building life-long friendships along the way.

Camps have arguably become even more important in recent decades as more and more households have featured two working parents. Single-parent households also rely on summer camp to keep kids occupied and entertained while school is not in session and Mom or Dad is working. Such situations illustrate how important summer camp can be and underscore the significance of asking the right questions before enrolling a child in camp. In addition to inquiring about hours of operation, insurance and pricing, parents can ask the following questions before enrolling a child in summer camp.

WHAT IS THE EXPERIENCE OF CAMP STAFF?

Camp directors and staff members spend a lot of time with campers each summer, so it's important that parents ask who these people are, how they're trained and how much experience they have. No business can avoid employee turnover completely, so parents who hold out for a camp that's had the same employees for decades will likely find themselves with an unhappy non-camper come the start of summer. But questions about turnover rate, training and the counselor selection process are viable questions to ask prior to enrolling a child in a particular camp.

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE CAMP?

A camp that has been in business for decades is not necessarily superior to one that opened more recently, but it's still worth asking how long a camp has been around. It might be easier to determine if a given camp is what you're looking for if it's been around awhile. Such camps may have a significant number of Google reviews and may even provide testimonials from past campers and parents. A camp that's been around awhile also can share information regarding its return rate, which indicates the number of youngsters who have come back each summer. A strong return rate can indicate campers enjoy their experiences each summer.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND CAMP?

Some camps restrict enrollment to youngsters within a predetermined age bracket, while others may be exclusive to legal residents of the town where the camp is being held. Eligibility is not only a significant variable in regard to determining who can and cannot attend a given camp; it's also notable because parents may want their children to attend a camp that will feature some familiar faces. Attending camp alongside classmates or neighbors or

WHAT IS THE CAMP ITINERARY?

Kids might grow bored if camp features the same itinerary each day, and parents might feel such camps are not worth the investment. Ask about the typical camp itinerary, including field trips, daily activities, special events, and entertainment. The more entertaining and fun a camp is, the more likely youngsters are to love spending time there.

IS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PART OF THE CAMP?

Many students attend academic camps or camps where they learn to play music or further their existing skills. But parents know that physical activity is a vital component of a healthy lifestyle and a great way to make the best of the summer sun. When considering a specialty offering like band camp or STEM camp, ask about what role, if any, physical activity plays in a typical day.

Summer camps will be up and running before parents know it. Asking the right questions can help parents identify the best camp for their children.

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To register visit caledon.ca/camps






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Rough road trip for Brewers with three losses in a row in Creemore and Owen Sound



Brewers' shortstop Brett Chater – seen here hitting in 2025 during his NDBL MVP season – belted out three hits and scored two runs in an 8 – 5 loss to the Padres in Creemore on Tuesday night. PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

BY JIM STEWART

The undefeated Owen Sound Baysox swept a doubleheader from the Bolton Brewers on Saturday afternoon in NDBL action at Tom Williams Baseball Field.

The home side captured the lid-lifter 8-3 and rallied to take the second game 12-7.

Brewers' Head Coach Mike Wallace described Owen Sound's comeback effort in Game 2: "We were up 6-5 going into the seventh, but we were out of arms. We had to use Brett [Chater] for five innings—to bring him in from shortstop—and he was out of gas after playing two games. You don't want to have a thin bullpen going into the second game of a doubleheader."

Coach Wallace was pleased with his team's power in Game 2.

"When you look at it, we've been scoring runs in our first four games. We hit four home runs against Owen Sound, which will be one of the teams to beat. They're very good at home and they ran out two of the best arms in the league on Saturday. I wish we would have had more men on base for the homers. Amin Juarez hit a three-run shot, and Ben Sterritt, Reid Deibert, and Justin Malabanan each hit one out, but they were three solo shots."

While the Brewers demonstrated more timely hitting in Game 2, it was the lack of production with runners on base that cost Bolton the first game of the doubleheader in Owen Sound.

Coach Wallace explained: "We left a small village on base and couldn't get them across the plate."

"Matteo [Stothers] threw really well, but our defense let him down. So many of Owen Sound's runs were unearned."

On Tuesday night, the Brewers commenced their three-game road trip with an 8-5 loss to the Creemore Padres at Gowan Memorial Park.

Tom Gateman led the Padres' 15-hit attack with four knocks. Gateman and Eric Orser scored two runs each for Creemore.

The Padres jumped on Brewers' starter Matteo Stothers for nine hits and five runs over three innings.

Bolton reliever Carson Burns didn't fare much better—surrendering six hits and three runs over two innings of work.

Padres' starter Eric Jones scattered eight hits and five runs over six innings to earn the W.

Chater, the Brewers' leadoff hitter and 2025 League MVP, paced his squad's offense with three hits and two runs scored. Coach Wallace appraised his veteran shortstop's offensive performance versus the Padres.

"He was really good. Brett was dialed in on Tuesday night. Even his outs were loud. One of his outs was a deep fly ball to centre field that almost made its way out of the park."

The Brewers led 2-0 at the top of the third inning, but Creemore plated three runs in the bottom of the third and added five more in the fourth to take an 8-4 lead.

The Brewers added a run at the top of the sixth, but that was as close as they could get as Jones held the fort in the complete game victory.

Despite three consecutive losses in Creemore and Owen Sound, Coach Wallace has seen some positives in the Brewers' first four games of the season and delineated the club's needed areas of improvement.

"The hitting's been coming along—a lot faster than I thought it would with so little practice due to the wet Spring. We have to be better with pitching, especially giving up walks. We gave up seven walks in Game 2 and five walks in Game 1. You can't give a good team like Owen Sound extra baserunners. It comes back to haunt

you."

The Brewers will look to bounce back from their unusual 1-3 start to the season when they welcome the Clarksburg Blues to brand new Taylor Fields for a doubleheader on Saturday, May 23.

Coach Wallace offered the keys to beating the Blues: "Our hitting has come along so we need to stay where we are with scoring runs, but we need to handle pitches

on Saturday, especially with runners in scoring position. Our pitching and defence need to improve—we need to cut down on giving out free bases, we need to make the routine plays to support our pitching staff, and overall, we need to clean it up versus Clarksburg."

First pitch of Saturday afternoon's NDBL doubleheader against the Clarksburg Blues is 1 p.m.



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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.

Monthly Dinner – Friday, May 29, 2026
The Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton is having a Monthly Dinner on Friday, May 29, 2026. The menu is Stuffed Chicken Breast, Roasted Potatoes, Kale Salad & Ice-Cream Sandwich Dessert. Cost is \$16. Pick-up at 5:15 pm, dine-in served at 5:30 pm, local delivery available for \$2.
Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 by Thurs. May 27 at 3:30 pm to buy your tickets!

Tuesday June 9 2026
Free Bingo Night at 6 pm – all welcome!
Join us for Bingo, Prizes, Pizza and Fun!
Bolton United Church
8 Nancy Street, Bolton, Ontario, L7E 1C7
905-857-2615 www.boltonunitedchurch.com

The Caledon Breast Cancer Support Group
will be holding it's monthly meeting on June 17, 2026
Details as follows:
Date: June 17, 2026

Place: Kinsmen Club in Bolton
Address: 35 Chapel St, Bolton (Hwy 50 & King Intersection)
Time: 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
Price: No Charge
The CBCF support group is for women who have been newly diagnosed with breast cancer, who are going through their journey or who have had breast cancer. Female caregivers are welcome!
Please contact Rosa Raso at rasodazzle@outlook.com for any further information.
You don't have to be alone in this Journey!

Yard, Craft & Vendor Sale
Caledon East United Church, 6046 Old Church Road. Prices you can't resist. Come early! Check out the Bake Sale and BBQ too! June 20, 9am-1pm. This is an outdoor event, rain or shine! Want to sell your items or be a vendor? Contact Grace at 905-584-9974. Tables are \$25.00.



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OPINION

Regenerative practices breathe new life into forests

BY DAVID SUZUKI

Forests function through interconnections between trees, plants, mosses, wildlife, fish, fungi and soil. Suzanne Simard’s new book *When the Forest Breathes: Renewal and Resilience in the Natural World* digs deep, literally, to unearth science documenting how industrial logging disrupts and frays these connections.

She was well-placed to write it as, she notes, “My training in soil ecology had given me night vision into the underground world, and I’d learned from decades of study that the complexity of underground biological communities reflects the diversity aboveground.”

Forest degradation has been defined by shifts in tree composition (from a diversity of species and ages to limited, even-aged species), logging road impacts (fragmentation of habitat and disruption of predator-prey dynamics) and loss of old growth due to management practices under which trees are logged at ages that provide maximum profit and old-growth habitats are not replaced.

Simard’s book details the impacts that astoundingly massive industrial logging equipment has on soil and the carbon stored within it, revealing that, “Carbon pools that take thousands of years to build are immediately reduced by 61% with the simple act of logging with heavy machinery.”

This machinery not only removes trees, it also crushes understory vegetation, such as mosses and lichens, which store one-third of the world’s terrestrial carbon. It gouges and compacts soil, releasing carbon, limiting the ground’s ability to store water and frustrating regeneration processes.

Of healthy forests, Simard explains, “With greater tree species richness, age ranges, or even genetic variability within a single species, there are fewer fires, floods, and infestations that will compromise long-term carbon pools.” The converse is also true. In our current era of near-constant summer wildfires, Simard details how forest degradation can lead to increased fire events — from abolishing controlled burns by First Nations to leaving tinder in slash piles to planting less-resilient, crowded second-growth stands. She describes how, around her, “The mountains and plateaus had become a sea of coniferous plantations, akin to a carpet of matchsticks rolled out for the flames to race across.”

Logged slopes increase flooding and landslide risks, which in turn fill streams and waterways with sediment, harming aquatic life.

Sadly, in light of the destruction industrial logging

causes, Simard notes, “Only about a quarter of logged forest ends up in forest products.”

Clearly a systemic shift in forest management is needed, something the David Suzuki Foundation has long advanced.

Throughout Canada, as old-growth forests have declined, intact forests should be left to “live to old age and reach their ecological potential.” Areas battered by logging should be restored, contributing to Canada’s fulfilment of its commitment to restore 30 per cent of lands and waters by 2030 — a promise that has seen far too little progress.

In collaboration with Indigenous partners, Simard’s Mother Tree Project is at the forefront of new models of “regenerative forestry” practices. Not surprisingly, a key component of this approach is maintaining significant patches of mother trees within logged areas, to protect forest integrity and foster new life, as “older trees circulate some of the water to seedlings in shallower soils via their mycorrhizal root systems.”

As Simard points out, regenerative forestry practices are already underway, led by First Nations.

For example, the Kwiakah First Nation has repurchased forestry licences on its land and is working to protect, restore and log forests using regenerative forestry and traditional knowledge systems.

Under regenerative forestry regimes, logging practices are developed regionally and consider “the properties of the local soils, the intrinsic requirements of the plant communities, and the fundamental needs of the area’s wildlife.” Less is taken from the forest and heavy mechanization is reduced.

This approach, Simard notes, could create jobs: “Partial retention logging, where certain trees are carefully selected to leave behind while others are cut, depending on the goals, would require more logging personnel, not fewer, and this would create livelihoods for people working in the forest.”

Canada’s forests have been deeply diminished by industrial logging, and much work is needed to halt and reverse forest biodiversity loss. Fortunately, Simard writes, “Even after the most destructive logging practices, forests strive to heal.”

Nature pulls in the direction of repair. We must mobilize to buck status quo forest management practices and move in accordance with its regenerative force.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Boreal Project Manager Rachel Plotkin. Learn more at david Suzuki.org.

Caledon Butter Tart Festival brings award-winning bakers, artisan vendors and family fun to Caledon East

Butter tart lovers from across Ontario are invited to indulge at the highly anticipated Caledon Butter Tart Festival, taking place on Saturday, May 30, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Caledon East Community Complex, located at 6215 Old Church Road, Caledon East.

Admission is completely free.

The festival will feature an incredible lineup of butter tart bakers, artisan vendors, sweet treats, handmade goods, and specialty foods from across the province. Guests can stroll through a lively marketplace filled with delicious creations while enjoying a fun-filled day celebrating one of Canada’s most iconic desserts.

From traditional raisin butter tarts to creative gourmet flavours, the festival offers something for every sweet tooth.

Visitors can also shop local artisans, support small businesses, and experience the welcoming community atmosphere that has made butter tart festivals some of Ontario’s most popular food events.

Butter tart festivals across Ontario continue to draw thousands of visitors annually and remain among the province’s top community food celebrations.

“This festival is about bringing people together through great food, local talent, and community spirit,” organizers say. “We’re excited to welcome visitors from across the GTA and beyond for a memorable day in Caledon.”

The event is also encouraging attendees to support the local community by bringing a voluntary donation for the Caledon Food Bank in lieu of admission.

Families, foodies, and festival-goers can expect:

- Award-winning butter tart bakers;
- Unique and gourmet tart flavours;
- Local artisan marketplace;
- Specialty foods and sweets;
- Family-friendly atmosphere;
- Free admission and parking.

The Caledon Butter Tart Festival continues to build excitement as one of the region’s must-visit spring events, offering a perfect day trip destination for dessert lovers and shoppers alike.



NEWS

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



Applications close on Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

Municipal, Agricultural and Community Grants!

Is your not-for-profit community organization planning an event or working on a new project that will enrich the lives of Caledon residents? Does it take place between June and December 2026. If so, apply today for the spring intake of our Municipal, Agricultural and Community Grants!

Visit Caledon.ca/CommunityActionFund for full details and to apply!

Town of Caledon recruiting for the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee

The Town of Caledon is currently seeking experienced and dedicated citizens interested in bringing their knowledge and expertise to serve the Caledon community on the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee.

The Town’s Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee is seeking to recruit individuals with demonstrated knowledge or expertise in accounting, auditing, academia, or law, and with knowledge of, or interest in, the Municipal Elections Act’s campaign financing rules.

The mandate of the committee shall be to fulfill the duties of a compliance audit committee as established by the Act, including considering the Clerk’s Report and any compliance audit applications submitted by eligible electors. Members of the committee will be paid an honorarium of \$225 for attending training and each meeting.

Interested residents can learn more and apply by visiting caledon.ca/committees. Applications are due by June 18, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.



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.

Open Calls for Artist Proposals

Join Caledon in showing off your talent! Caledon is looking for local individuals, performers, artists, workshop leaders and organizations interested in offering free, participatory events as part of the 16-day Culture Days Festival from September 18 to October 4, 2026. Got a great idea but need some help to make it a reality? Share your idea as a proposal and the Town of Caledon can offer partnership funding up to \$400.

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.

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



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To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/4103>
 Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter referencing Req#317 to recruiting@iceriversprings.com or write to:
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PUBLIC NOTICES

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Plot Owners of Laurel Hill Cemetery will be held on Thursday morning, May 28 at 10 o'clock at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South, Bolton. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Officers, receive reports and general business. Dated at Bolton, Ontario the 1st day of May, 2026.

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Saturday May 23rd, 9:30am

554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

Tractors/Skid Steers/Backhoe: Case Farmall 95A, 4WD loader(L575) tractor, 3 remotes, hydr bus bucket, 3rd function on loader, wheel weights, F: 10.00-16, R: 18.4-30, 230hrs; Kubota B2630 4WD loader/backhoe tractor, material bucket, 1176hrs; JD 7230 4WD tractor, cab, new tires, 4628hrs; Case Farmall 95C 4WD loader tractor, L630 loader, open station, 1479hrs; MF 2606 tractor, open station 2WD, shuttle shift, 395hrs; Kubota MX 5100 4x4 tractor with LA854 loader; open station; hydrostatic; 1 remote, 2977hrs; Ford TW20, cab, dual power, 135hp; (2) Ford 5000 tractors, open station 60hp, 8 spd ; International 1066 tractor, hydrostatic, dual speed PTO, 7000hrs; JD 2155 loader tractor, 15,000hrs, was 4WD- running as 2WD, stored inside, open station, 2 remotes; Kubota B2630 4WD loader/backhoe tractor, material bucket, 1176hrs; Kubota SSV65 Skid Steer, enclosed cab, heat, A/C material bucket, 1176hrs; JD 410G backhoe, 4x4, turbo, Nortrax power shift, 10,500hrs; Case 450CT Series 3 skid steer, new bucket, new tracks, 1877hrs; Cub Cadet Professional (The Tank) mower, zero-turn, 60" deck, 404hrs. **Trucks/Trailers (all sold as is):** GMC T8500 single axle dump truck, 131Kkm(?), no ownership; 2008 Hitchman 612 utility trailer-needs work, ownership; 12'x7' skidsteer float trailer, elec brakes, 2 axles, ramps; 1993 GMC Topkick, 3116 CAT diesel engine, auto transmission, Frink 2-way salter dump body, 52,710km; 20ft flatbed trailer, pintle hitch, loading ramps. **Motorcycles(sold as is), Club Car & Seadoos:** 2000 Honda Shadow Spirit 1100, running, new battery April 2026, 92,443km; 2008 Honda Shadow 750, running, lady driven, 40,666km; Bobcat Pioneer Club Car, newer Honda GX390 engine, gas, new battery 2025, manual dump; (2) Seadoos excellent cnd, to be sold with trailer. **Mach/Equip:** Westfield 110-71 PTO grain auger, 71ftx10; Super-Tilt 20ft dump wagon; Woodland Mill WC88 woodchipper, 35-100hp pto drive, takes up to 8" diam pieces; (24) Y drops, complete set, universal fit, very low acres on them, 30" corn rows, next to new; 18ft winged harrows: Walco 6ft 3pth bushog; 300L sprayer, 3pth, wand only; Turnco 14ft packer & transport; 20ft steel single reach round bale wagon; Case IH 4500 18ft cultivator, man wings; White 251 10ft disc; Overum 4 furrow semi-mount plow; Forage King hay basket; Forage King-Meteor 7ft snowblower, hyd chute, 1 auger, 3pth 6ft tiller; 3pth 2 furrow plow; Meteor 8ft snowblower 2-auger; NA 7ft snowblower; 8ft snowblower, 2-auger; Landpride LR1560 landscape rake, 3pth, 5ft; NH 918H flail mower, 3pth, 4ft; 5ft finishing mower, 3pth; pallet forks, skid steer attach, new; TMC-SLG49 skidsteer rotation log grapple; 8.5'x5' silage pusher bucket; 9ft snow blade; (2)24' feeder wagons; (2)grain buggys; 5ft scraper blade; 18ft steel truck deck; Hardi 32ft field sprayer, manual arms; International moldboard plow, 6 furrows-18in bottoms, auto-reset; Hardi TR500 field sprayer, 45ft manual booms; 8ft 3pth disc; 6ft 3pth cultivator; 6ft 3pth grader blade; JD 2-furrow plow; Balderson skid steer adapter plate; Balderson pallet forks; trough conveyor; NH 185 manure spreader for trailer or parts; old steel wheel wagon; 3pth broadcast grass/fert spreader; MF 1486 pickup head, draper style. **Haying Equip:** Kubota BV5160 round baler, wide pickup, net wrap, has knives, under 11,500 bales through, endless belts, self oiler; JD 582 Silage Special round baler, net & twine, with "The Juice" hay preserver; JD 925 MoCo mower conditioner, 10ft cut; Vermeer 5400 Rebel round baler, 4x5's, new belts; NH Sperry 489 haybine; Heston 1120 mower/conditioner; Recon 2 hay crimper; JD 435 round baler, 4x6, double twine tie only, monitor; MF 124 sq baler & chute; Brillion 10ft grass seeder; NH 144 hay inverter; wood hay wagon; Kuhn 3pth rotary rake; (2) steel thrower wagons, wood floors; John Deere No.9, 7ft sickle mower; 3 prong bale fork; NH hay roller/conditioner; NH 273 square baler with thrower, working cond. **Farm Rel/Shop/Misc.** Fuel tank for JD 4430 tractor; HD drill press; (50)cedar posts - (25) under 8in, (25)over 8in; (3)light cattle gates; upright air compressor; Martin head gate & chute-older.

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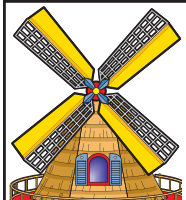


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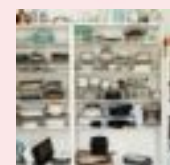
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TRCA Staff and Sabrina Zito-Insalaco stand with the tools students used to plant their trees. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Allan Drive Middle School marks legacy project planting 50 native trees

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Marking their transition from elementary school on May 14, Grade 8 students from Allan Drive Middle School took part in a "Legacy Tree Planting Day," planting 50 native trees on school grounds.

"We look forward to leaving a legacy behind," said Sabrina Zito-Insalaco, Land-Based Learning Instructor, as she watches the students prepare for a day of planting.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) provided the trees for the students, and assisted with the planting.

Zito-Insalaco said the experience was rooted in "relationship building, with students working together over time to strengthen connections with each other, their school community, and the Land."

She said through this shared effort, they demonstrated "care, leadership, and a deep sense of responsibility for the Land."

Zito-Insalaco has been working with the school for a

number of years, and brought forward the idea not only for the students to leave a legacy behind at their school, but to do so together.

"It builds empathy for each other," said Zito-Insalaco. "And for the land that we're on."

Students were split into groups, and were instructed on how to effectively plant their trees, ensuring they would stand tall for years to come.

As a Land-Based Educator with the Peel District School Board, Zito-Insalaco says it was a "privilege to support and guide this learning experience alongside the school community."

She also adds that she was grateful to the TRCA, and the school team including teachers, administration, custodian, and Facilities Manager, for their collaboration and support in bringing the day to life.

"Each tree stands as a living reminder that small, intentional actions can grow into lasting, meaningful change," says Zito-Insalaco. "My heart is warmed each day by the smiling faces of these students, reminding me that connection and care are at the heart of students' success."

Shelburne BIA to host first classic car show along downtown core

BY JOSHUA DRAKES

The Shelburne Business Improvement Area (BIA) is rolling out its first-ever Classic Car Show on June 13, aiming to bring families, car enthusiasts, and shoppers into the heart of the downtown area.

Running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the event will see classic vehicles lining the downtown streets, turning the core into an open-air showcase of vintage and specialty cars.

Shelburne BIA organizer Melissa Hooper said that the car show was conceived as a new summer event to complement existing events and boost traffic for local businesses.

"We were looking for another event to run. We knew we wanted to do something in the summer, and have it be something to get families out and bring more people downtown," she said. "I own a classic car myself, so I kind of wanted to see a local car show, so that's how it started."

Timed to follow the community's Fridays in the Park series the night before, on June 12, the car show effectively creates a two-day run of activity downtown.

Beyond the vehicles themselves, the show is being designed as a family-friendly outing.

Jack Downing Park will host a variety of vendors, while the Shelburne Public Library and Mansfield Outdoor Center will team up to offer children's activities in the library parking lot. Alterna Savings will provide a bouncy castle and additional kid-focused events in its parking area, creating several activity hubs within walking distance.

Downtown businesses are also being drawn into the festivities through a "Canada Proud" window display contest, with car show participants and visitors invited to vote for their favourite storefront.

The goal is to encourage visitors to explore the core, discover new shops, and stay for lunch at local restaurants.

Those wishing to display a classic car do not need to pre-register.

Owners can simply arrive on the day of the event and check in at the registration booth behind Jack Downing Park. Each vehicle will receive a ticket for door prize draws, and awards will be presented for Best of Show and BIA Choice, offering some fun competition.

Organizers plan to review feedback and participation after this year's launch before deciding whether to make the Classic Car Show an annual tradition.

"For now, I think it's a one-off event," Hooper said. "We're going to see how it works for now... If it works well, we can see about doing the same thing next year and making it another event that the BIA can [host] regularly."

The Shelburne BIA's Classic Car Show promises to be a fun-filled activity for car enthusiasts, families looking for a day out on the town, and curious visitors looking to see what Shelburne has to offer.

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