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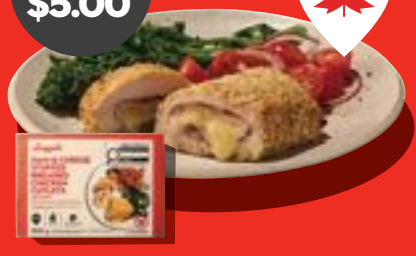
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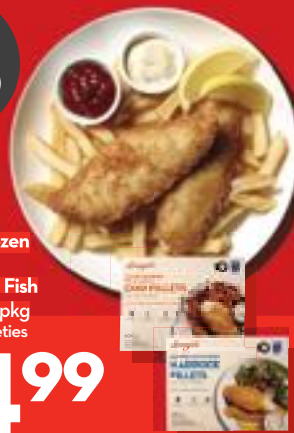
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FREE
Thursday, May 7, 2026
Volume 46, Issue 19



CINCO DE MAYO IN BOLTON – Live performances took place throughout Saturday evening at Cinco De Mayo celebrations at the Humber River Centre. For more on the community fiesta, see Page A9. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Another record-breaking year for Hike for Bethell Hospice as it raises more than \$285,000

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Bethell Hospice's 16th annual Hike for Hospice brought the community together this past Sunday in record-breaking fashion, raising more than \$285,000 to support palliative care services in the community.

Each year, Bethell Hospice must raise over \$2 million to provide services and palliative programs to residents, families, and community clients, all at no cost.

They host Hike for Hospice annually not only to raise funds but also to bring the community together.

For their 16th annual event, they raised the bar yet again, setting record-breaking numbers in both attendees and donations.

To aid their donations this year, Bethell Hospice received donations from 15 local Caledon schools, each of which held its own Hike for Hospice the previous Friday.

With more than 6,000 students participating, the schools are on track to raise over \$15,000 for the hospice.

"Our goal for the hike was \$255,000, and we know from donations that have come in this morning, and matching gifts from Scotiabank that we will go over \$285,000," says Adrian Horwood, Co-Chair of the Bethell Hospice Foundation. "That's a record."

Margaret Paan, Executive Director of Bethell Hospice, took the time to recognize the 69 teams and individual fundraisers who gathered for the Hike that day.

Continued on Page A13



Everybody gathers around prior to the hike for one big group photo. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Caledon Mayor recognizes 40 community groups with donations following Charity Gala

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Following her annual charity gala, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves held a recipients dinner the next week for local organizations and charities.

On the night of April 30, more than 200 attendees packed the Caesar's Centre in Bolton, most from community groups who would be receiving funds that evening.

It was shared at the event that Groves' recent gala, attended by over 800 people, including local MPs, MPPs, and politicians, raised approximately \$800,000, bringing the total over \$1.5 million in two years.

40 organizations were recognized at the dinner, presented with cheques, including the Alton Legion, Caledon Agricultural Society, Caledon Meals on Wheels, Cassie's Place, Maple Community Network,



Jason Scortia accepts a cheque on behalf of Motionball from Groves at the event.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Palgrave Rotary, Valleywood Block Party, and more.

Some of these organizations gave speeches that evening, including Humberview Head Coach Adrian Piscitelli on behalf of the Humberview Football Program, Sarah Leslie on behalf of Downtown Bolton BIA, and Dr. Oluremi Adewale on behalf of Women Focus Canada.

"From the very beginning, your support of our club has never been surface level. You didn't just show up for a photo, shake a few hands, move on. You stayed, you listened, you engaged, and more importantly, you cared. You gave our players something rare, not just recognition, but respect," Piscitelli said during his speech that evening to Groves. "Because of you, we will keep going, and every future player, every young person who finds their way into us in the moment of need will be part of your legacy too."

Dr. Adewale recognized Groves' partnership with their program, first appearing at their Youth Civic Engagement event in Brampton and supporting them in bringing their efforts to Caledon.

Leslie noted Groves' recent announcement regarding her upcoming retirement from the position of Mayor.

"You recently said it has been your honour to serve the Caledon community over the past 26 years. But the truth is, it was and is our honour to serve our community with you by our side," says Leslie.

Recipients were not the only ones to take the stage that evening; after receiving a bouquet of flowers and thanks from local group Cassie's Place, Groves addressed the room.

She recognized her over two and a half decades of serving the Caledon community, calling it a "privilege."

Looking back on her decades of service, Groves recounted experiences had, memories made, and even time spent bringing

her son to Town Hall during her time as Councillor for Council meetings.

Groves touched on Caledon's future growth, noting that growth needs to be done "responsibly."

"We will make sure that those areas that need to be protected will continue to be protected, and we will make sure that we continue to have fresh air, clean air, so that we can breathe."

During her time as Mayor, Groves has faced controversy for decisions regarding planning and development.

At the event, she said that as a leader, sometimes decisions made are "not always popular with everyone."

"I always believe that if the decisions you are making serve the greater good, then you need to stand up and you need to stand by those decisions," said Groves. "We have a lot of folks in our community that are building in this community, and I strongly believe that they need to reinvest into our community, reinvest in our children, reinvest in our seniors, and reinvest in the Town of Caledon."

At last year's event, Groves had both recipients and donors in attendance.

She said this year she hosted them separately because she "wanted to make sure that what you do wasn't lost at a gala with almost 800 people."

"Because of that, I wanted to do a special evening for all of you, because all of you are so very special."

"It's been a wonderful, wonderful journey. But I think sometimes God has other plans for us, and sometimes we need to know when that time comes, when we have to end this journey, but we continue on another journey," said Groves. "We continue another chapter in our life, and I can say this with pride, that it has been a real honour, a real privilege to serve you."

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- Canada Groceries and Essentials Rebate
- Cutting taxes, including the fuel excise tax



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- National School Food Program
- Canada Dental Care Plan
- Historic investments into mental health



SUPPORT THROUGH LIFE'S CHANGES

- Extended EI measures
- Automatic federal benefits
- Canada Strong Pass
- Investments in job growth

As a MP and a mother, I work hard every day to ensure our federal government is supporting mothers at every stage of life. If you have questions about these or other federal programs, my team and I are here to help.



Hon. **RUBY SAHOTA**
Your Member of Parliament

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Ruby.Sahota@parl.gc.ca

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Early Bird Gets the Worm: Ward 4 Candidate Heather French and Mayoral Candidate Christina Early secured the first time slots on opening day for nominations. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Off to the Races! Nominations officially open for 2026 Municipal Election

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Friday, May 1, officially marked the beginning of nominations for the upcoming 2026 municipal elections in Caledon.

Residents and community members looking to run for Caledon Council or school board trustee positions in the election have until 2 pm on August 21 to file their nomination papers.

With the election taking place on Monday, October 26, 2026, Caledon voters will vote by paper ballot to elect the Mayor of the Town of Caledon, Ward and Regional Councillors, and School Board Trustees to serve during the 2026 to 2030 Council term of office.

A candidate's campaign period officially begins when the Municipal Clerk has received their nomination.

Nominations have already been rolling in since 9 a.m. on Friday.

Ward 4 Candidate Heather French, Mayoral Candidate Christina Early, and School Board Trustee Candidate Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi secured the first time slots on opening day at 9 a.m.

For the municipal election, Caledon voters will be able to vote for their Mayor, six Councillors, and two Regional Councillors.

When it comes to School Board Trustees, there are positions open for the Peel District School Board and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, and one each for the two French-language boards, which must be

filed separately by the cities of Mississauga and Brampton.

As of the morning of Wednesday, May 6, the current registered candidates for the 2026 municipal and school board elections are as follows;

MAYOR

Christina Early
Jagdeep Sacha

WARD 2

Hunar Kahlon
Rakesh Madhok

WARD 3

Stan Cameron
Doug Maskell

WARD 4

Heather French

WARD 6

Cosimo Napoli

REGIONAL COUNCILLOR – WARDS 1, 2 and 3

Dave Sheen

Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi has filed for one of the School Board Trustee positions.

Nominations will continue to roll in over the following months, and can be found here when posted: www.caledon.ca/en/government/election-landing-page.aspx.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Meeting Proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment

FILE NUMBERS: POPA 2024-0009 and RZ 2024-0030

A statutory Public Meeting will be held to consider proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments. Your input and insight will inform and shape plans that meet the needs of our community.

Please be advised that the Town of Caledon is offering a Hybrid Committee and Council Meeting model with options for you to engage with Council, including in-person or virtual opportunities.

Meeting Date: June 2, 2026
Public Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers,
6311 Old Church Road, Caledon East

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Attend In-Person: Members of the public may register to delegate in-person and speak to an item listed on the agenda or sit in the gallery to watch the meeting.
- Submit Written Comments: Members of the public may submit written comments regarding the proposed application by completing the Participation Request Form, available at <http://www.caledon.ca/speak-at-council>
- Virtually: Members of the public are welcome to participate via phone or WebEx Meeting upon request. For more information, please visit <http://www.caledon.ca/notice> or contact the Planning Department. Please note that there are deadlines to request participation at the Public Meeting.

YOU CAN ALSO PROVIDE INPUT BY:

- Submitting written correspondence to agenda@caledon.ca and planning@caledon.ca for consideration during the Public Meeting. 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.

APPLICANT:

MHBC on behalf of Amrize Canada Inc. (formerly Lafarge Canada Inc.)

LOCATION:

17923 Shaws Creek Road
Part of Lot 13, Concession 5, W.H.S

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The applicant has submitted Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment applications to permit the operation of an above-water sand and gravel aggregate extraction facility by expanding the current operation to the east. The lands are currently designated as Prime Agricultural Area and Supporting Features and Areas, and zoned Agricultural (A1).

The Official Plan Amendment application proposes to designate the site as Prime Agricultural Area, Site-Specific Exception to permit a mineral aggregate operation.

The Zoning By-law Amendment application proposes to rezone the lands to an Extractive Industrial (MX-) Exception zone and an Environmental Protection Policy Area One (EPA1-) Exception Zone, under By-law 2006-50, as amended.



*The illustration is a conceptual plan for information purposes and it is subject to change.

*The application is currently under review by the Town of Caledon.

LEAD PLANNER:

Brandon Eidner
Community Planner
Planning and Development
Department
905-584-2272 ext. 4077
brandon.eidner@caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment and for 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.

APPEAL PROCEDURE:

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Town of Caledon to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or

ACCESSIBILITY:

make written submissions to the Town of Caledon before the proposed by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Caledon before the proposed by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Caledon on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, Ontario L7C 1J6.

ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to attend or participate in this Public Meeting, or 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. Requests should be submitted at least 10 days before the Public Meeting.

Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: May 7, 2026

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ADDITIONAL ARREST IN DEATH INVESTIGATION

Another person has been arrested and charged in the ongoing homicide investigation in Caledon.

“On Monday, April 1, 2024, at approximately 8:10 a.m., police responded to a report of a deceased individual in the area of Chinguacousy Road and King Street in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “The post-mortem examination confirmed that the deceased was David Robson, 65 years old of the Township of Melancthon, and the cause of death was a homicide.

“David was last seen on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at approximately 5:00 p.m. in the Township of Melancthon. On Monday, March 25, 2024, he was reported missing, along with his vehicle, a black 2017 Kia Sportage with Ontario licence plate DAMZ 252. On the same date, his residence was reported on fire.”

As a result of the investigation, on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Piotr OLSZEWSKI, 42 years old of Toronto, was arrested and charged with the following Criminal Code offences:

- Arson, section 434;
- Accessory after the fact to murder, sec-

tion 240
The charges have not been proven. Members of the Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Crime Unit are continuing this investigation, under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Coroner and Ontario Forensic Pathology Service.

Assistance is being provided by OPP Forensic Identification Services. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

Police believe other individuals may be involved or have information that could assist the investigation. Anyone with information is urged to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

OPP REMIND RESIDENTS OF ONGOING FRAUDS, SCAMS

Members of the Dufferin OPP are warning residents about ongoing fraudulent activity affecting communities across Duf-

ferin County and throughout Ontario. Fraudsters continue to use increasingly sophisticated tactics to target victims, often creating a sense of urgency, fear, or emotional distress to obtain money or personal information.

If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, please contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or the OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Common Fraud Trends Include:

CANADA REVENUE AGENCY (CRA) SCAMS

- The caller claims to be a CRA agent;
- Victims are told they owe outstanding taxes or have issues with their Social Insurance Number;
- The caller requests personal or financial information and may threaten arrest or legal action if immediate payment is not made.

BANK/FINANCIAL INSTITUTION SCAMS

- The suspect poses as a bank representative or investigator;
- Victims may be asked to assist with a “fraud investigation”;
- The caller instructs victims to withdraw funds and provide the money to them, sometimes arranging in-person pick-ups.

EMERGENCY (GRANDPARENT) SCAMS

- The caller pretends to be a loved one in distress or a representative such as a police officer or lawyer.
- Victims are told there is an urgent situation requiring immediate financial assistance.
- Requests for money are often accompanied by instructions for secrecy.

ROMANCE SCAMS

- Suspects use social media or dating platforms with fake profiles;
- They build trust quickly and develop online relationships;
- Victims are eventually asked to send money for fabricated emergencies or promises that never materialize.

CONTRACTOR SCAMS

- Requests for large upfront deposits;
- Refusal to obtain proper permits or provide written contracts;
- Excuses for delays accompanied by demands for additional funds;
- Offers of “leftover materials” or deals that seem too good to be true.

CRYPTOCURRENCY/BITCOIN SCAMS

- Fraudsters demand payment through Bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies;
- Victims may be directed to use Bitcoin ATMs to send funds;
- These scams are often linked to CRA, bank, or emergency scams, where victims are told this is the only way to make payment;
- Once sent, cryptocurrency transactions are extremely difficult to trace or recover.

ONLINE MARKETPLACE AND TEXT MESSAGE SCAMS (EMERGING TRENDS)

- Fraudulent listings or buyers on online marketplaces;
- Phishing text messages claiming to be from delivery companies, banks, or government agencies;
- Links designed to steal personal or financial information.

Residents are reminded to never share personal or financial information with unknown individuals, verify the identity of callers, and take time to confirm any urgent requests for money. Police and government agencies will never request payment in Bitcoin or gift cards.

The Dufferin OPP remains committed to public safety through proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value the public’s contribution to building safe communities.

If you have information regarding suspicious or unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at www.crimestoppersdm.com.

Continued on Page A12

Happy Mother's Day!

A CONFIDENT SMILE BRIGHTENS EVERYONE'S DAY!

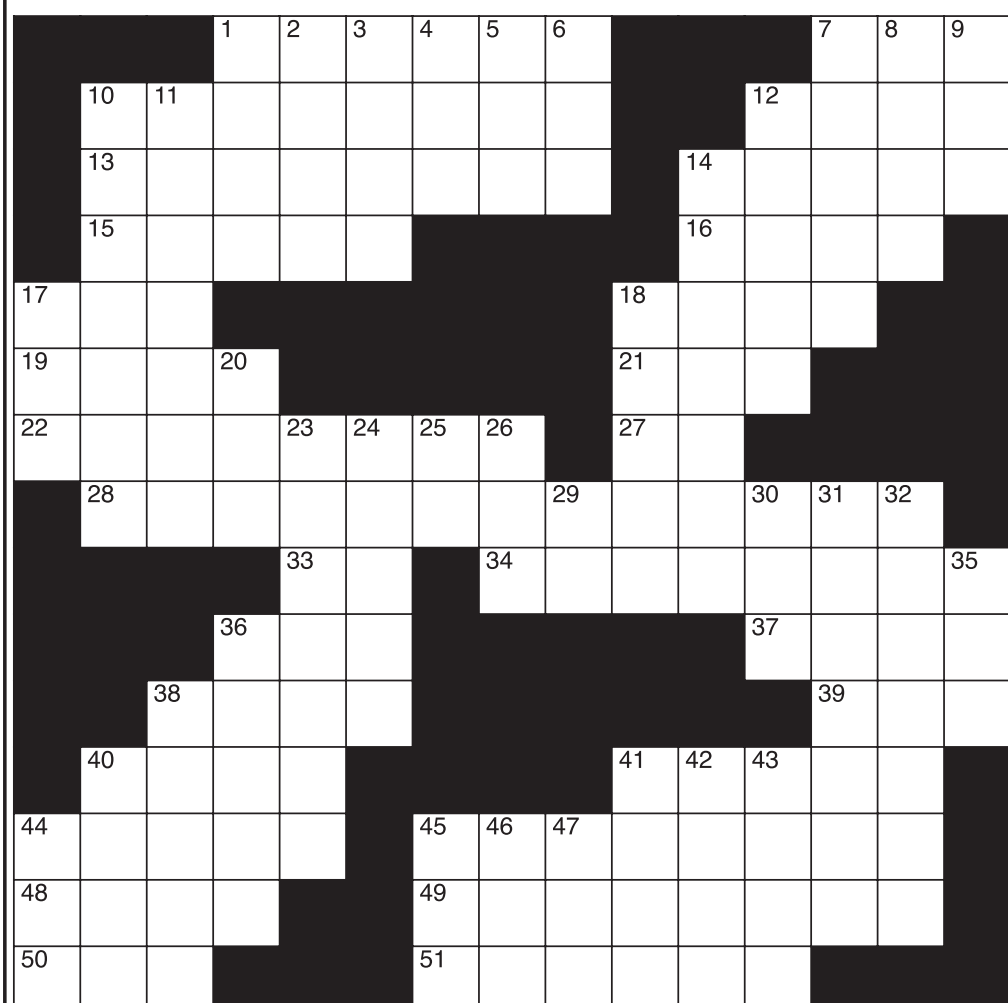
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Large dung beetle
7. Gambling game
- lo
10. Further along
12. Type of tobacco
13. Looked for
14. Silk fabric
15. Computer method to solve equations
16. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
17. Tear
18. Brews
19. “Famous” cookie baker
21. Women’s Army Corps
22. Front parts of an animal
27. It’s causing quite a stir
28. Beloved March

Puzzle No.

- holiday
33. 12th letter of the Greek alphabet
34. More impudent
36. Indicates center
37. Young woman (French)
38. A cause of distress
39. Santa’s helper
40. Hillside
41. Many wombs
44. Is afraid of
45. Popular baked goods ingredient
48. Popular computers
49. Conceiving of
50. Google certification (abbr.)
51. Sturdy

CLUES DOWN

1. Peruse quickly
2. Automobiles
3. Razorbill genus

Solution in the classifieds.

4. Bravo! Bravo!
5. Consumed
6. A place to sleep
7. Small seeds
8. Legendary law man Wyatt
9. Female sheep
10. Indigenous peoples of eastern Siberia
11. A place ships dock
12. Reciprocal of sine
14. Discomfort
17. British Air Aces
18. Exit sleep
20. Solar energetic particle
23. Plagues characterized by
24. Short musical composition
25. Trauma center
26. Habitual twitching
29. A place where checks are exchanged (abbr.)
30. Decameter
31. Hinged surface in a wing
32. Shouting
35. Sports official
36. Volcanic craters
38. Supportive device
40. It’s part of a rosary
41. Two-toed sloth
42. Body art
43. Let out
44. Foreign medical graduate
45. Nonprofit journalism organization (abbr.)
46. Couples say it
47. Bird’s beak

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

Ontario Gas Tax funding rings \$568K boost to Caledon Transit

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon is receiving \$568,726 dollars from the Ontario government's \$380 million funding through the 2025/26 Gas Tax program to help support public transit in municipalities.

Ontario's Gas Tax program provides municipalities with long-term funding to support and expand transit systems.

In a media release by MPP from Dufferin-Caledon Sylvia Jones, it was stated funding can be used to extend service hours, purchase transit vehicles, add routes, improve accessibility, and upgrade transit infrastructure.

Funding is determined based on the number of litres of gasoline sold in the province during the previous fiscal year, as well as local ridership and population levels.

"Our government is committed to supporting municipalities as they grow and improve local transit," said Jones.

Jones said this funding will help Caledon "continue to provide reliable and accessible transit options for residents, connecting people to jobs, services and opportunities in their communities."

"I would like to thank MPP Sylvia Jones and the Province for their support," said Mayor Annette Groves. "The Provincial gas tax helps us enhance our transit options, including a pilot project with electric minibuses."

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

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

Domenica D'Amico, Commissioner of Engineering, Public Works and Transportation with the Town of Caledon, says that the \$568,726 in gas tax funding received from the Province will go toward funding the Town of Caledon's overall transit program, includ-

ing the ARGO on-demand transit pilot and Brampton Transit contracted services.

The pilot will service three communities in Caledon – Bolton, Mayfield West (Southfields), and Caledon East – which was originally planned to replace three existing Brampton Transit routes.

During the April 28 Caledon Council meeting, Staff said the existing contractual commitments with Brampton Transit will be maintained through the end of 2026, keeping routes 81, 25, and 41 in service until then.

The pilot has also transitioned to a 16-month pilot, rather than the previously discussed 15-month pilot, commencing on September 14, 2026 and running till December 31, 2027.

The entire cost to the Town will be \$4.61 million.

Staff will report back to Council on the pilot, with a summary of the results, findings, and recommendations of the Argo Pilot project at the six- and twelve-month marks.

They will also report back with a recommendation on whether to pause or extend the Brampton transit service routes.

Council members also suggested running information sessions for residents, centres, and even local schools to educate them on how to use the new service.

An FAQ-type memo was presented at the Town's May 5 General Committee meeting, highlighting questions on start dates, accommodations, feedback, and more about the pilot.

Peel Region, which received \$318,268, said they will use the funding to help offset operating costs for TransHelp, Peel's specialized door-to-door public transit service for eligible residents in Brampton, Mississauga and Caledon.

The Region says the funding will support approximately 10,000 trips, helping address "growing demand for the service."

"Overall, TransHelp ridership is projected to reach about 920,000 trips in 2026, an increase of roughly 10% compared to 2025," says the Region.



PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK – Members of Caledon Council and Bethell Hospice proclaimed May 3 to 9 as Hospice Palliative Care Week in Caledon and raised the Bethell Hospice flag at Town Hall on Wednesday afternoon. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Caledon begins process to find new Integrity Commissioner

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At the General Committee meeting on May 5, Caledon Council moved to initiate procurement process for the appointment of a new Integrity Commissioner, letting the current contract expire.

Currently, the Integrity commissioner position is held by Boghosian & Allen LLP, with the contract set to expire on November 30, 2026.

The current integrity commissioner has faced numerous instances of backlash in the past, including his announcement of his intention to file a police complaint against Councillor Dave Sheen for alleged

attempted extortion.

Many residents gathered at Town Hall last October to call for the IC's resignation or dismissal.

A staff report was brought forward at the General Committee meeting with two options: either a four-year extension or a new appointment in the next term of Council.

Councillor Christina Early moved to pursue the second option, and it was unanimously approved by Council.

There will now be an initiated procurement process for the appointment of a new IC, and Staff will report back by the end of this term of Council with options for interim appointments of an IC from another municipality until a new Integrity Commissioner is appointed for the Town of Caledon by the next term of Council.

ELEMENTS

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

WILDFIELD VILLAGE LOCAL SUBWATERSHED STUDY

A virtual public information meeting has been scheduled to discuss the Local Subwatershed Study (LSS) for the Wildfield Village Secondary Plan Area. The Study Area is generally bounded by Centreville Creek Road (west); Mayfield Road (south); the planned Highway 413 Transportation Corridor (north); and the West Humber River (east)

The Wildfield Village Secondary Plan was approved by Town of Caledon Council in July 2025. The purpose of this meeting is to provide an overview and update on the multi-disciplinary LSS process to date. The LSS intends to establish a baseline characterization of environmental conditions and natural systems in a study area. The LSS is being prepared in support of future development in the approved Wildfield Village Secondary Plan Area. This is the second public information meeting for the LSS - a first meeting was held on February 18, 2025.

The scheduled meeting is virtual and there will be a formal presentation from the LSS project team followed by a question and comment period. To register for the virtual meeting, please send your name and address to shor.on@sglplanning.ca with "Wildfield Village Secondary Plan Area - LSS Information Meeting" as the subject. A link with access instructions will be sent to you. If you have any questions about the LSS or the approved Wildfield Village Secondary Plan, please send your name and email address to Sierra Horon (SGL) at shor.on@sglplanning.ca or 416-923-6630 Ext. 35 with "Wildfield Village Secondary Plan Area - LSS Information Meeting" as the subject.

ORGANIZED BY:
SGL Planning & Design Inc. (SGL), SCS Consulting Group Ltd. (SCS), GEI Consultants Canada (GEI) & Wildfield Village Land Owners Group

MEETING DATE:
May 28, 2026

MEETING TIME:
7:00 - 8:00 pm
(the presentation will begin at 7:00 pm)

BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Reflections on Mary Simon

When push comes to shove, I think it's safe to say that Canadians are proud of our country.

Sure, there are those who look to our neighbours to the south for their flashy brand of patriotism as somehow superior to our own quiet homegrown pride – I can't count the number of times I heard the co-opted commercial catch phrase "only in Canada" delivered with something of a dismissive snort.

Then there are others who like to drone on and on (and on) about how Canada is allegedly "broken" when, if you really want to get down to brass tacks, it's only broken because the person you want to ride in on a proverbial white charger to apparently save the day has faced more than a few stumbles coming out of the starting block.

There are more still who subscribe to a certain brand of Canadian pride that is defined by what we aren't rather than what we are. There's a value to that, don't get me wrong, particularly when put up against those aforementioned southern neighbours, but, personally speaking, I'd rather take pride in what we are than what we are not.

One of the facets of Canada I hold particularly close to my heart is our system of government – that is the system itself, not the individuals who may or may not hold office at any given point. It's a system that has served the country well and stood the test of time, and a key component of that is the role of the Canadian Crown.

I've taken my fair share of jibes over the years for my enthusiasm for the institution. Yes, there are valid arguments for and against maintaining it in this country, but, in my view, it's hard to argue with results.

Many Canadians have questioned the Crown's relevance over the years. Heck, its status has been a question since Confederation in 1867, but its value has certainly been demonstrated especially in the last couple of years as we face down threats to our independence and very existence.

Take, for instance, multiple sources reporting that not only did the incumbent President of the United States not know King Charles III is Canada's Head of State, but that the realization of that very basic fact is apparently one of the few reasons "51st State" rhetoric has died down.

This was demonstrated a year ago this month when the King opened Parliament, the first time the sovereign had done so since 1977, and as recently as last week when the King wasted no opportunity to remind his hosts at the White House of this truth, regardless of the fact he was acting in his capacity as Head of State of the United Kingdom at the time.

It is also being demonstrated this week with the appointment on Tuesday of celebrated jurist and human rights advocate Louise Arbour as Canada's Governor General-designate, succeeding the history-making tenure of Mary Simon as the King's representative here at home.

Mary Simon was appointed to the role in 2021, picking up from the brief and rather disastrous tenure of astronaut Julie Payette, whose resignation led to many Canadians to question the value of maintaining role in our governmental hierarchy when the office holder seemed to have little idea – or regard for – the role she accepted.

An Inuk, Simon has the distinction of being the first Indigenous Governor General in our nearly 160-year history of this country – a distinction that is much more than just a historical footnote.

As it became clear over the last week or so

that Simon's time at Rideau Hall was coming to an end – a Governor General's term has typically been about five years, give or take a year or two – it seems as though Simon's achievements in office have taken a backseat to the fact that she's not fluent in French.

Now, I'm not discounting the importance of the person representing the Crown in Canada being able to speak both official languages. In fact, it's a qualification more important for a Governor General than an Air Canada honcho. But, as Simon's husband Whit Fraser retorted early on in his wife's term, Simon is bilingual – and how many of her critics can fluently speak an Indigenous language? It's not in the job description, but it certainly doesn't hurt!

The former Prime Minister was criticized for appointing a person with minimal knowledge of the French language to the post, but, in my view, it was the right appointment for the right moment, an important step in our collective road to Truth & Reconciliation and, in Simon, an invaluable path through whom we had – and continue to have – an important national conversation.

"What I value most about my upbringing was my parents teaching my siblings and I how to live in two worlds: the Inuit world and the non-Inuit southern world," said Simon in her installation speech. "This foundation of core values has both served and shaped me throughout my life and I believe helped me get to the important turning point as a young girl when I stopped being afraid. It took time before I gained the self-confidence to assert myself and my beliefs in a non-Indigenous world, but when I came to understand that my voice had power and that others were looking to me to be their voice, I was able to let go of my fear...."

"I have always viewed Canada as a metaphor for a family. As members of our large and diverse Canadian family, we have to replace the hurt with hope and find the grace and humility to stand together and move towards a more just and equitable future.... Since the publication of the Truth & Reconciliation Report six years ago, we have learned as a country that we need to learn the real history of Canada. Embracing this truth makes us stronger as a nation, unites Canadian society and teaches our kids that we must always do our best, especially when it's hard...."

"Reconciliation is a way of life and requires work every day. Reconciliation is getting to know one another. Reconciliation invites us to get to know one another. As stated in the Truth & Reconciliation Commission Report, reconciliation must support Aboriginal peoples as they heal from destructive legacies of colonization that have wreaked such havoc in their lives. We are reminded daily that even though diversity is a core Canadian value, our country must do more to respect all languages, cultures, ethnicities, religions, and ways of living. As Governor-General, I will embody our nation's commitment to diversity and acceptance."

In that, I think Mary Simon can look back with pride over her time as Canada's Governor-General and with the sense of an accomplished mission.

Canadians, in turn, can take pride in the fact that Mary Simon succeeded in her mandate, represented Canadians abroad admirably.

And further pride can be found in the fact she is set to be succeeded by another eminent Canadian with a distinguished career, a proven track record, and a commitment to values so many of us hold close to our hearts.



Let's recognize and welcome "breaths of fresh air"

by Mark Pavilons



We've all used the phrase "a breath of fresh air" in our lives.

While typically used to describe someone or something that brings a refreshing and positive change to a situation, I've found a new meaning – "an inhale of epic proportions, brought about by a joyful encounter."

I had a couple recently.

One happened while enjoying lunch with a long-time King resident. It was a social time, to catch up and just discuss life and all of its trials and tribulations.

While the conversation ranged from my health issues to raising children, it reminded me of why I love my job – the people I meet. Life isn't about things, or possessions, it's about encounters, experiences and being able to grow as a human because of them.

My friends, we are all friends, acquaintances, teachers, mentors, sounding boards and storytellers. We feed off one another's energy.

I've known this for some time, but I've forgotten how refreshing it can be. The weight on my shoulders has been tilting my walk and taking away from things that made me feel, well, like myself.

An open mind, they say, is like an open window – it lets the fresh air in.

Ernesto Bertarelli reminds us that while we can't change who we are or what we're going through, we can "refresh what you're thinking about, you can put some fresh air in your brain."

Quite right.

I love summer, the fresh air on my face and the wind blowing through my hair. Anyone can enjoy these things, while driving in your car, sitting on a park bench, or playing catch with your dog in an wide open field.

Listing to the trees sway and even a nearby babbling brook are benefits of this rock we're on.

They're free to enjoy by all, if only we took the time to pause and reflect.

Of course, people make the world go around, and are our lives are shaped by human interaction. We are capable of many things and are more than willing to help lend a hand when called upon.

"Encouragement is awesome. Think about it. It has the capacity to lift a man's or a woman's shoulders. To breathe fresh air into the fading embers of a smoldering dream. To actually change the course of another human being's day, week, or life," said Charles R. Swindoll.

My cancer journey has impacted almost every aspect of my life. I've held off making long-term plans and I have felt isolated, holed up in my office, cut off from the world.

My computer and email are my lifelines to the community and the people who I have come to know and love. I am happy to converse with anyone, any-

time.

My columns are open and honest reflections of what I've become and I'm sorry if they've dwelled on my hardships. It's quite a departure from who I used to be.

That being said, we are social creatures and we depend on connections with others. Meaningful relationships lead to more fulfilling lives.

I've stayed in touch with everyone in my work circles and we've made a concerted effort on the home front for more family dinners and events.

I must admit that I miss those face-to-face interactions that were so abundant just a few short years ago (post-COVID).

This recent lunch once again shifted my perspective. It allowed me to speak openly, share stories and jokes and as Billy Joel said, "to forget about life for a while ..."

Why is this? As neuroscientist Matthew Lieberman says, "Evolution has placed a bet that the best thing for our brain to do in any spare moment is to get ready to see the world socially." We are always preparing for our next social interaction, to engage with the thoughts, feelings, and intentions of other people.

Another "event" came courtesy of a long-time friend and former teacher.

She dropped by to basically pass on her strength and prayers. In a way, she shared some universal truths about love, self-worth and healing.

Yes, it was a lot to take in during a short visit on a Friday afternoon.

But the gesture, and genuine compassion, spoke volumes, not only about the person she is, but what she sees in others.

That's a gift, to be sure.

Envy those who have unflinching strength – in themselves, their talents and their faith. It's like having a superpower.

Of course, no power comes without a great deal of self-sacrifice, personal soul-searching and embracing grace.

When we empower, support and encourage those around us, we create a feeling where everyone feels seen, valued and inspired. Lifting others up – through simple acts of kindness – creates a ripple effect.

Offering words of encouragement can shift someone's entire perspective. Simply being a source of positivity by showing up with kindness, patience, and an open heart can make all the difference, according to Melony Johnson.

We simple humans are not just a mish-mash of bones, blood and DNA. Oh, no. We're much, much more.

We are the sum of all who came before us. We are extensions of all that is good in the universe.

We are part of the cosmos.

We have been given a tremendous gift and legacy, passed down by average folk, altruists, creators, leaders, builders, prophets and even the messiah.

Believe what you will, but we are not here by accident, mistake or mishap. We are designed to be who we are, with a dash of the brightest of lights.

And that design encourages us to go out, to give, to empower, to enlighten and to love.

We are inspired to comfort, revitalize, and yes, refresh.

That breath of fresh air can come from each and every one us.

Let's let loose and offer "refreshments" to all of our brothers and sisters.

Submit your **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Premature Optimism

Is it too soon to express hope for the future of Caledon? Are we buoyed prematurely as we watch some of the names coming forward as candidates begin registering for this October's municipal election? Clearly change is on the agenda and both Mayor Grove's retirement announcement and Regional Councillor Early's first day entrance into the Mayoral race heralds a new era for Caledon. There is reason to be optimistic, sure. But is it too soon? The short answer is "Yes," but that has more to do with Premier Ford.

Perhaps you're already tired of hearing about FOI, Special Economic Zones, "gravy planes" and Toronto land grabs, or you're wondering about their relevance to Caledon. The reality is that much of what Premier Ford is doing right now represents a relentless attack on democracy that will ultimately impact us all. By conducting late night sessions passing bills under cover of darkness prohibiting the press, or anyone, from using Freedom of Information requests to hold the government to account, the consequences are - well - we'll never be able to hold the government to account. At least not for anything that has happened this past 40 years. Things like greenbelt and whitebelt land allocations for example. Such decisions have had, and will continue to have, a direct impact on Caledon in terms of our growth; housing land allocations, the environment, our drinking water safety, whether new pits and blasting quarries are approved and whether the filling of old pits (and fully rehabilitated lakes) with construction fill can occur.

Premier Ford also ushered in the era of so-called "Strong Mayor" powers which our current Mayor used to help make controversial zoning decisions on 12 parcels of land. Not content with providing this legal framework to some municipalities like ours, and under the guise of speeding up approvals for housing, Mr. Ford has now also granted some of those same municipalities, including ours, "Strong Regional Chair" powers.

With so much at stake in terms of growth

and how it's managed over the coming years, one would be forgiven for wondering what's the point of an elected Town Council when it's entirely possible a provincially appointed Regional Chair could override local decision making? Putting a more positive spin on it however, perhaps it highlights how important it is that we have a good mayoral candidate - with experience at the regional table - to be able to advocate for Caledon's land and water, even in the face of such potential adversity.

We have much to be concerned about. Our education system remains under attack by Ford's appointed Minister of Education Paul Calandra, and land grabs by the Premier continue along the Toronto waterfront making it less and less accessible to both residents and visitors alike. The distraction of the "gravy plane" purchase served as an excellent foil both for his FOI bill, and his government's legislation (Bills 60 and 98) that will potentially result in the privatization of water. Why should any resident, anywhere (but especially here) be concerned? Because the Premier is piloting this new "water and wastewater delivery model" right here in Peel Region, meaning it is Caledon residents drinking water, already at risk from potential landfill operations, that is being placed at further risk by the actions of Ford's conservative majority government.

So, while it is heartening to see active, engaged residents, including some new faces, putting their names forward to take part in the upcoming municipal election, any initial optimism is tempered by the long and winding road ahead of us. Those candidates are facing a challenging time for our community and it's going to require fresh perspectives, and a strong backbone, to make independent decisions that are in the best interests of their local constituents, even when faced with a Premier who issues damaging, undemocratic edicts from on high.



Councillors Nick de Boer and Lynn Kiernan won't seek re-election this fall. TOWN OF CALEDON IMAGES

Two Councillors announce intention to not seek re-election

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On their personal Facebook pages, within one day of one another, Councillors Nick de Boer and Lynn Kiernan announced their decisions not to seek re-election in this fall's municipal election.

Both Councillors have served their wards for numerous years.

For the past 23 years, de Boer has been a Councillor representing both Wards 3 and 4.

In his post, he stated that he has enjoyed representing the voice of rural Caledon and agriculture, both at the Council table and at other levels of government.

"I do fondly look back at the many staff and fellow councillors that I have been able to work with over the years who have helped deliver the needs of our community. I will continue to remain active in Caledon as a volunteer, as I have for over 40 years and to help raise the 5th generation on our Caledon Farm," stated de Boer in the post.

Kiernan has represented Ward 1 for the past eight years. She stated in her post that "serving this community has been one of the greatest honours of my life."

In her post, Kiernan touched on recent planning and development concerns, stating that "Caledon is at a turning point."

"From a package of 12 contentious zoning by-laws introduced all at once, to a proposal that would allow Swan Lake to be filled in, and others which would fundamentally reshape our

rural landscape. These are not abstract policy debates. They will determine what Caledon looks like, feels like, and stands for for generations to come," she stated.

She notes that Ward 1 is "facing pressures" and says she believes "development pressures have been prioritized over the natural environment, farmland, and the rural character that define who we are."

"I have also been deeply concerned by a pattern of decision-making that has not always felt as open or accountable as it should be. When the public is not fully informed, or when meaningful public engagement is limited, trust is eroded and our community deserves better."

Kiernan stated that she believed it was important to "stand firm in protecting what makes Ward 1 so special."

In her post, she encourages people to "carefully consider" the next four years of Caledon when it comes time for the upcoming municipal election.

"The decisions made in this election will shape our Town in ways that cannot easily be undone," she says.

"Through it all, the people of Ward 1 have remained resilient, engaged, and deeply committed to this community. Your voices, your advocacy, and your care for this place have stayed with me every step of the way. For that, I am truly grateful," stated Kiernan. "As I step away from elected office, I do so with a deep appreciation for the opportunity I was given to serve. I hope I have honoured the trust you placed in me by standing up for this community, especially when it mattered most."

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ARTS & CULTURE

CMOW to host community screening of Silver Screammers

Silver Screammers is work of local director Sean Cisterna

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On May 29, Caledon Meals on Wheels will host a community film screening in Bolton for residents to enjoy the heartwarming and hilarious documentary *Silver Screammers*.

Silver Screammers, directed by Bolton-born Sean Cisterna, follows a group of local seniors and their journey in creating a horror short film, and the triumphs and tribulations that come along with it.

The documentary sheds light on the joy of creativity in seniors.

“We wanted to set out to prove that imagination doesn’t retire and creativity doesn’t expire,” says Cisterna.

For him, a creative outlet provides a sense of fulfillment, he says.

“I presuppose that our hero protagonists, our older adults, also felt the same way. It was amazing, once we all started collectively working on this horror film, we all strove towards the same goal and it really united us as a team.”

Silver Screammers began as one director’s struggle for financing.

Cisterna explains he had been seeking funding to create his horror film, but kept getting rejected.

It wasn’t until he received a flyer for the New Horizons for Seniors Program, a federal grant that funds community-based projects designed to reduce social isolation, promote volunteerism, and empower seniors across Canada, that a new idea came to mind: a filmmaking workshop for seniors, which would, in turn, lead to the creation of his horror movie.

What began as a horror film turned into much more as Cisterna recounts the process



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN CISTERNA

of educating each individual in the world of filmmaking and the “beautiful” environment it created.

“It was all about sharing filmmaking knowledge and at the same time, in a reciprocal sense, they came at problems on a film set and solved them with their own creativity based on their own lived experience,” he explains. “It was a beautiful way of intergenerational workplace basically that we both helped each other. The two different generations helped each other solve these creative problems on set as they arose.”

The documentary itself has triumphed,

receiving Best Documentary at the 2025 Toronto After Dark Film Festival and Best Feature at Celluloid Screams - Sheffield Horror Film Festival.

The film has travelled across Canada and is now returning locally to Bolton, in collaboration with Caledon Meals on Wheels.

Executive Director Kim Rodrigues says that a board member who was familiar with Cisterna’s work first piqued their interest. She adds they thought the documentary was “an interesting and fun way to really showcase older adults.”

“I think people have a preconceived notion of what it’s like to age or to be older and I think a documentary like this really showcase how people as they age continue to want to find ways to express themselves, to be seen, to be involved in the community, and to do really cool things,” says Rodrigues.

“Caledon Meals on Wheels is really about providing those opportunities to reduce isolation for some of those seniors who may be isolated, but also to have people recognize and appreciate our older adults. Just because you’re in your eighties doesn’t mean that you don’t stop wanting to have fun and learn and do different things. So, we thought the movie was such a great embodiment of that and we’re really excited to be part of it.”

The screening will take place at the Albion Bolton Community Centre from 6 – 8 p.m. on May 29. Tickets are \$25, including snacks, and are available at www.cmow.org or by calling 905-857-7651.

A Q&A with Cisterna will follow the screening.

For him, returning to Caledon with his film is “amazing.”

“To be able to screen the film in the community where I grew up and spent my formative, creative years in high school, it’s a remarkable experience just to celebrate with the community,” he says.

“As part of our job in the film industry as directors, we travel to different film festivals around the world. We engage with audiences, and we might not necessarily know who they are. But, when you do something like this at home, it adds that level of comfort and familiarity, and I think there’s more joy in sharing a project with your own community rather than screening it internationally.”

For Cisterna, he says he loves being able to screen this film at large cinemas and festivals across the country, but screening it in community settings adds another layer: “showing how important culture is to smaller communities,” he says.

It also provides an opportunity for those unable to attend some of the larger venues, such as those in Toronto.

“It’s nice to see the community come out and support a film in a non-traditional venue,” says Cisterna.

He also offers the opportunity for other communities to get involved: Cisterna travels, offering screenings for the community as well as a filmmaking workshop for older adults. If there are those connected to organizations who would be open to the possibility, he invites them to see it for themselves.

Rodrigues urges the community to purchase tickets in advance to secure a spot.

“We emphasize that aging doesn’t necessarily mean stepping back. It definitely means continuing to engage in your community, doing different things, trying different things, and that’s something that we’re always offering to our programs as well,” she adds. “We’re excited about this movie and to have some laughs together and to see what a horror movie looks like from the perspective of an older adult.”

“We think it’ll be really fun and we’re excited to welcome everybody, regardless of your age, to the movie on May 29.”

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Bolton West Secondary Plan and Subwatershed Study

FILE NUMBERS: POPA 2025-0015

You are invited to learn more and share your input about the Town’s Bolton West Secondary Plan and Subwatershed Study projects.

OPEN HOUSE INFORMATION

Date and Time: Tuesday June 2nd, 2026, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Town Hall Atrium, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon East

The open house will begin with a presentation, followed by opportunities for smaller group discussions with the project team.

The Secondary Plan project team will present an updated direction for the Bolton West Secondary Plan (see map on right), building on previous consultation and ongoing technical work. This updated direction reflects how feedback received to date and emerging study findings are informing the evolution of land use concepts for the area.

This session is intended to share progress, highlight key themes, and outline the next steps toward establishing the Town’s preferred direction for the Secondary Plan. Detailed technical studies are ongoing and will continue to inform future refinements.

Town representatives from the subwatershed study project team will also be on-hand to provide information about the ongoing Bolton West Subwatershed Study.

QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO:

Lead Planner:

Anthony Ferri, Senior Planner
Planning and Development Department
905-584-2272 ext. 4274
anthony.ferri@caledon.ca

Stormwater Lead:

Alexandra Veglio, Project Manager
Stormwater
Engineering, Public Works, and
Transportation
905-584-2272 ext. 4588
alexandra.veglio@caledon.ca



Bolton West Secondary Plan area.

To learn more about both projects visit the project website at:

haveyoursaycaledon.ca/bolton-west-secondary-plan



6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6
caledon.ca
T. 905.584.2272 | 1.888.225.3366 | F. 905.584.4325

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.

Special Lunch - Wed. May 13, 2026

Join us for a special lunch at the Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton on Wed. May 13, 2026! The menu is Fish & Chips, Coleslaw & Lemon Éclair Dessert. Pick-up at 11:45 am, dine-in served at 12:00 pm and local delivery available for \$2. Cost is \$11. Order your meals by Monday, May 11 at 3:30 pm. For more information, call the Centre at 905-951-6114.

Men’s Lunch – Tuesday, May 19, 2026

The Caledon Seniors Centre is hosting their Men’s Lunch on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at Rotary Place in Bolton. Lunch menu is fish & chips, coleslaw, & pineapple sunshine cake.

Topic is: There Is More Than 1 Way To Shoot A Moose: Wildlife The Way I See It. Presenter Gary Hall, Wildlife Photographer. Cost is \$11. Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 to purchase your tickets by Friday, May 15 at 12 PM.

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!

Downtown Bolton celebrates Cinco De Mayo with Street Festival

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Downtown Bolton came alive last Saturday night, celebrating Mexican culture with its very own Cinco De Mayo festival.

Both inside and outside the Humber River Centre were packed with attendees enjoying live performances, an indoor vendor market, and various delicacies.

Captivating the audience's attention were both mariachi bands and traditional dances.

The event is a returning celebration put on by local organization, the Bolton Community Crew (BCC).

Sarah Leslie, BCC chair, says the event has been running for seven years, growing more and more each May, both in attendees and vendors.

Residents could shop for a variety of clothes, jewelry, food, and more.

One of those vendors was local florist Samantha D'Alessandro, and her business, Heavy Petals.

Attendees could be seen browsing her selection of available flowers and bouquets and even entering her raffle.

After honing her skills for more than 10 years, when D'Alessandro returned to Canada from Australia, she knew it was time to open her own business.

With a brand-new business and being a local resident herself, she said she came to Cinco De Mayo as a vendor because, with a community-based business, she wanted to show Bolton what they're all about.

"It's very community-based and because I'm local I like to carry community-based, shop local, that kind of thing," added D'Alessandro. "I thought it would be nice to come celebrate and let people see what we're all about."

Leslie said that at the BCC, they feel it's important to bring culture to the community.

"We find that because Cinco de Mayo is a well-known festival pretty much across the world, we did want to bring a little piece of it here," she said, adding it's an opportunity to both teach the community and celebrate at the same time.

"The proof is in the pudding, people want things to do," said Leslie, looking out at the large crowd gathered around the live performances.

Even on an unexpected chilly May night, more than hundred residents came out to enjoy the festival.

"We've also had a very long winter; this is an opportunity for everyone to get out of their house and do something fun that they normally wouldn't do," said Leslie. "For us, when we host an event, and we see this type of turnout, we [think], yeah, we nailed it. This was the goal."

"This was the goal, to get our community members out, enjoy something different, and our mission has been accomplished."



(Top) Mayor Annette Groves dons a sombrero at the Cinco de Mayo event. (Middle) Samantha D'Alessandro. (Above) Council and community members could be seen dressed in their best attire for the celebration. PHOTOS BY RILEY MURPHY



NEWS

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

Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day



Saturday, May 9 at the Alton Library

Start your morning with a guided bird walk from 9 to 10 a.m., led by the Caledon Bird Team, and discover which species are passing through this season.

From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., join guest speaker Shaun Booth of In Our Nature to learn how native plant gardening and simple changes at home can make a big difference for birds.

Coffee and treats will be available. caledon.ca/birdfriendly

Get a jump on your summer fitness goals.

We are offering all access summer student memberships for as low as \$48.20 per month. These memberships include access to fitness centres, aquatics, and gymnasiums at facilities across Town. This special pricing is only available from May 1 – August 31 for ages 11 to 54 with proof of student ID. Visit caledon.ca/memberships to learn more.



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!

Applications close on Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

Visit caledon.ca/grants for full details and to apply!



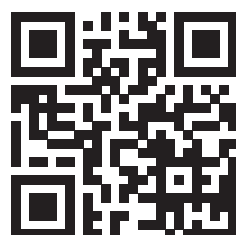
Join the Caledon Sport Hall of Fame Committee

The Town of Caledon is looking to recruit residents to be part of the Caledon Sport Hall of Fame Committee. The Committee consists of five community volunteers (two members on a three-year term and three members on a two-year term, inclusive of one chair), with experience supporting the sports community within Caledon, and will be responsible for recommending Inductees to Council for the Caledon Sport Hall of Fame.

The Town of Caledon is looking for residents to join the Caledon Sport Hall of Fame Committee.

Interested? Apply by Sunday, May 10, 2026!

Visit Caledon.ca/Committees



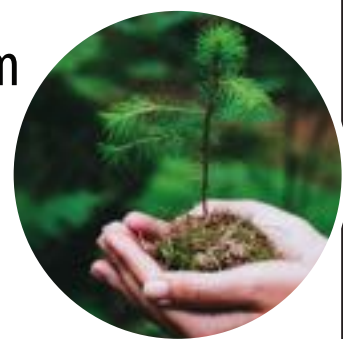
Caledon's annual Tree Seedling Program

The Town of Caledon's annual Tree Seedling Program is back! Caledon residents, businesses and schools can now place online orders for potted trees, shrubs, bundled seedlings and mulch mats on our online storefront.

Hurry – inventory is sold on a first come, first-served basis.

The Tree Seedling store will close at the end of the day on May 10.

Visit caledon.ca/seedlings for more information and to order.



Interim Property Taxes are Due

Property tax due date is **Thursday, May 7, 2026.**

Regular late payment fees apply.

For payment options visit: caledon.ca/tax.



6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6
caledon.ca
311 | 905.584.2272 | 1.888.225.3366 | F. 905.584.4325

To obtain this page in an alternative format please contact x.2366 or legislative@caledon.ca

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PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Caledon residents continue to voice concerns over Draft Site Alteration By-Law

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The second open house for the proposed Site Alteration By-Law was held this Monday, following additional consultation, which was ratified by Caledon Council in January.

The proposed Site Alteration by-law has drawn concern since September 2025, when the first draft and open house were released and held.

Many residents call for the draft to be scrapped and for the existing fill by-law to be enforced.

The Site Alteration By-Law will repeal and replace the Town's current fill by-law. In February of 2020, a working group was established to develop the new bylaw, and the draft was first presented in 2025.

The Town shares that the current 2007 by-law needs updating as it does not align with significant changes to the Municipal Act, Conservation Authorities Act, Ontario Regulation 406/19, Provincial guidance documents, or current industry best practices.

Staff at the open house say that they are looking to modernize and update the by-law, as it was ratified and adopted in 2007.

"Certainly Caledon from 2007 isn't what's at our doorstep today," says Domenica D'Amico, Commissioner of Engineering, Transportation, and Public Works. "There's a lot of changes that have been made to the landscape in Caledon and we need to be in a better position to sort of respond to that."

Staff shared the proposed by-law "creates a compliant, comprehensive framework that regulates fill placement and removal, grading, and drainage alterations on any site, regardless of zoning."

The proposed by-law requirements for issuing a permit are broken down into categories for small, medium, and large site alterations.

Council approval will continue to be required for site alterations exceeding 10,000 cubic metres.

The proposed by-law will also include standardized requirements for studies, drawing, monitoring, and reporting, including a requirement for a Site Alteration and Fill management Plan for Large and Medium Site Alterations.

The latest draft of the by-law introduces changes, including the requirement for public consultation and Council approval for large site permits, rather than at the discretion of the commissioner.

It also introduces discretionary public consultation for medium site alteration permits, as well as expanding requirements for large site alteration projects undertaken by Conservation Authorities, the Commissioner's authorization to impose additional requirements for large and medium site alteration permits, and an annual review process for large site alteration projects that have not been completed within the year.

"I'm looking for flexibility required to

support and regulate not only Caledon's projected growth, but activities that are happening today regarding fill operations, and they're happening across Caledon that aren't giving you the protection you need under the current fill bylaw as residents of Caledon," says D'Amico. "Really just achieving better controls and consistency on the way the bylaw is applied and the permitting process, including the development of a guideline manual."

The proposed by-law was also said to allow the enforcement of different types of orders that are not currently allowed.

A handout at the meeting stated that the Town has limited administrative authority to deny applications, and Council approval is required only when an exemption is sought for a large fill operation.

During the meeting, residents raised various concerns, including the source of the imported fill, enforcement challenges, realistic limits, and more.

Resident Gord Boughner posed the question to the room, "Why can't Caledon be different?"

"Why can't Caledon say, within this fill by-law, Caledon fill only comes from Caledon?" asked Boughner. "If Caledon wants to be different, Caledon has to think different, do something different. We do not have to take GTA fill."

In the meeting handout, it was stated that imported soil and fill must meet the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' regulations.

Concerns were also raised regarding air quality implications and zoning matters.

Residents also asked questions following the recent passing of a motion at an April Planning and Development meeting, which was tabled and then passed to keep the existing Fill By-law in full force and effect.

"The effect of the motion that got ratified at Council was simply to maintain the status quo. That motion said the existing by-law remains in force, in effect, which it does, and enforcement continues under the existing by-law, which it does. That by-law did not prevent this Council from considering future by-laws being brought forward," says Stephen Chisholm, Assistant Town Solicitor.

Staff also answered questions regarding fill coming from outside Caledon, saying that it may be "awkward" for a developer to obtain fill of the geotechnical quality they may require from the area, especially if fill from somewhere such as Toronto is "ideal."

"We don't want to restrict the businesses and developments in Caledon that are doing legitimate things," says Staff.

Staff encouraged residents to continue to voice their concerns and questions on the "Have Your Say" page for the proposed by-law, which will close on May 29.

The next step is that the proposed by-law will come forward to Council; the date has not yet been set.

BUSINESS



YOUR SOURCE FOR BUSINESS IN CALEDON

Fill your Cup at the Caledon Chamber of Commerce's 2nd Annual Rise and Thrive Meditation and Wellness Event

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon Chamber of Commerce is inviting the community to take a morning for themselves on May 12, and join them at their second annual Rise and Thrive Meditation and Wellness event.

The Chamber has designed a morning to help businesses and the community slow down, reset, and reconnect.

Stephanie Rowe, Administrative Assistant with the Chamber, says that often they hear from their businesses that they are struggling with burnout.

Rowe says the idea began with Marion Upshall, the president of the Caledon Chamber of Commerce.

"She very much is one who believes in focusing on your mental health, where you're at and making sure that you're not suffering from burnout and that you're giving yourself that self-care," explains Rowe. "Although bubble baths and shopping are great, your mental health really plays a key role in that."

Rowe adds that if businesses aren't "filling their own cup," it can be hard to manage their business on top of that.

This sparked the idea for their inaugural Rise and Thrive event last year, and, seeing its success and positive community feedback, they've brought it back.

"A lot of people came to us a couple months later saying, I've really focused on this, and I'm feeling so much better in my business. I'm able to function, and I'm able to get those things done that I was so overwhelmed by be-

fore."

This year's event will feature keynote Wellness Speaker, Dr. Rupa Salwan, ND, and breakout sessions for attendees guiding in Qi Gong, meditation, and sound therapy.

Obtaining the practitioners and leaders for the breakout groups, Rowe explains, was a community effort, with various residents and businesses recommending one another.

It is said to be beginner-friendly event inclusive of all experience levels, and the day is complete with practical take-home techniques for managing stress and anxiety.

The day itself, Rowe says, will be a morning of like-minded people coming together to experience wellness, with the opportunity to connect with one another.

"So many of us forget that we are so important too, and that our mental health is a huge component of how our overall well-being is. I don't think that we remember to put that on our priority list," says Rowe. "I don't want to see people suffering from burnout and taking the time to really give yourself that mental health break, that information, those activities that can help to bolster your mental health is really pouring back into your business and your life."

The event is not just for business owners, but open to everyone looking to experience a morning of reset and reconnection.

"It is an all-encompassing event that anyone can benefit from. It's not specifically entrepreneurs," explains Rowe. "I think we all, at some point in our lives, get to the point where we're

a little burnt out, we've got a lot on our plate, and we're overwhelmed. Whether you're an employee of a company or whether you own it."

"It's an inclusive event, and just about anybody who attends is going to find some benefit in it."

The event will be held at Mount Alverno Luxury Resort on May 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, with tickets priced at \$60 for members and \$75 for non-members.

Tickets can be purchased on the Caledon Chamber of Commerce website at caledonchamberofcommerce.ca/rise-thrive-meditation-wellness-workshop, and must be purchased before Friday.



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Meaghan's Music Room to host Charity Poker Night

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

With gatherings and galas galore, Meaghan's Music Room is doing something a little different for its upcoming fundraiser.

The charity will hold a poker night on May 22 to raise funds to continue supporting Meaghan's Music Room and its various programs.

Meaghan's Music Room is a charity organization based at Tisho's Music Academy in Bolton that provides specialized music and dance lessons as a resource for those with mental and physical challenges to pursue their passions and love of music.

In addition to running their own lessons and programs, Meaghan's Music Room also supports several local community organizations, including Brampton Caledon Community Living, Cassie's Place, White Birch, GOALS, and more.

Founder Mary Balinov looks back on the growth of their organization over the years and all the people they've been able to help.

But with growth comes the need for further fundraising.

Often offering subsidized programs and summer camps at no cost to the participants, Meaghan's Music Room works to ensure everyone can enjoy the experience.

"This is why we do what we do. Sadly, a lot of the individuals that we assist are legally adults age-wise, which means their government funding to the parents are cut off," explains Balinov.

"There's a lot of pressure on these parents, financial pressure...the camps are really the only source that they have to actually attend some camps in the summer that are free to them. We're hoping to raise approximately \$30,000, that would be what we would require to supply our programs to all these individuals and organizations

that we support."

Balinov adds their music programs are extremely therapeutic.

"We had individuals over the years that barely spoke, and yet in that room, surrounded by instruments and karaoke, they play and they sing and they dance," she says.

"For people with particularly neurological issues, music is magic. This is why they say, when words fail, music speaks."

That's also, therefore, why it's so important to keep these music programs running," she says.

Aiming to raise \$30,000 from their upcoming fundraiser, Balinov adds that "we

aim for the sky, but anything would be helpful right about now."

And, what better way to fundraise than a night of fun playing poker?

Individuals can either purchase individual tickets for \$100 or a table, and all ticket purchases include a buffet dinner.

The event will take place at 6.30 p.m. on May 22 at Caesar's Centre in Bolton.

To purchase a ticket, all purchases must be made through Anthony Caputo, either at (416) 938 7771, or acaputorealty@gmail.com.

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

Beginning May 1, 2026, Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month kicks off across Ontario, and the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding all road users to prioritize safety as motorcycle season ramps up.

Throughout the month of May, Dufferin OPP officers will be actively engaging with the public through both education and enforcement initiatives aimed at increasing awareness around motorcycle safety. With warmer weather bringing more motorcyclists onto Ontario roads, the campaign focuses on reducing collisions and encouraging safe practices among both riders and drivers.

Motorcycle safety is a shared responsibility. Whether you're on a bike or behind the wheel of a vehicle, staying alert and respectful of all road users is key to preventing serious injuries and fatalities.

Safety Tips for Motorcyclists:

- Wear proper gear, including a DOT-approved helmet, gloves, jacket, long pants, and protective boots;
- Inspect your motorcycle before each ride-check brakes, lights, tires, and fluid levels;

- Ride defensively and anticipate the actions of other drivers;
- Follow posted speed limits and obey all traffic signals;
- Make yourself visible by using signals, headlights, and wearing bright or reflective clothing;
- Maintain a safe following distance and avoid riding in other vehicles' blind spots;
- Ride sober and well-rested-fatigue and impairment significantly increase risk.

Safety Tips for Drivers:

- Check blind spots carefully before changing lanes or merging;
- Give motorcyclists plenty of space-do not tailgate;
- Watch closely for motorcycles at intersections and when turning left;
- Be extra cautious in poor weather or low-light conditions;
- Avoid distractions and stay focused on the road at all times;

Remember that motorcycles can be harder to judge in terms of speed and distance. The OPP encourages everyone to take this opportunity to refresh their road safety knowledge and help reduce preventable collisions. Whether you ride or drive, staying alert and following the rules of the road can save lives.

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Another record-breaking year for Hike for Bethell Hospice as it raises more than \$285,000

Continued from FRONT

“Please know that you make the work we do possible. We are so blessed and grateful for the support. It keeps growing,” says Paan. “We are here when you need us. We want to be here for you in the future, and we are glad to be part of your story. So, thank you very much for being here.”

Bethell Hospice welcomed Calistran Jesudasan, also known as Cali, the top individual fundraiser who raised more than \$14,000, to read aloud the poem “Walking Memories for the Future,” written by a past volunteer specifically for the hike.

MPP for Dufferin-Caledon Sylvia Jones attended the hike and spoke about the mission Bethell Hospice accomplishes each year. “The work that you are doing today for the Hike for Bethell really is making an impact on people’s lives,” said Jones.

She added that not only the work, but also the volunteering and commitment of the Board, make the lives of individuals and their families “much better at a very critical time.”

Attendees support the Hike each year for their own reasons, whether it be a friend or family member who spent time at Bethell Hospice, or those just looking to make a difference.

Ken and Nancy Yates have been attending Hike for Hospice for six years and participate in every fundraising opportunity for Bethell Hospice, including the annual tree lighting.

“My mom died in 1992 of kidney disease in Toronto General, and they put her in a private room, but there was nothing like Bethell House,” explains Nancy Yates. “When I heard that Bethell House needed so much support, I thought this is a good idea to be able to have that type of thing.”

Teams were also assembled in memory. Team Move for Michelle took part in the Hike in honour of their friend and family member, Michelle, who spent time at Bethell Hospice.

Team member Rick Marsh said this was their second year participating, and they had over 25 team members come together that day.

“We’re here for my daughter, Michelle, and it’s a great celebration,” says Marsh. “We’re glad to be here and have a memory, and we look forward to having a great day today.”

Bethell Hospice’s matching sponsor for the Hike was Scotiabank, and Mollie Cavan, with Scotiabank, attended with the team that day as part of the Scotiabank Community Team Program.

“If we get a certain number of volunteers and we raise money on the day, we can match it,” explained Cavan. “We have 30 people coming today to do a match of \$15,000 to the charity.”

Scotiabank has been participating in the Hike for many years now, and Cavan says they support Bethell in their various other fundraisers as well, including the annual Golf 4 Bethell Hospice Tournament, Diamond in the Hills, and more.

“For me, it’s really important. I did end-of-life care for my mother with my family, and it’s just important to be part of the community, 100%,” says Cavan. “We have the means to do it, it’s a great program that we use.”

With the annual group picture taken and presenting sponsor Caledon Build officially cutting the ribbon, the hike was open, and hundreds began their walk for a greater cause.



(TOP) Members from Bethell Hospice’s Volunteer Team gather for a photo at the start line. (ABOVE) Co-Chairs of the Bethell Hospice Foundation Adrian Horwood and Bonnie Klaassen.

PHOTOS BY RILEY MURPHY



(TOP) Hikers old, and young, took part in the 16th annual hike. Photo by Riley Murphy (ABOVE) Executive Director of Bethell Hospice Foundation Nicole Hand and Executive Director of Bethell Hospice Margaret Paan.

PHOTOS BY RILEY MURPHY

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 purpose(s) 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
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Please include the municipal address of the land in the comment.

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

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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.
- 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.

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PHOTO BY NICK PERRY

Caledon Cavaliers Rugby Football Club celebrates the 25th anniversary

BY JIM STEWART

Liz Coulter has seen all the manifestations of the Caledon Cavaliers Rugby Football Club over the last 25 years.

The organization's administrator played on the Cavs' first team in 2001, saw the franchise rise in the rankings until it disbanded in 2008, and witnessed its resurrection under the leadership of Michele Iacovelli in 2020 whose team of volunteers have restored the local rugby program to its former prominence.

Coulter described the origins and early successes of the program: "I was on the original girls' team in 2001. Our roots were at Humberview and most of us wanted a place to play after we graduated. We went into the Toronto Rugby Union—Todd Russell came up from Toronto and stepped in to coach us—and in 2003, we won the TRU B League championship. We beat teams that had been around forever—the Nomads, the Irish—and we kept the team going and achieved two perfect seasons in 2005 and 2006. Unfortunately, the team disbanded in 2008 as many of players started having families, and, unfortunately, the organization fell onto hard times. Mike started the resurgence of the program in 2020 and jumpstarted the Cavaliers with the Rookie Rugby program."

The current Cavs' registrar and Board member credited Iacovelli's vision for the organization's rise in popularity and success: "Mike motivated and empowered aspiring coaches and referees in the Cavaliers program. As well, he created a big team of volunteers. The club under Mike's leadership is now engrossed in supporting our teams on the field. We're encouraging the players' educational pathways to get them to the next level while supporting the community of Caledon that have given so much to us including improvements to our facility in Palgrave."

The Cavaliers' annual junior tournament has become so popular over the last three years that the event outgrew the rustic facilities at Palgrave Park and had to be moved to Johnson Sports Park in June 2026.

Coulter acknowledged the surge in rugby's popularity in the Town and surrounding areas: "We're sitting at 100 players registered as an organization ranging from one Senior Women's team to over 100 kids running around the fields and enjoying the game. We had phenomenal Junior Girls and Junior Boys results in 2025 and we're proud of our Youth Program's accomplishments over such a short period of time. Based on the growth of the organization and our success on the field, we received a special distinction award from Rugby Ontario in 2025."

In addition to the Cavaliers organization and its teams succeeding on and off the pitch, Coulter also foregrounded individual achievements as a source of communal pride: "Luca Iacovelli—who's also won the Rugby Ontario Junior Referee of the Year in 2024—earned a full tuition scholarship to play rugby with the McMaster Marauders and study engineering. The Schulich Leader Scholarship is a prestigious award valued at \$120,000 and Luca, who's a graduate of Humberview, just finished his second year at Mac. It couldn't have happened to a nicer guy—an upstanding young man. He's the Director of our referees at the age of 19. Another noteworthy achievement on the pitch was Cristian Iacovelli being selected to play for the Toronto Rugby Reds in the Fall. His U15 West squad captured the bronze medal at the Belwether 7's tournament in Brantford."

As part of the club's celebrations to mark its start 25 years ago, Coulter noted "the Caledon Cavaliers Minor Rugby Festival at the Johnson Sports Park will bring in hundreds of youth rugby players" and encouraged "registration in rugby for the Fall 7's season. Registration will run til August. The 7's season runs from August to October with tournaments in September and October. Training and games will take place at our home field at Palgrave Park. Until the Park is ready for us this Spring, we'll be running our practices at Humberview's turf field."

Go to www.caledoncavaliersrugby.ca to register for these Fall Rugby programs.



PHOTO BY NICK PERRY

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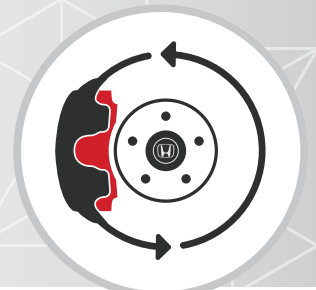
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Mono Cemetery to finally mark graves of 19th-century couple

BY JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A long-forgotten chapter of local history is being illuminated as one man's deep dive into his family's past reveals two ancestors buried for more than a century without markers.

Most people don't regularly think about their ancestors, be it who they were, what they did, and how their lives were lived – but Michael Grimes is tracing his fami-

ly line back for generations to make sure they are properly remembered.

It all started from a casual comment from his mother that set Grimes on a journey through family history, one that is now culminating in long-overdue recognition for two forgotten ancestors.

"It really kind of got started with my mom," he said. "She said to me one day, 'Did you know that my great grandmother died in the Orangeville jail?' And I started thinking more and more about it from there."

Surprised by the revelation, he began digging into genealogical records alongside his mother, who had long been interested in ancestry research. What began as curiosity quickly became a passion project as Grimes took on the work of piecing together the story.

"After my mom told me about it, we started to piece stuff together from there," he said. "Originally my mom was doing it, she's been working with ancestry forever. She's almost 90 now, so over time I took it over more and more, because she was worried at first that there would be no one

to continue the work."

Through historical documents, newspaper clippings and archival research, Grimes uncovered the story of his great-great-grandmother, Mary Ann (Gibson) Smith, who died in 1899 after spending her final year in jail as a described vagrant – likely suffering from dementia at a time when mental health was poorly understood.

"She likely had mental health issues or a form of dementia," Grimes said. "It was back in the 1800s, so mental health wasn't understood, and they didn't have mental institutions. They just put people like that in jails with criminals. She was actually the last female inmate of the jail."

Her husband, Robert Smith, had died earlier.

Both were buried in unmarked graves at Mitchell Cemetery, a historic site in Mono Township.

With no formal burial records marking their exact locations, Grimes relied on painstaking research. By tracing family members interred nearby – including their daughters and relatives – he concluded the couple was buried near an existing family monument. The cluster of graves, though unmarked, pointed to a shared resting place.

Determined to correct the historical oversight, Grimes approached municipal officials for permission to install a headstone.

"My mom always said that she wanted to put something out there, a stone to properly mark the graves," Grimes said. "We got in touch with Ralph Manktelow, a Mono councillor. He put us in contact with the clerk, and they granted permission for a flat stone. Mitchell Cemetery

has been under perpetual care since 1962, so basically it's closed and historic, so we had to get permission to place a stone there."

Along the way, the project has grown beyond a single goal of honouring a forgotten grave. Grimes has connected with a wide network of relatives – some previously unknown – spread across Ontario and beyond.

Many have contributed financially to the headstone and joined in the research effort, helping uncover generations of family history tied to the Hockley Valley area.

"Along the way while we were doing our research, we found a lot of second cousins, third cousins, a number of them we became really close to," Grimes said. "Everybody's really spread out. People are in Vancouver and Sudbury and all over the place."

"It's fantastic, the stuff that I've learned along the way. It's been a great experience," he added.

The journey has also revealed stories of early settlement, hardship and resilience, from immigration roots to connections with historic events and local landmarks. For Grimes, preserving that history has become just as important as marking the graves themselves.

A dedication ceremony is now planned for May 31 at Mitchell Cemetery in Mono. Grimes hopes to gather as many descendants as possible, along with community members who helped bring the project to life.

The ceremony will formally recognize Robert and Mary Ann Smith, ensuring their names – and their story – are no longer lost to time.

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And take a walk down memory lane
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I do it everyday
But missing you is a heartache
That never goes away*

*I hold you tightly within my heart
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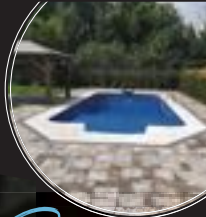
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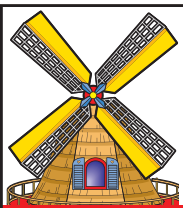
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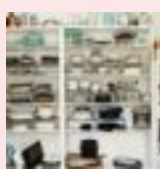
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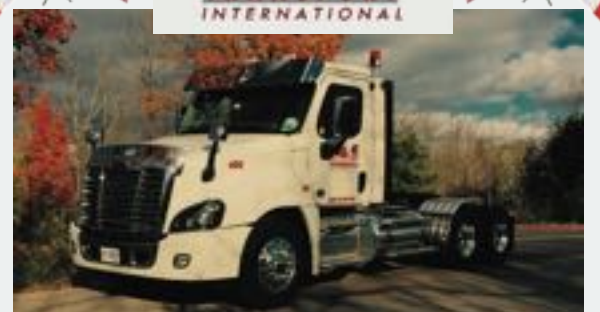
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REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL!

Educators stage protests across Ontario to highlight education funding shortfalls



EDUCATION ADVOCACY: Joining multiple protests across the province, local teachers and educators from the five allied unions, AEFO, ETFO, OECTA, CUPE-OSBCU and OSSTF/FEESO protested continued education cuts from the provincial government outside of municipal and provincial offices in Orangeville and Shelburne.
JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

BY JOSHUA DRAKES

The protests, running in the afternoon on April 29, were meant to challenge what the allied unions described as serious funding issues throughout the education system.

Teachers and education workers across Ontario staged coordinated demonstrations as part of a province-wide Day of Action, drawing attention to what unions describe as deepening funding challenges in the education system.

The protests, held in the afternoon from approximately 3:45 to 4:30 p.m., saw participants gather outside government offices and other prominent locations in communities across the province.

In Orangeville, the demonstration took place in front of MPP Sylvia Jones's office, joining similar actions elsewhere. The coalition of unions released a joint statement saying Ontario's education system is buckling under continued cuts, especially under the most recent budget.

"Ontario's publicly funded education system is facing mounting pressures, and none of those pressures were eased in the most recent provincial budget," the joint statement read. "Chronic underfunding continues to shape daily realities in schools, where large class sizes, rising incidents of school violence, insufficient support for students with special education needs, ongoing challenges in retaining and recruiting teachers and education workers, and aging, deteriorating buildings all con-

verge to create significant strain."

Union representatives argue that these challenges have not been addressed in the most recent provincial budget, and say the cumulative impact is being felt daily in classrooms across Ontario.

They said that current conditions are affecting not only educators' working environments but also student learning and overall well-being.

The Day of Action also highlighted concerns in the post-secondary sector, where the statement notes that years of underfunding, combined with cuts to the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), are limiting access to education and potentially affecting the province's future workforce.

Participants in the demonstrations consolidated under the unified banner of Stronger Together, confirming the solidarity among education workers. The unions said that the protests were framed as a visual demonstration of unity as unions prepare for upcoming rounds of central bargaining with the provincial government.

"This collective action will demonstrate that teachers and education workers are united in calling for improved learning and working conditions in our schools and universities," the statement read. "Under the banner of 'Stronger Together,' the five unions are prepared for the next round of central bargaining and ready to demand more for students from a government that has neglected them since taking office in 2018."

Organizers say the movement aims to raise public awareness while calling for increased investment in education.

The unions said that the joint statement emphasizes a collective commitment among educators to advocate for what they say will be a more stable and adequately funded system, and invites families and community members to support those efforts.

"Momentum is building," the statement read. "Our members are engaged, informed, and committed to defending and strengthening our publicly funded education system. That shared commitment is our greatest source of strength. Together, we will continue to advocate for the high-quality, fully funded system that every student in Ontario deserves."

The statement added, "We invite families and other community allies to join us in calling for meaningful investment and a genuine commitment to student success and well-being."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Application: Zoning By-law Amendment (Temporary Use)

FILE NUMBER: RZ 2026-0010

This is to inform you that the Town of Caledon has received an application for a Zoning By-law Amendment (Temporary Use). Your input and insight will inform and shape plans that meet the needs of our community.

APPLICANT:

Candevcon Group Inc. on behalf of 12341433 Canada Inc.

LOCATION:

4848 Mayfield Road, Caledon
 West of the intersection of Bramalea Road and Mayfield Road
 Part of Lot 18, Concession 4 Chinguacousy (EHS), as in VS88235 S&E Parts 1 to 4, Expropriation Plan PR1387136 Ward 2

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The applicant is proposing to amend the Zoning By-law to allow truck and trailer parking, open storage, and an associated office use on the subject lands for a maximum of three (3) years on the lands. The proposed amendment will also identify appropriate development standards for the permitted uses.



*The illustration is a conceptual plan for information purposes and it is subject to change.

*The application is currently under review by the Town of Caledon.

LEAD PLANNER:

Luna Shrourou
 Intermediate Planner,
 Development & Design
 Planning and Development
 Department
 905-584-2272 ext. 4670
 Luna.Shrourou@Caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, 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.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Caledon on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, Ontario L7C 1J6.

ACCESSIBILITY:

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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.

Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: May 7, 2026



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