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VALLEYWOOD "BLOCKBUSTER" – The second-annual Valleywood Block Party was held August 26, bringing out twice the number of people who attended the inaugural event. Pictured here, Abhay and Angad enjoyed some tasty treats and a visit with some superheroes on Saturday. For more, see Page 11.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Residents speak out against proposed expansion of Minister's Zoning Order

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Some Caledon residents would not like to see additional lands added to a Minister's Zoning order in the south of Caledon.

On August 24, the Town of Caledon held a public meeting where residents could share their opinions on a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) amendment request.

The Town received the request on August 3 from Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Brookvalley Project Management is the company seeking to build on the lands subject to the MZO.

The proposed MZO amendment is for lands primarily located north of Mayfield Road (up to Old School Road) between Highway 10 and McLaughlin Road. These lands would mainly be used for low and medium-density housing.

Brookvalley Project Management wants to build around 4,550 dwelling units in the 180 hectares of land subject to the proposed amended MZO.

Several residents submitted written comments about the MZO expansion to be a part of the public record.

Ajaya Gupta said the subject area is already overcrowded and does not need any more houses.

Harinder Singh said they were not notified of the MZO amendment, even though it includes their land, and sought answers on how to fight it.

Continued on Page A6



GOING FOR THE CUP – The Caledon Cup returned this past weekend and was a resounding success. Pictured here, from left: Grassroots Manager Alissa Condotta, Caledon Councillor Mario Russo, Caledon FC and Coach Gaspare Clemenzi, Caledon FC Executive Director Gabriel Borges, Caledon FC Social Media Director Kasey McFadyen, and Grassroots Manager Meghan McFayden. For more, see Page 12.
PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

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Residents gather for blasting quarry information night and fundraiser, collecting $50,000 in pledges

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER



Caledon residents opposed to a proposed blasting quarry south of Alton met at GoodLot on August 29 for an update on their fight to stop the quarry.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon residents gathered at a local brewery on Tuesday for an update on the fight against a proposed blasting quarry in town.

On August 29, the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition (RGMC) and Forks of the Credit Preservation Group (FOTCPG) hosted an information night at GoodLot Farmstead Brewery in Alton.

David Sylvester, President of the FOTCPG, began the evening with an update on the group's progress in fighting against the quarry.

Brazilian conglomerate Votorantim Cimentos, through its affiliate CBM Aggregates, is looking to build an 800-acre below-water table blasting quarry south of Alton to extract limestone bedrock. Critics of the proposed quarry say it will cause irreparable harm to Caledon's ecosystem.

Sylvester said the FOTCPG was able to get a meeting with Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, which garnered a reaction from the crowd — one resident yelled out, "Where'd you find her?"

Sylvester said Jones was attentive and the two parties had a frank exchange of ideas, and he's looking to see what will come of the meeting.

The FOTCPG is also seeking a meeting with Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Steven Guilbeault. The group hopes Guilbeault will start a Federal Environmental Assessment for the proposed quarry, which would effectively sideline it.

Sylvester said he was pleased to report Guilbeault responded to the FOTCPG and invited them to meet with his Ontario representative, which they will be doing as soon as possible.

"That's been very encouraging," said Sylvester.

Sylvester said ever since an Interim Control Bylaw (ICBL) was implemented in Caledon last October, which bans the creation of any new pits or quarries for one year, the Town of Caledon has been rewriting its aggregate policies.

A study commissioned by the FOTCPG found that Caledon had some of the weakest aggregate policies out of all of Ontario's top aggregate-producing municipalities.

Sylvester is part of a community working group helping create the Town's new aggregate policies, and said work — while daunting and a massive undertaking — is going well.

"I'm optimistic that at the end of the process, we will have a set of aggregate policies that will act as an enormous step in improving the protection of our local citizens from the profound impact of aggregate development," said Sylvester.

He noted that Caledon will need to renew its ICBL for another year come October, so there is enough time to complete the new policies. Sylvester said it's critical for residents to pressure Caledon Council to renew the ICBL.

Mike Balkwill of the RGMC spoke after Sylvester, and said the reason Caledon was able to get an ICBL in place is thanks to the community who fundraised to get planners and lawyers on their side. He said having an ICBL for aggregate sets a new precedent in the Province of Ontario.

Balkwill said the longer Votorantim Cimentos' proposed quarry gets delayed, the closer it gets to a provincial election. He said if people apply enough pressure and make it a campaign issue, politicians will want to make cancelling the quarry part of their platform.

"Your support is critical, your standing up to defend your community is vital," said Balkwill.

The FOTCPG's lawyer, David Donnelly, was next to speak. Using the analogy of a hockey game, he said Caledon residents have won the first period against the proposed quarry. However, he said what comes next in the second and third periods is critical.

Donnelly reiterated Sylvester's point on how important it is for Caledon Council to renew the ICBL for another year.

"I know it seems like a sure thing, but you need to keep pressure on them… if they don't renew the bylaw then it's over," said Donnelly.

The second year will give much-needed time for writing stronger aggregate policies and finishing complex studies, said Donnelly.

Donnelly went on to suggest some policies he said Caledon residents should pressure their municipal leaders into implementing in Caledon's new Official Plan. He said he could go on for a long time with suggestions, but gave three big ones in the area of natural heritage protection.

"Your official plan should say this… no more below-water table extraction, to protect the Brook Trout in the Credit River," said Donnelly. "I say this with all due respect, but only an idiot would oppose that policy."

Donnelly also said Caledon's Official Plan should preserve all forests of one hectare or more, outright, citing the climate crisis and the crucial role trees play in carbon sequestration. For his third Official Plan suggestion, Donelly said no more wildlife corridors in Caledon should be allowed to be destroyed.

Donnelly said residents should pressure the Province into doing an inquiry into the aggregate industry. He said the aggregate industry currently extracts far more than is needed to meet demand each year.

"I know we're going to stop this quarry," said Donnelly. "But these next two years are going to be critical, so let's all get behind this."

After the speakers were finished, Balkwill led a pledge drive and residents donated to help efforts to stop the quarry. By the end of the night, $50,000 had been raised, and more pledges were handed in as people left.

COMMUNITY events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling ***(905) 857-6626*** *or emailing* ***admin@caledoncitizen.com*** *if you wish to have an announcement published.*

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ON 1344 Bolton – Real People, Real Weight Loss is a non-profit group. We meet weekly on Wed. evenings in the basement of Bolton United Church. Weigh-ins are 6:00-6:30 followed by a meeting. The initial annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is $59, and monthly dues are $20. Today is the best day to make changes to your lifestyle! If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and support the efforts of all our members, and your first meeting is free. Come join us. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or see www.tops.org. Online memberships are also available.

The Bolton Al-Anon Group has recently moved the regular meeting location to the Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street (across from Bolton Post Office). We still meet every Thursday at 8:30 pm. We welcome anyone who is/or has been affected by someone who has problem with alcohol. If you have any questions please come any Thursday evening or email: boltonalanon@gmail.com.

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Orangeville Show Chorus is looking for new members for a unique performance opportunity. Audition with the chorus; learn some songs at our weekly rehearsals and perform with us at The International Plowing Match- Sept. 19. in Bowling Green, ON. Weekly Rehearsals at Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville $20 to audition. All the details on our website osc.choirgenius.com

Bethell Hospice Foundation putting focus on planned giving this Fall

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Caledon non-profit wants to eliminate misconceptions around planned giving.

As Fall approaches, the Bethell Hospice Foundation (BHF) wants to shine a light on legacy gifts and their importance to their organization.

Bethell Hospice is a non-profit hospice care home in Inglewood that provides free hospice and palliative care. The BHF helps fundraise for the hospice.

BHF Executive Director Nicole Hand said the public is often aware of the big fundraising events for Bethell Hospice, like the annual Hike for Bethell Hospice, Light and Love ceremony, and Golf 4 Bethell Hospice tournament.

However, she said there's other ways of giving back that often aren't talked about.

"Planned giving is taking a look at how an individual or family can make an investment into an organization after they're gone… it's a wonderful way for a donor to make an impact," said Hand.

She said people are often scared to talk about death and their wills, so something like a planned gift can get pushed to the bottom of the list.

Another reason she said people may not make a planned gift is they think it needs to be massive; that since they don't have millions they can't make an important contribution.

"Any gift that is put into bequest is so important to us," said Hand. "Everyone has the ability to make a difference and be a positive impact on our organization."

Hand explained that planned gifts can come in many forms other than just cash, such as stocks or by naming Bethell Hospice as a beneficiary to an RRSP, for example.

Hand said if someone is thinking of making a planned gift, she encourages them to talk to their family and financial advisor about it.

Hand said she loves being able to thank people for their planned gifts in life, rather than finding out after someone has passed away.

"I get letters from lawyers… and I have never had the opportunity to meet the donor and to say thank you," she said. "People who are considering this, give us a call and ask questions, and then we can recognize you too."

Hand said anyone interested in learning more about planned giving can give her a call at 905-838-3534, extension 2251. More information can also be found online at foundation.bethellhospice.org.



Caledon Meals on Wheels receives $30,000 grant from OTF



Caledon Meals on Wheels is thanking the Ontario Trillium Foundation for its recent support of their drive to start a social enterprise. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Non-profit looks to start social enterprise to keep up with increasing costs

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Caledon non-profit is using grant funding to find ways to better serve the community.

On August 23, Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW) announced it had received a $30,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation's (OTF) Resilient Communities Fund.

CMOW has been researching and planning to start a social enterprise — a revenue-generating organization whose objective is to have a social impact — in order to reduce its reliance on traditional fundraising and keep up with rising costs.

As part of this process, CMOW has used the OTF grant to bring home-cooked meals to seniors in the Cheltenham area for taste-testing and to obtain feedback on a new frozen food option.

CMOW has been operating since 1984 and provides nutritious hot and frozen meals to seniors, individuals with illnesses and individuals with disabilities. CMOW also provides friendly visits, security checks and wellness programs.

The OTF is an agency of the Government of Ontario. In 2022, it invested over $110 million into over 1,000 community projects across Ontario.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones said the OTF grant will help CMOW focus on providing service to those in need.

"This gives CMOW funding to develop additional programs and services for seniors and people with disabilities in Dufferin-Caledon," said Jones in a statement.

Christine Sevigny, Executive Director of CMOW, said a social enterprise would help offset ever-increasing operational expenses and help CMOW meet the needs of a growing Caledon.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their support in giving us this unique opportunity to explore this avenue," said Sevigny.

Bolton Kin preparing to host Terry Fox Run

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon residents are invited to keep Terry Fox's dream alive this September.

On September 17, the Bolton Kin will host its 43rd annual Bolton Terry Fox Run.

Residents are invited to meet before 9 a.m. at the Bolton Kin Centre, which is located at 35 Chapel Street in Bolton. After a short ceremony, the run will begin at 9 a.m.

This year, a one-kilometre route along the Humber River will be set up. When runners are finished, hamburgers, hot dogs and pop will be served.

Last year, the Bolton Kin held a virtual run that raised over $10,000. This year, the Bolton Kin are looking to improve on that total.

Pledge forms for the Bolton Terry Fox Run can be found online at terryfox.org. For more information about the Bolton Terry Fox Run, or to purchase a Terry Fox t-shirt before the event, those interested can email John Stegeman at boltonkin@gmail.com.

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FATAL COLLISION

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a fatal collision that occurred on The Gore Road.

"On August 27, 2023, just after 4 p.m., Caledon OPP and emergency crews responded to a two-vehicle collision involving a motorcycle on The Gore Road, between Healey Road and Mayfield Road, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "The 25-year-old motorcycle rider from Caledon was pronounced deceased at the scene."

The Gore Road between Mayfield Road and Healey Road was closed for several hours while the OPP Technical Collision Investigators and Reconstructionists assisted with the investigation.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP at 905-584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

If you are affected by this incident or witnessed the collision and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

STOLEN FIREARM RECOVERED

Members of the Caledon OPP Detachment arrested two individuals for numerous firearm related charges following the recovery of a stolen firearm in the Town of Caledon.

"On Sunday August 27, 2023, at approximately 4:00 p.m., Police received a report of two individuals in possession of a firearm on Kennedy Road near Boston Mills Road," say Police. "Officers attended the area and observed a person holding a firearm while posing for pictures. Two individuals were taken into custody and a stolen firearm was recovered.

"Further investigation into the firearm is ongoing."

A 26-year-old from Brampton has been charged with:

- Careless Use of a Firearm;
- Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm;
- Occupant of a motor vehicle Knowing There Was a Firearm;
- Knowledge of Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm;
- Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose;
- Possession of Firearm Obtained by Crime.

A second 26-year-old from Brampton has been charged with:

- Pointing a Firearm;
- Careless Use of a Firearm;
- Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm;
- Occupant of a motor vehicle Knowing There Was a Firearm;
- Knowledge of Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm;
- Possession of a Weapon for Dangerous Purpose;
- Possession of Firearm Obtained by Crime.

Both individuals were held for a bail hearing.

The charges have not been proven.

Caledon OPP would like to thank the witness who contacted police. Taking the time to report their observations removed a firearm off the streets.

Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact the Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll free at 1-888-310-1122.

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

IMPAIRED DRIVING

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged two drivers with impaired operation on the same day.

"On August 19, 2023, Caledon OPP conducted a R.I.D.E (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) spot check at Mississauga Road and Olde Base line, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Just after 12:00 a.m., a vehicle entered the area and was met by the officers. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested."

As a result, David Mancuso, 30, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The charge has not been proven.

"On the same day, shortly before 3:00 p.m., Caledon OPP responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision. The investigation led officers to form grounds that the driver's ability to operation a motor vehicle to be impaired by alcohol and was arrested."

As a result, Gurneet Singh, 26, of Kitchener, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The charge has not been proven.

Both accused are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on September 7, 2023, to answer to the charges. Their driver's licences were suspended for 90 days, and the vehicles impounded for 14.

"Motorists are reminded that no amount of alcohol or drugs in your system is safe when driving. If you plan on drinking or consuming drugs, plan to not drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi or public transit, or come up with another plan that takes impaired driving out of the picture. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it."

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

For more information about the penalties of driving impaired, visit: https://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving

STOLEN ATV

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are currently investigating a theft of an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) in the Township of Melancthon.

"On August 26, 2023, at approximately 11:45 a.m., Dufferin OPP received a call for service at a residence on 4th Line in Melancthon for the theft of an ATV," say Police. "The complainant advised that their 2004 yellow, Suzuki four-wheeler, was stolen from their barn. The theft occurred during the overnight hours of August 26. The suspect(s) broke into the barn and stole the ATV.

"The vehicle is valued at $4,500."

The investigation is continuing. If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to this theft, please call the Dufferin OPP Detachment at (519) 942-1711 or 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your information online at https://ontariocrimestoppers.ca/.

Dufferin OPP is committed to enforcement initiatives targeting this issue and will continue to educate residents on crime prevention strategies to minimize victimization.

Youth charged following Midnight Madness "disturbance"

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have laid charges in relation to the disturbance at this year's Midnight Madness community event.

"On August 11, 2023, just before 11:00 p.m., officers responded to a disturbance at the Midnight Madness event," say Police. "A male was found with knife wounds that were later determined to be not life threatening.

"The Caledon Major Crime Unit, with the assistance of the Caledon Community Street Crime Unit, conducted the investigation, which led to the execution of a search warrant on August 22, 2023."

As a result, a 15-year-old male from Caledon has been charged with:

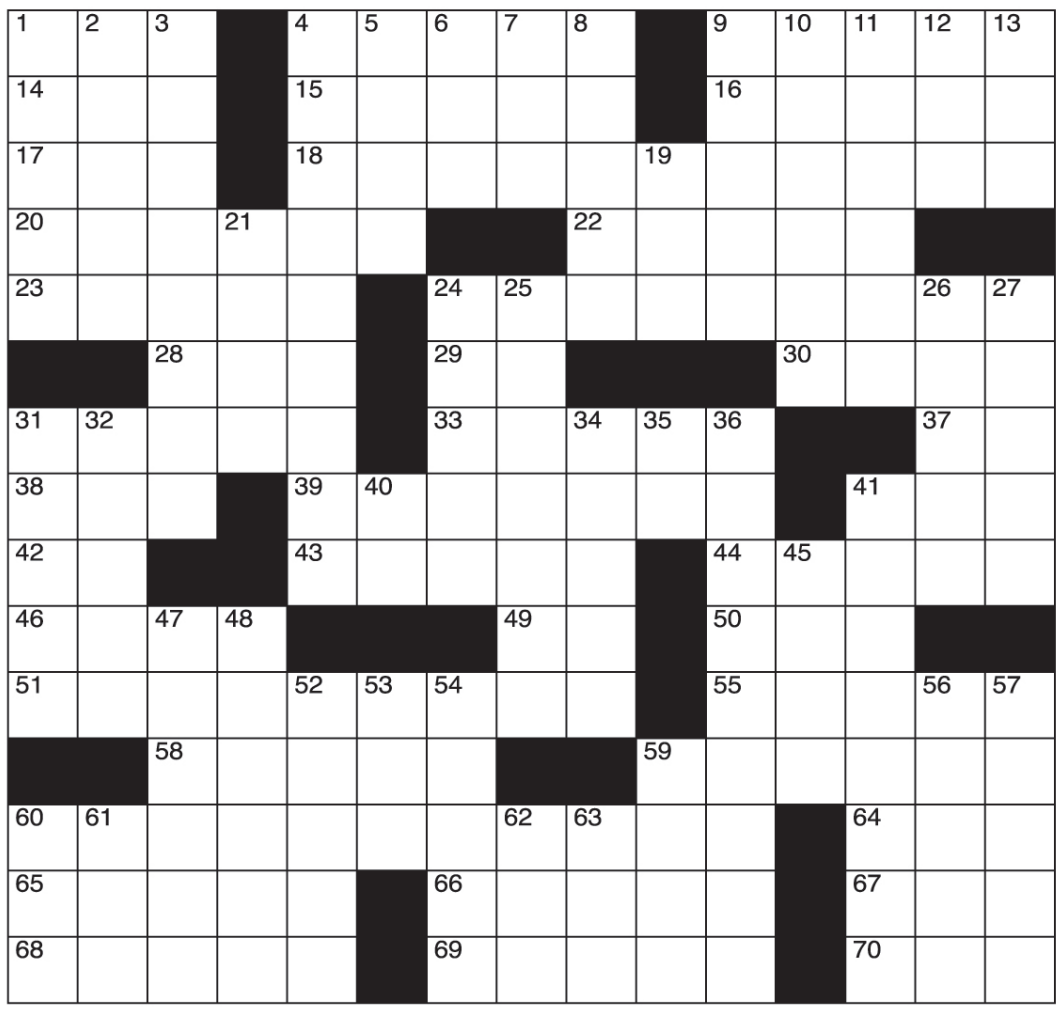
- Aggravated assault;
- Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose.

The accused, whose identity is withheld under the provision of the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA), was held for a Bail Hearing at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville.

"I am grateful to Caledon's OPP for their swift action in apprehending the suspect behind the recent stabbing," said Mayor Annette Groves. "As a personal friend of the victim's family, I'm relieved justice will be served. There is no place for violence in our Town."

The Citizen CROSSWORD

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS



CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between east and southeast
4. At right angles to a ship's length
9. William Penn's business partner
14. __ de plume
15. Accomplished soccer coach
16. Bone cavities
17. __ juris: independent
18. Popular Philly sandwich
20. Northern Ireland county
22. Performing artist
23. S S S
24. Lacks flavor
28. Commercials
29. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
30. Qatar's capital
31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta
33. Popular footwear
37. Indicates position
38. Anglican cathedral
39. Aircraft part
41. Before
42. Blood group
43. Secretory organ
44 .Fencing swords
46. The small projection of a mammary gland
49. Technological advancement
50. Male parent
51. Dissociable
55. More cold
58. Cape Verde Islands capital
59. Blood disorder
60. Creative
64. Sun up in New York
65. Made angry
66. Relieves
67. Brooklyn hoopster
68. Seasonsings
69. Movable barriers
70. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Occur as a result of
2. Spiritual essences
3. Representative
4. Entering
5. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
6. Midway between northeast and east
7. Consumed
8. Tablelands
9. Kids' craft accessory
10. Not known
11. Sound directed through two or more speakers
12. A major division of geological time
13. Wild ox
19. Shock treatment
21. Turner and Lasso are two
24. Genus of flowering plants
25. Relating to ductless glands
26. Stock certificate
27. Satisfies
31. Places to enjoy a rest
32. Edward __, author and writer
34. "__ but goodie"
35. One hundredth of a liter
36. Shabbiness
40. TV personality Roker
41. Triangular upper part of a building
45. Speed at which you move
47. Offend
48. A reference point to shoot at
52. Forays
53. Biblical city
54. Blatted
56. Northern sea duck
57. Shabby (slang)
59. Allege
60. Tax collector
61. Whereabouts unknown
62. Chinese philosophical principle
63. Indicates equal

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



Caledon Councillors are pictured with Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones and Ontario Minister of Transportation Caroline Mulroney at the 2023 AMO Conference. **PHOTO COURTESY OF MAYOR ANNETTE GROVES/FACEBOOK**

Council advocates for sustainable aggregate management, Caledon-Vaughan GO Line

Local leaders table Caledon priorities at AMO conference

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Future public transit and mitigating the impacts of aggregate extraction topped Caledon Council's list of priorities at a recent conference.

From August 20 to 23, Caledon's Mayor and Council were at the annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference, which was held in the City of London this year.

AMO is a non-profit organization that represents nearly all of Ontario's municipalities. Each year, municipalities send delegations to the AMO conference to meet with members of the Provincial Government (and members of the opposition) and advocate for their municipality's needs.

Regional Councillor Christina Early said it was important for Caledon Council to advocate for help with sustainably managing aggregate at AMO. She said Caledon residents have many concerns with aggregate like noise, dust, and increased truck traffic through existing communities.

"The Aggregate Resources Act needs to better address road degradation; and, support an official plan policy to ensure (pit and quarry) separation from settlement and residential areas," said Early.

She said as the Aggregate Resources Act is provincial, municipalities feel they aren't able to have enough control.

"There's a need for change… to ensure the balance between the needs of the community and the needs of the Province," said Early. "Aggregate is required, but we can't just destroy our entire community because of that."

Early stressed the importance of stronger rehabilitation requirements being implemented for pits and quarries that have outlived their useful life. She said the current rehabilitation requirements are too weak.

Regional Councillor Mario Russo said while aggregate is important for city-building and infrastructure, new aggregate mining operations can't come at the expense of residents already living in a given area. He also stressed the importance of proper distances being required between aggregate operations and settlement areas.

Russo also shared concerns about below-water table aggregate extraction.

"Any mining below the water table puts everyone who relies on water from wells in peril," said Russo.

Another key priority for Caledon Council at AMO was advocating for the Caledon-Vaughan GO Line to be in service, with two stations in Caledon, by 2041. Caledon would like to see a station built in the Macville area and in South Bolton.

Russo said chatting with Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Caroline Mulroney, was important and productive. He said in addition to the GO Line, they also discussed improvements to Highway 10.

Early said while making progress on the GO Line will take time, things are moving in the right direction. One of the main things Caledon needs to do is prove it will have the ridership necessary to sustain its GO stations.

"We talked to Mulroney about the fact that by 2051, Caledon will be home to 300,000 people and 125,000 jobs," said Early. "We're going to need… a major transit station area to accommodate that growth."

Early said Caledon is trying to intensify development in Bolton, where the future GO Line would be.

In a media release sent out before the AMO conference, Groves said Caledon needs support as it prepares to become a single-tier municipality after the coming dissolution of the Region of Peel.

"We're hearing from our residents and businesses about challenges and opportunities regarding aggregates, transportation and enforcement that affect Caledon…," said Groves. "Bringing our requests directly to our Provincial Government and colleagues across Ontario is an important step in creating the Caledon we want to build."

"Debbie's Fairway to Heaven" golf tournament raising money for oncology clinic

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A memorial golf tournament for a beloved wife, mother and friend has raised over $5,000 for the oncology clinic at Brampton Civic Hospital — and it hasn't even happened yet.

Debbie Tarasco was the wife of Tony Tarasco, and together they had four children: Ashley, Ben, Dion, and Courtney.

Debbie was diagnosed with Double Hit Lymphoma in September 2021 and received treatment and care for the disease in the William Osler Oncology Clinic at Brampton Civic Hospital for over a year before she died in December 2022.

Tony and Ashley explained that the oncology team at Brampton Civic went above and beyond in their care for Debbie, so they wanted to do something in Debbie's memory to fundraise for the clinic.

Tony said the oncology team at Brampton Civic is full of dedicated people with big hearts.

Thus, the "Debbie's Fairway to Heaven" memorial golf tournament was born. It's being held for the first time on September 10 at Banty's Roost Golf Club in Caledon, and tickets for it have sold out.

"It's a way to give back, while also getting our friends and family together in her honour," said Ashley.

Tony said his wife was well-loved by her family, friends and co-workers. He said Debbie had a beautiful laugh.

"If we ever had to find her, it was her laugh we could use to locate her," said Tony. "She had so many friends. She was the go-to person if anyone ever needed someone to talk to."

This is clearly reflected in the number of people coming to the tournament: there are 141 golfers participating and 80 more people coming for the post-tournament dinner. There's even a waitlist of people ready to take one of the spots if someone can't make it. Ashley and Tony said at Debbie's funeral, between 300 and 400 people came, enough to overflow the funeral home.

Tony said Banty's Roost has been great to work with and noted it was the course that would allow his family to raise the most money for charity after costs. Based on ticket sales, the nearly $5,000 in donations received already, and raffles planned on tournament day, Tony and Ashley estimate they will raise $10,000 to $15,000 in total.

Ashley said support has been overwhelming, as they originally anticipated 120 golfers and a fundraising total of $2,500 to $5,000. The family is now planning to make the tournament an annual event, as they said it is a great way to combine fundraising and getting people together.

A group of Debbie's friends from Malton, and Ashley, Ben, Courtney and Dion's spouses (Paul, Maggie, Pino, and Jessica), are helping to run the tournament too.

Those interested in supporting the Tarasco family's fundraising efforts can visit tinyurl.com/fairwaytoheaven.

"We're extremely grateful and overwhelmed by the generosity we have seen from people," said Ashley.

YourWaste

What you need to know.

On **Monday, Sept. 4**, there will be no waste collection due to the Labour Day holiday. Waste will be collected one day later that week.

All Community Recycling Centres are closed on **Monday, Sept. 4,** and will reopen on **Tuesday, Sept. 5**.



Sign up to receive **FREE** waste collection reminders
peelregion.ca/waste

@regionofpeel
@peelregion.ca

Peel Region
working with you

165th BOLTON FALL FAIR
SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2023
WWW.BOLTONFAIR.CA

SCARECROW Competition



Rules

1. One entry per family / team / school /association or business
2. Scarecrows must be family-appropriate.
3. Scarecrows must be handmade. No purchased scarecrows may be entered into the competition.
4. Scarecrows must be registered, assembled and on display by September 5, 2023 NO LATE ENTRIES CAN BE ACCEPTED!
5. All scarecrows must be placed wholly on your own property or business.
6. Email a photo of your Scarecrow entry to thfrench68@gmail.com to be posted on our website for voting purposes.
7. A (2x2) wire Bolton Fair sign will be dropped off at your location. It should be placed beside your scarecrow when you send in your photo.
8. Voting and Judging will be completed by September 15, 2023
9. Winners will be announced at the Bolton Fair Opening Ceremonies on September 22, 2023. Prizes will be awarded for each category.

ENTER YOUR SCARECROW FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THESE GREAT PRIZES!

COMPETITION PRIZES (open to all Family/Team/Association entries):
1ST PLACE - $200 • 2ND PLACE - $100

BUSINESS PRIZES:
1st Place - 1/4 Page Ad in the Caledon Citizen plus a Business interview on Moose FM (must be used by January 31, 2024)

Brampton transit expands service into Caledon on Dixie Road

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER



Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell; Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown; Regional Councillors Christina Early and Mario Russo; and Tara Redmond, Vice President of Buildings and Systems Engineering for UPS with City of Brampton and UPS representatives. **TOWN OF CALEDON IMAGE**

Caledon and Brampton have partnered on another transit route.

On August 24, the Town of Caledon and City of Brampton announced an extension of Brampton Transit's route 18 Dixie trips north of Mayfield Road.

The Town said Brampton Transit will now offer nine trips every day on Dixie Road during peak hours. It said this new service will provide employees of businesses on Dixie Road, such as UPS, a safe and convenient way to get to work.

Other large employers on the Caledon side of Dixie Road include Acklands Grainger, DHL, Lindstrom Fasteners, and Coast Holding, who will benefit as well.

According to the Town, approximately 500 employees of said businesses use transit to get to work on Dixie Road each day. Prior to this transit service, they had to walk to work once they got to Mayfield Road.

In a media release, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves said Caledon is working towards a Town-wide transit strategy that includes forging partnerships.

"Our goal is to increase access to public transit for our residents and businesses. We know this will take time but are very excited to see progress," said Groves. "I would like to thank Brampton Transit, UPS and the local employers that worked on this new route…. I look forward to more success with our transit goals."

Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown said he's pleased to see Brampton's transit system expand and continue to help people get where they need to go when they need to get there.

"Having a reliable transit system that connects residents to critical services and jobs is important in ensuring our community continues growing and attracting economic opportunities," said Brown. "We are pleased to work together with the Town of Caledon and UPS…"

Tara Redmond, Vice President of Buildings and Systems Engineering for UPS, added she's pleased to have a new route that's safer for UPS employees.

"They will benefit from the convenience of a bus stop right on the UPS property," said Redmond. "Thank you to the City of Brampton, Brampton Transit, and the Town of Caledon for your collaboration and commitment to supporting safe and efficient transportation options for residents and workers in the area."

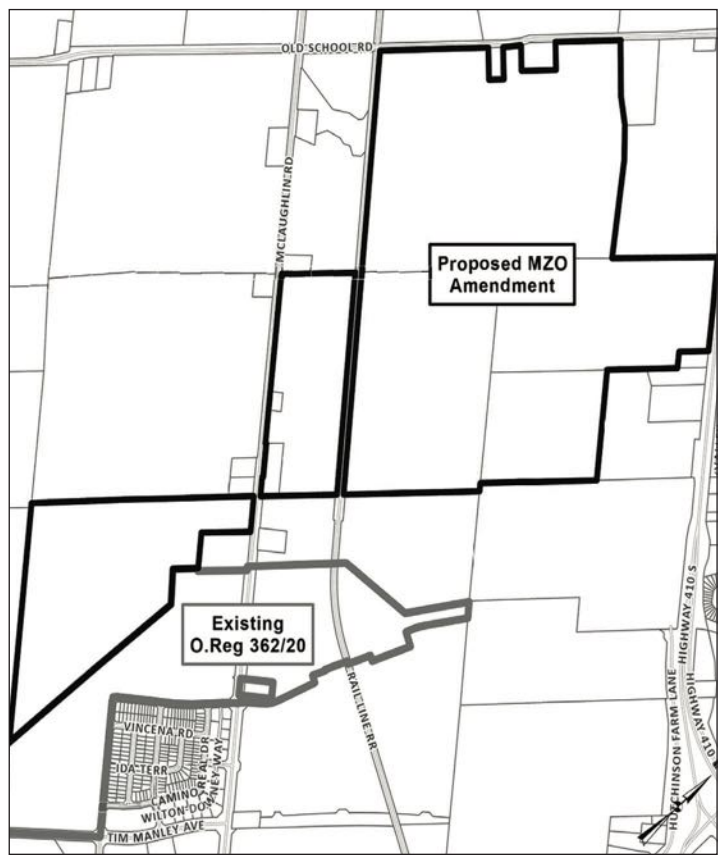
According to the Town, the new Dixie route run by Brampton Transit will be funded on a cost-recovery basis.

The service will cost $60,000 annually and will come from Caledon's Provincial Gas Tax Reserve. Fare revenue from commuters boarding in Caledon will be credited to the Town of Caledon and deducted from the service's operating cost.

Those looking to plan a trip on Brampton Transit or learn more about the new route can visit bramptontransit.com.

Municipal departments also have concerns with MZO amendment

Continued from FRONT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Irene Ford had many issues with the amendment, such as her view that the MZO amendment should be treated as a new MZO since it adds so much land to the order.

Rob Harrison of the Valleywood Residents Association said additional traffic from development in the area will cause problems for emergency response times unless changes to highways in the area are made.

Kennan Yates said it is wrong that the developer is looking to bypass Caledon's planning processes by using an MZO amendment.

Paul Busch said proposed development in the amended MZO lands does nothing to advance goals related to affordability, increasing density within town centres, and making communities more walkable. He said the housing units planned will create more sprawl and an increased reliance on cars.

In a public meeting information report created by Caledon's planning department for the meeting, several parties expressed their disapproval of the MZO amendment.

The Peel District School Board and Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board both wanted to see publicly funded schools added as a permitted use in the MZO. The boards said the schools will be needed to serve the large number of children that would be living in the area.

Caledon Fire and Emergency Services said it does not support the MZO amendment because there would be a gap in appropriate levels of fire suppression service for the area.

"The MZO does not provide details on a proposed road network and therefore Fire and Emergency Services staff cannot confirm any impacts to fire response," said Caledon Fire's comment in the report.

Caledon's urban design planning staff also do not approve of the MZO amendment.

"The patchwork of acquired lands will lead to incomplete communities and sprawl," said staff in their comments within the report. "This promotes driving and goes against Caledon's climate change goals. This does not support a distinct community center and a neighbourhood mentality."

Ultimately, the issuance of MZOs is up to the sole discretion of Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark.

To view the full public meeting and read all corresponding documents, those interested can visit caledon.ca/en/government/agendas-and-minutes.aspx.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES AND STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING

Caledon's Draft Official Plan Ready for Review

Attend the open houses or the public meeting to share your feedback on the draft Official Plan.

Visit **haveyoursaycaledon.ca** to join the Open House sessions and to view the draft Official Plan. The Official Plan is an overarching policy document consisting of goals, objectives, policies and maps that will guide Caledon's growth and development to the year 2051. It strives to maintain a high quality of life for residents and sets out the expectations for future community and employment areas, transportation and municipal services, and use of land. The Town's Multi-modal Transportation Master Plan (MMTMP) is also in progress which implements the Official Plan's policies.

Community input is a key component of developing the Official Plan. There are four ways you can provide input on the draft:

CALEDON'S PLAN FOCUSES ON:

- natural resources and agriculture
- tourism, heritage, healthy communities and culture
- transportation, technology and infrastructure
- growth, settlement, housing and employment and
- climate change

The draft Official Plan will apply to all lands within the municipal boundary of the Town of Caledon except for:

Lands within the 1976 Official Plan identified as: Rural Service Centre, including Bolton, Mayfield West and Caledon East, the Tullamore secondary plan, the Palgrave Estate Residential Community secondary plan, Inglewood Village plan, and mineral aggregate resources town-wide.

OPEN HOUSES

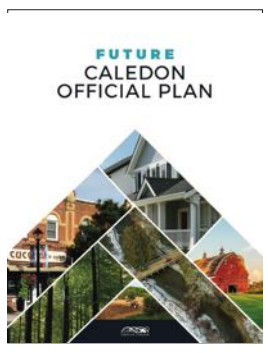
- In-Person Only
  Monday September 11, 2023
  From 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
  Caledon East Community Complex
  6215 Old Church Road,
  Caledon East, L7C 1J7
- Virtual Only (via Zoom)
  Tuesday September 12, 2023
  From 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
  Details to be provided on haveyoursaycaledon.ca.
- In-Person Only
  Tuesday September 19, 2023
  From 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
  Atrium, Town Hall
  6311 Old Church Road,
  Caledon, L7C 1J6

STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING

- Hybrid (In-Person/Virtual)
  Tuesday September 19, 2023
  7 p.m. Council Chamber,
  Town Hall / via Cisco WebEx
  6311 Old Church Road,
  Caledon, ON L7C 1J6

The live stream will be available on the Town's website approximately five minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

To call and listen to the meeting, dial 1-833-311-4101 (toll free) and enter the meeting access code followed by the pound (#) key: 2634 616 6920#.



If you wish to make written or verbal submissions at the public meeting, please complete the participation form available on the Town's website prior to the meeting.

You can also provide comments on the draft Official Plan in writing to opreview@caledon.ca by Monday October 2, 2023.

Note, the same materials will be presented at each of these Open Houses, Sept 19 will include additional materials about the Multi-modal Transportation Master Plan.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The draft Official Plan is available for review:

- On the Official Plan webpage of haveyoursaycaledon.ca; or
- Upon request by contacting the Town Clerk by email to agenda@caledon.ca or contacting the Official Plan Review team by email to opreview@caledon.ca.

If you require an accessibility accommodation or to access information in an alternate format, please contact Council & Committee Services at 905.584.2272 x.2366 or by e-mail to agenda@caledon.ca. Requests should be submitted at least 10 days prior to a scheduled open house or public meeting.

NOTICE OF DECISION

1. If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Caledon on the proposed new Official Plan, you must make a written request to:

   Laura Hall, Director, Corporate Services / Town Clerk
   Corporation of the
   Town of Caledon
   Town Hall
   6311 Old Church Road,
   Caledon ON L7C 1J6
   905-584-2272, ext. 4288
   agenda@caledon.ca

2. If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of The Corporation 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 make written submissions to The Corporation of the Town of Caledon before the proposed new official plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.
3. If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to The Corporation of the Town of Caledon before the proposed new official plan is adopted, 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 add the person or public body as a party.

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, contact the Town Clerk by email to agenda@caledon.ca or by phone to 905-584-2272, ext. 2366. This notice is pursuant to Section 17 and Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

You are invited to help develop a Plan for Active Transportation

Active transportation means using your own power to get from one place to another i.e. walking or cycling. The Town of Caledon's Active Transportation Master Plan (ATMP) is developing a strategy and policies to build a connected cycling and pedestrian network in Caledon by undertaking robust engagement and collaboration among the stakeholders and residents.

KEY GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ATMP ARE TO:

- Develop a complete active transportation network that connects all villages and urban centres across the Town and to the Regional Active Transportation network through a combination of off-road and on-boulevard facilities.
- Examine and evaluate the existing condition of the cycling and trails network and identify the gaps and opportunities.
- By filling up the gaps, expand the network of existing and planned cycling and trails network.
- Adopt a balanced strategy that considers the environment, financial considerations, and the need for and desire for increased infrastructure and services.
- Increase the network's capacity by building more high-quality cycling and trail facilities that link to destinations across Caledon.
- Provide an accessible network that enables residents of all ages and abilities to use the Town's cycling and trail facilities.

This study is following the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) process for Master Plans set out by the Municipal Engineers' Association.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE 2 (PUBLIC MEETING)

The ATMP's second Public Meeting is using a hybrid format (in-person and virtual) to present the study final draft recommendations. The Town will inform and engage the public on the Study by posting information on the Town's website and hosting an in-person meeting at

Caledon East Community Complex on September 12. from 5 to 7 p.m..

The project team will present the Caledon Active Transportation Master Plan draft final recommendations, and provide the opportunity for members of the public to provide their input before the plan is finalized.

JOIN US

Learn more about the study and share your ideas on our active transportation options.

Step 1: Visit the project webpage **haveyoursaycaledon.ca/ATMP**

Step 2: View the public meeting material and complete the comment form provided on the website from September 12 to September 29.

OR:

Come to Caledon East Community Complex, located at
6215 Old Church Rd on September 12 from 5 to 7 p.m.

If you are unable to participate online, or attend a meeting, please contact any member of the project team mentioned below to provide your input. The Town is committed to ensure that all services, programs and facilities are inclusive and accessible for persons of all abilities. Please contact the Town's Project Manager if you have any accommodation needs to participate in this Study.

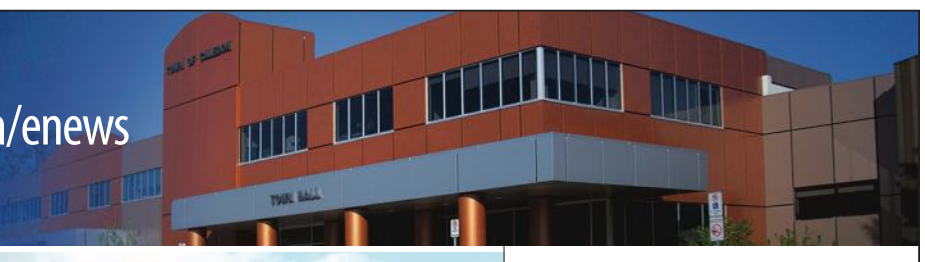
For more information, please contact the study team:

Town's Project Manager
Sabrina Davidson
sabrina.davidson@caledon.ca

Consultant's Project Manager
Kate Whitfield
KateWhitfield@Altago.com

TOWN OF CALEDON
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6
caledon.ca
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TOWN OF CALEDON | NEWS | Subscribe: caledon.ca/enews



Caledon East Community Centre

OPENS SEPTEMBER 5, 2023



Almost two years since Caledon Council broke ground for the 52,000 square-foot expansion, the Caledon East Community Complex (CECC) project is complete and will be open for programs and services on Tuesday, September 5, 2023.

CECC FEATURES WILL INCLUDE:

- a swimming pool;
- fitness centre and studio;
- library with maker space;
- indoor walking track overlooking a full-size gymnasium;
- an outdoor rink and pavilion (Winter 2024);
- multi-purpose and meeting spaces; and
- a dedicated section for the Caledon Sports Hall of Fame.

RECREATION PROGRAMMING

With programs and services being offered starting on Tuesday, September 5, the Town of Caledon encourages residents to take advantage of a variety of programs and activities for all age levels, including:

- Pool – Fitness Swims, Parent and Child Swims, Public Swims, Aquafit.
- Fitness Classes – Forever Fit, Body Blast, Bootcamp, Sculpt, Zumba, Essential Endurance.
- Gymnasium – Basketball, Pickleball, Badminton, Volleyball.
- Walking Track.
- Skating – Shinny (Youth, Adult 55+, Women's), Public Skate.
- and more!

For a full schedule of programming, visit **Caledon.ca/RecPrograms** and use our View Programs tool.

Final property taxes are due



Regular late payment fees apply.

For more information and payment options: visit **caledon.ca/tax.**

Procedural By-law Review

Tell us how can we improve our council meetings

The Town of Caledon is reviewing its rules on how Council and Committee meetings run (Procedural By-law). A key part of the review is to collect input from the community on how to improve meetings. The bylaw is updated every few years with the last full review done in 2015.

Through this review, we hope to:

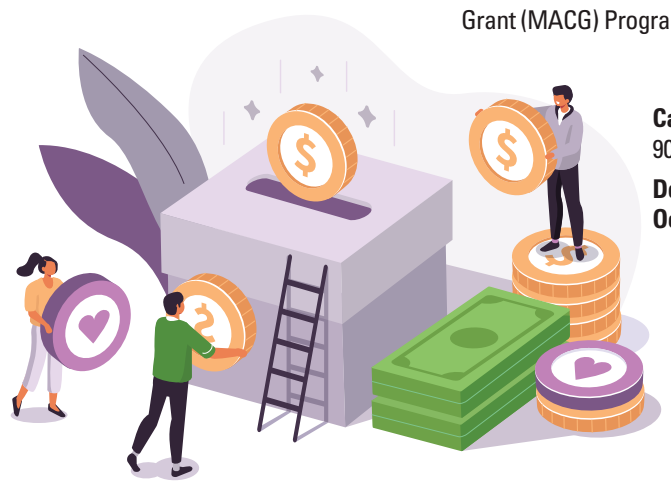
- improve the meeting experience for all, including Council and Committee members, the public, presenters and delegates;
- ensure decision making is effective; reflect changes to technology, including the hybrid meeting model; and
- incorporate changes in legislation and other best practices.



Funding for Community Organizations

Is your not-for-profit community organization planning an event or working on a new project in 2024 that will enrich the lives of Caledon residents? Does your organization support activities that serve our community throughout the year?

You may qualify to receive funding through the Town's Municipal Agriculture Communities Grant (MACG) Program.



Caledon.ca/MACG
905.584.2272 x. 4373

Deadline for submissions: October 20, 2023

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

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BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

That '20s Show

It's always a jarring feeling when "your" past – in this case, our collective past – comes back to… haunt us? No, not necessarily. Rehashed? Maybe. Romanticized? Perhaps.

This past weekend, I was in Toronto on my way to an event when I stopped to get a little extra dose of caffeine – it was an early morning and every little bit helped – but was stopped in my tracks.

Before me was a bus shelter with a huge poster advertising a local radio station.

"Your favourite throwbacks!" was the gist of a slogan, placed in graphic harmony below a portrait of Britney Spears.

What stopped me was not the larger-than-life image of the Toxic singer, which is not necessarily the first thing you expect to see when you round a busy city streetcorner; instead, it was the description that caught my eye.

"Throwback?!" I thought, as if it hasn't been a quarter of a century since Spears came out with "…Baby One More Time."

But throwback indeed – 1998 doesn't seem like that long ago in my mind's eye, yet the quarter-century span can't be denied.

Then it hit me, as it does for everybody once they pass the big three-oh (and, in the interests of full disclosure, I'm well past that benchmark), that my formative years are now somebody's nostalgia.

Somehow, it never occurred to me that our generation would be looked at nostalgically.

This, coming from someone who grew up watching That 70s Show in the late 90s to the mid-2000s, a sitcom which certainly looked somewhat wistfully at that decade through rose-coloured glasses. Midway through the run of the show, the television gods graced us with That '80s Show. While I never watched this particular program, it should have been a sure-fire sign that nostalgia was marching in my general direction – but, apparently, I was blissfully oblivious.

The return of fashions that were, for better or worse, the hallmark of my elementary and early high school years didn't go unnoticed, but maybe it just went unprocessed; as did the reboots of '90s sitcoms, a rehash of garish graphics and colours (think the opening theme for Saved by the Bell) of the decade, and the very much lamented return of the mullet.

What plugged me back into a reality I have been wilfully ignoring? All it took was Britney Spears, I guess!

As I considered this reality, I finally plugged myself into on the walk to the annual Fan Expo Canada, an event that is never anything short of eclectic. It hit me: As much as I might be considered a 90s kid, I wasn't really.

Although I hate the expression of being an "old soul" as, to my mind, it brings to mind images of Miss Havisham or Dorian Gray, I never really jived with my peers as far as pop culture and fads were concerned.

Trying to keep a Tamagotchi or Furby alive never seemed like the best use of my time. Heck, instead of cold, hard cash, the Tooth Fairy left packets of I Love Lucy trading cards under my pillow, at my request.

While I always threw R.L. Stein's latest Goosebumps offering into my Scholastic book order just to seem "with it", without really knowing what "with it" was, the bulk of the shipment was historical fiction.

I might have been bitten by Spice Girls fever at its zenith, but, if I'm honest with myself, as far as music is concerned, the late 90s renaissances of Tina Turner, Tony Bennett and Cher were more my jam at the time.

So, while most of my peers in 1998 were living in, well, 1998, my heart and soul was somewhere between 1957 and 1981. That's not necessarily a problem in retrospect, but when you can't converse with your friends and peers on the what's hot on the big screen, small screen, and the Top 40, it can leave you feeling slightly apart, even alone, amongst peers.

How I wish I had the chance to visit an event like Fan Expo Canada in my youth.

If you're not familiar with Fan Expos and Comic-Cons, think of it as a clash of pop-cultures that somehow come together as a harmonious whole.

From celebrations related to classic films, to superheroes, to your favourite horror movie slashers, there is something for everyone and just about every interest, niche and "fandom" is well represented through events, gatherings, the presence of celebrities and more.

It's reasonably organized chaos.

People of all ages and backgrounds attend each year to celebrate not just the "fandoms" but each other and themselves – and the beautiful quirkiness they might not be able to exercise in very many other venues.

Many attend in simple street clothes, but some of the more enthusiastic don the most elaborate of costumes paying tribute to the characters and genres they love. They attend as individuals, in friend groups of similar interests, and families in coordinated costumes – all celebrating their interests and their passions, and even making new friends along the way.

There's no judgment, no criticism, no feeling of being out-of-place or out-of-step from the pack, regardless of how outlandish the attire or how obscure the image on your t-shirt – just a celebration of everyone and everything they love.

In short, at these events people find "their people" and that, in itself, is reason enough to celebrate. And sometimes it feels like those opportunities are getting fewer and far between.

As the 2023 – 2024 school year approaches, I can't help but spare a thought for students who are about to embark on the next chapter of their educational journey, whether they are leaving their hometowns for college and university, perhaps experiencing trepidation as they prepare to enter high school, or even just starting elementary school.

Over the last decade-or-so in this job, I've always been heartened to see how school environments have changed since my own days in the 1990s.

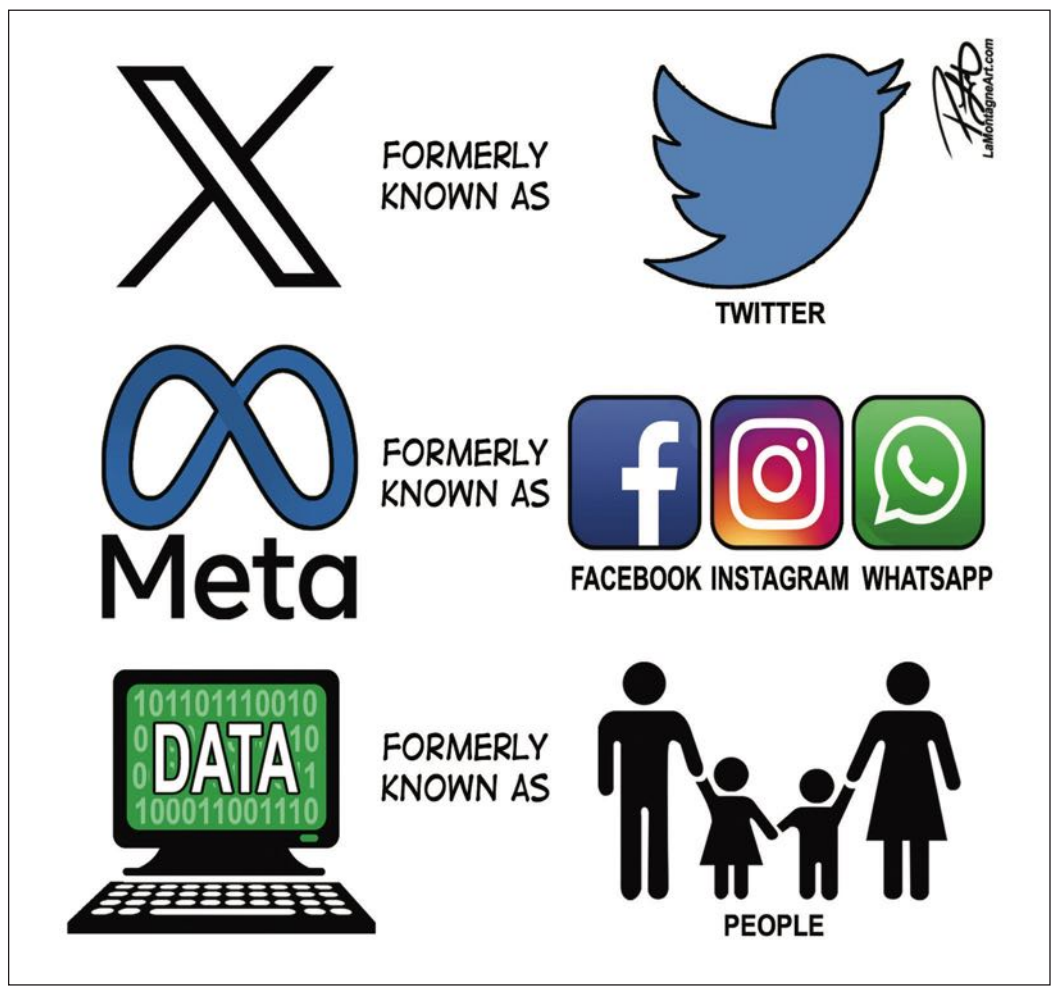
As an outsider looking in, it seems like today's schools are much more welcoming, inclusive, and celebratory of students' unique abilities and interests than they were a decade or two ago, giving students even more outlets to explore the world around them and discover who they are.

It's a movement which should be, well, celebrated.

But, at the same time, it feels over the last two or three years, the pendulum has started to swing back in the other direction, not necessarily in the school environment itself, but in the world around us, and that can sometimes creep into the classroom. What makes us unique, stand out, or even see the world a little bit differently has come under increased scrutiny or even, sadly, misplaced backlash.

I hope the true lived reality is much different for the individual.

To all students who are embarking on the next leg of your journey next week, whether you identify as a 2010s or 2020s kid, an old soul, or simply intent on forging your own authentic and unique path in life, I hope you find a supporting and caring environment that celebrates you and, perhaps even more importantly, in your next chapter, I hope you "find your people."



I just can't live without laughter

by Mark Pavilons



Jonathan Foer once wrote that he regrets that it takes a lifetime to learn how to live.

And Roy T. Bennett pointed out we have to "lose all you have to find out who you truly are."

Both are interesting sentiments to be sure.

Given the nasty events taking place all across the globe, one thought dawned on me: What can't I live without?

For most average humans, the responses would be food, water, shelter, sunshine and love. Some would add chocolate and a hairbrush to that list.

But let's assume we have some or all of things already, and we're faced with an apocalyptic scenario, or the long-term power outage similar to the one we endured in 2003.

I remember it well. It began a little after 4 p.m. that August 14 and the event left more than 50 million people across Ontario and the northeastern U.S. in the dark.

If you remember, life came to a standstill. Subways shut down, businesses stalled and we cleaned out our fridges, eating leftovers, until they too, ran out.

It was so weird, almost eerie. Empty streets, constant darkness, silence.

The first day was neat, watching people dash about in total confusion and desperation. Everyone hoped, and believed, it would all be over in a matter of hours.

Not so.

With each passing day, things remained lifeless.

I remember thinking that if an alien species wanted to invade Earth, all they would have to do is flip the switch. We'd surrender in a couple of days!

It was a minor reset, a short-term restart. Once power was restored, it was a mad dash to the grocery stores, gas stations and hardware stores to stock up on generators and the like.

Our modern world, with all of its technological wonders, shut down by a power outage.

I picture a large monument in some prominent location on Earth: "Mankind, our time was short, brought to an end by a power outage."

We can laugh about it now, or can we?

Consider all the things in our possession that require power – our phones, internet, household appliances, TV, heating and air conditioning. In our community, we'd lose lighting and refrigeration, gas for our cars and we'd have to resort to cash (gasp).

Ok, we could cook some of our frozen meat outside on the BBQ or over our firepits.

That would be fine for a while.

We'd have to resort to talking, sharing, telling stories, playing board games.

What was once considered "old fashioned" and boring would become commonplace – the new normal.

If you think about it, it may be time for another such reset, given our dependence and reliance on our gizmos.

I always smile at the proverbial question: If you were sent to a deserted island, what's one item you would bring? No one ever says a boat!

As the mayhem increases outside our walls and our borders, we see just how fragile society is. It could come crashing down at any moment due to Russian aggression, China's weakening economy, and various at-home crises like affordable housing, high consumer prices and lack of good paying jobs.

Our fuses are continually getting shorter and shorter.

So, picturing various end-of-the-world scenarios, I delved deep to see what's important and necessary for survival.

While I'm more than capable and happy to live in the woods in a ramshackle lean-to, fishing, hunting and eating bugs, it's not the ideal way of life. I've seen too many episodes of "Alone" to know how that transpires.

Almost all of the contestants break down, not due to hunger and physical weakness, but loneliness.

And there's the secret ingredient to life.

We are, by nature, social creatures and have been for thousands and thousands of years. We've seen, throughout history, what our ancient societies have created.

I am a social being, too, and for me, the biggest necessity is laughter. They say you can stay healthy if you just laugh for 10 to 15 minutes every day. I'm there!

I try to find the humour in almost everything (okay, my bout with cancer excluded).

From TV commercials and "dumb crooks," to family barbs back and forth, there's a lot to laugh about.

As a wordsmith, I can also find joviality in people's speech, misspellings in written material and more. The humour level rises when you see something mistranslated to English from a foreign language. Priceless.

I was a bit of a class clown in my youth – I realize that comes as a surprise to those who know me. And yes, I owned a battery operated laugh box and several whoopie cushions. Hours of fun indeed.

And my brain, when not concentrating on work, projects, errands and chores, would always lean to the humour in things.

I admired comedians like Robin Williams, the Carol Burnett cast, George Carlin, Steve Martin, Leslie Nielsen. It takes talent to be funny.

And humour may be the unique quality that separates our species from all our other galactic neighbours. In all the depictions of aliens, few land here telling knock-knock jokes. Now that would be funny!

So, my friends, I would trade that boat on a deserted island for laughter.

I could carve happy faces on trees, coconuts and make giant ones in the sand. I would try to get a laugh out of the monkeys and toucans.

Back home, in an electricity free life, I would lead joke-telling sessions and play games that centred around funny scenarios.

I know some will ridicule me, but I would trade laughter for coffee any day of the week.

As summer draws to a close, think about what's really important and vital in your lives. You may agree that fun times rank right up there.



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A win is a win, right?

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



When is a victory really a victory? Do we consider something a "win" even if we know some of the potential reasons behind it were not necessarily motivated by a desire to do the right thing? Is it a victory regardless of who claims it – when it at least ensures residents are getting what's needed? What about partial wins? Do we celebrate those? These are the questions I ask myself when MZOs are overturned and crosswalks are installed. Both are quite clearly a "win" in the eyes of community residents but are they actually a "win?" You decide.

As I often do, I turn first to the dictionary which defines a win as "a successful result in a contest or conflict." Further, a win is "to succeed in arriving at a place or a state." By this strict definition, I would suggest that defeating an MZO is a win, for now, but only insofar as this is an ongoing conflict. Similarly, obtaining a much-needed crosswalk in a dangerous, high-volume traffic area is also a win, but in this case, only a temporary win as residents work toward a more ideal level of success. In my mind that is, toward "arriving at a place or state" where a fully actualized crosswalk with permanent overhead signage and lights exist. Both are wins, but they come with qualifiers.

A recent Council meeting saw an MZO, impacting Ward Two, squashed. Hooray! It's a small but important victory against the wanton (ab)use of these Ministerial Zoning Orders that give far too much leeway to the provincial government to override Town Council input. Residents, most of whom from what I could see don't even reside in Ward Two, spoke out against the MZO impacting a parcel of the greenbelt west of Highway 10 and south of Old School Road. Said parcel of land has had its MZO overturned in what CBC news described as "an abrupt change in plans." The province, they write, is now committing that "the greenbelt lands…remain protected."

Council, and residents, claim a victory and maybe that's the case.

A cynic however, while agreeing to a victory of sorts, wonders if said victory really counts when an embattled Ford government so clearly needed a distraction from all the recent negative press and to claim something like this as a "win" for themselves. A cynic might ponder how previous MZOs allowed for the development of massive warehousing facilities, paving the way (pun intended) for the housing minister to throw us a bone and promise to protect a small parcel of land that would have been difficult, and no doubt costly, to develop anyway. Finally, a cynic might wonder just what the he** is going on in the Housing Minister's office lately as yet another claim (this time by spokesperson Chris Poulos) suggests that the Minister is unaware of what's going on within his own four walls.

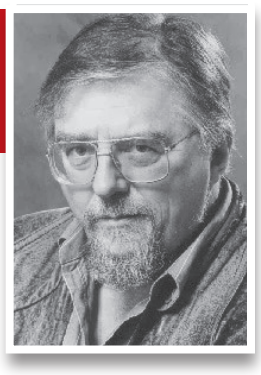
In an email, again quoted by the CBC, Poulos states: "the ministry received a request for an MZO for the Mayfield West lands in Caledon on June 1, 2023, and, in accordance with the Planning Act, began consulting the public the next month. Through the consultation process it was brought to our attention that the amendment — as submitted by the proponent — contained a section of lands located within the Greenbelt." Thank goodness for public consultations and residents expressing concerns or the government might never have known about yet more greenbelt devastation. Thanks also to the residents willing to go out on a limb to share their concerns. A "victory" of sorts - I guess.

In another claim of victory, the residents of Ward two, (apparently it's your lucky month) are getting a second crosswalk – this time at a much-needed location in front of a senior's building.

Residents consider it a win, and I'm pretty certain Councillor Dave Sheen does too – so what does it matter who actually claims the victory as long as it is indeed a victory? Perhaps it doesn't matter that behind the scenes, and in consultation with town traffic planners, negotiations have been ongoing for months and some changes were already being planned for that intersection. Perhaps it doesn't matter that some residents (and to be transparent, a certain opinion columnist) were pushing hard for change when it appears it's likely a crosswalk would have occurred at some point regardless. It's a win for residents no matter what. However, not to rain on the victory parade, but the real issue is that most of the proposed changes involve painting specifically designed markings on the road. There are already markings on the road and it's a four way stop. Neither appear to be doing anything to actually cause people to come to a complete stop and speeding is an ongoing concern. Worse still, we live in Canada - meaning snow, ice, road salt and snowplow accumulation will render any paint marks, specially designed or not, completely useless for a good portion of the year. What's really needed at Stowmarket and Kennedy Road is a good old-fashioned overhead pedestrian crossing with flashing yellow lights and the whole shebang. One that can be seen from a distance, that pedestrians can activate as needed and that might, just might, make people slow down and stop. Overhead signage and flashing lights (in addition to painted markings) just make common sense in Canada. I'd call this one a draw. It's a positive step forward but not a win, just a win for now. Over to you, Caledon – you decide.

Zimbabwe and the "Ruling Party Syndrome"

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



"No-one will stop us from ruling this country. You will be lost if you don't vote for ZANU-PF," said President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe. A bit more arrogant than the usual election pitch in most parts of the world, perhaps, but not unusual in Zimbabwe, one of the southern African countries suffering from "ruling party syndrome."

There are plenty of military coups and dictatorships elsewhere in Africa. In parts of the Sahel, indeed, they come and go as frequently, and as pointlessly, as weather fronts. But the single party that rules for decades and monopolises all the political space available is a specialty of southern African countries that had to fight "liberation wars."

Most of the countries in West and East Africa got their independence in the early 1960s with little or no fighting: the exhausted European empires just gave up and pulled out. One or two had brief anti-colonial insurgencies, like the Mau Mau in Kenya, but the norm is for ethnically-based political parties to compete for power more or less democratically.

Further south, where there were powerful white settler minorities, it took long guerilla wars to end European rule, and that required a different kind of organisation.

African ethnic differences still mattered, but most southern African countries, starting with Angola, former Rhodesia and Mozambique and extending all the way down to South Africa, developed militarised liberation movements embracing most or all of the local African ethnic groups.

They all won power in the end, of course – but then they stayed together and became the more-or-less permanent ruling party in their country: ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Party) in Zimbabwe, FRELIMO in Mozambique, MPLA in Angola, SWAPO in Namibia, and the ANC (African National Congress) in South Africa.

SWAPO and the ANC managed to preserve a democratic political system, mainly because there was not major military action on their own territory except for their northern borders. And although they utterly dominated their respective political systems, civil rights, free speech and the impartial rule of law survived. So did a fair degree of prosperity.

And then there's Zimbabwe, where fully one-quarter of the population has moved to the neighbouring countries in search of work and only a quarter of the adults still living at home have regular jobs.

Per capita income in Zimbabwe in 2022 was only $100 a year higher than it was forty years ago, just after independence, and half of that was probably remittances from family members working abroad. Yet the country is not poor; only its people are.

The election this Wednesday will be the usual charade, with the outcome determined by ZANU's control of the media, the police and the courts, but some brave souls still defy it. Most of them belong to the Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC), and they know they won't win this time. (One of their members was stoned to death by ZANU activists last week.)

Yet they will win eventually, because everybody in Zimbabwe – literally everybody – knows that the regime is corrupt and the system is rigged. Indeed, everybody except its direct beneficiaries hates it.

Robert Mugabe, the hero of the independence war, ruled the country with an iron hand for 37 years until he tried to fire his vice-president, Emmerson Mnangagwa, at the behest of his wife, Grace Mugabe.

Mnangagwa, another liberation war hero (known as "The Crocodile"), overthrew Mugabe instead, but rules in exactly the same imperious and ruthless style. However, he is now 80, and there are no more liberation war heroes coming up behind him.

The ANC in South Africa will lose its majority in parliament in next year's election, after 29 years of unchallenged rule. It will just acknowledge its defeat and start trying to make some sort of coalition government. In fact, it already has its feelers out.

ZANU has already been in power for longer than that (43 years), and its time is also almost up.

The transition there may be rougher than that in South Africa, where the ANC never directly controlled the military and the courts always remained independent, but ZANU's role as Zimbabwe's eternal "ruling party" is unlikely to survive.

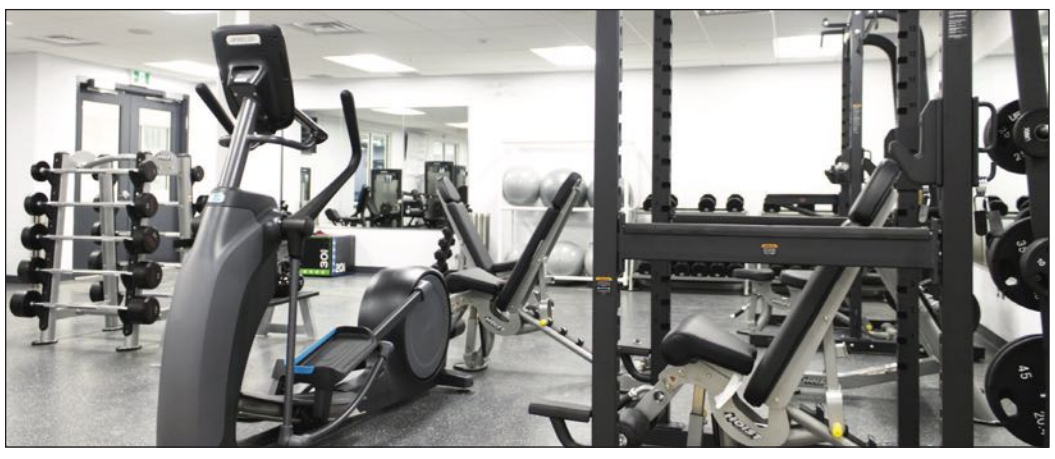


"Beer, it's the best damn drink in the world."

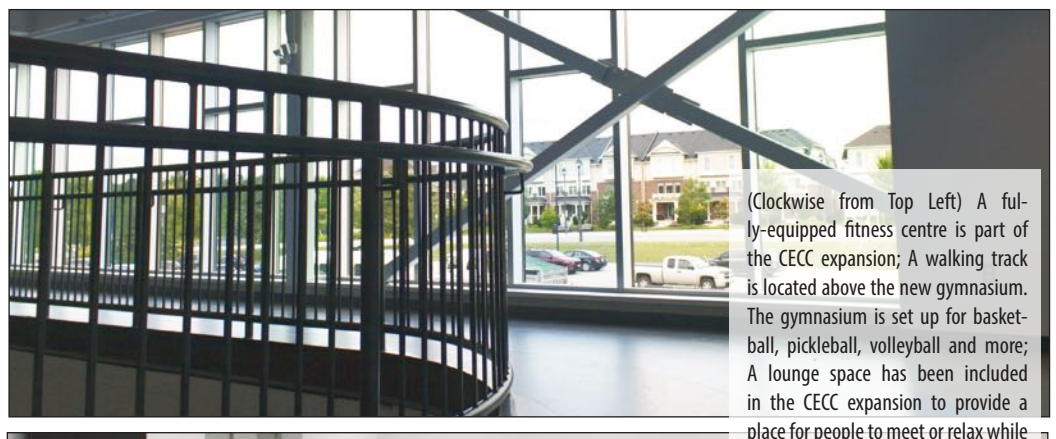
Cheers to Jack Nicholson

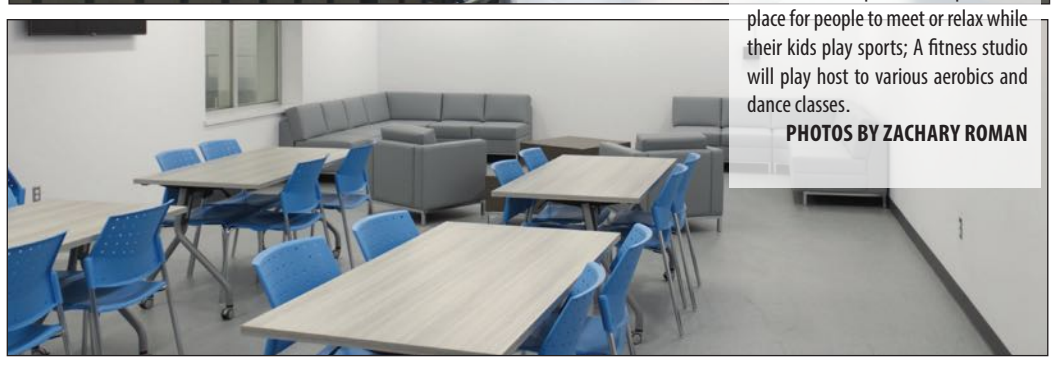
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(Clockwise from Top Left) A fully-equipped fitness centre is part of the CECC expansion; A walking track is located above the new gymnasium. The gymnasium is set up for basketball, pickleball, volleyball and more; A lounge space has been included in the CECC expansion to provide a place for people to meet or relax while their kids play sports; A fitness studio will play host to various aerobics and dance classes.

PHOTOS BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Opening soon: Here's a sneak peek at the new Caledon East Community Complex

Town of Caledon currently putting finishing touches on 146,000 square foot building

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon's largest community centre will soon be open.

On September 5, the Caledon East Community Complex (CECC), located at 6215 Old Church Road, will have a soft opening to the public. This will be followed by a grand opening event on September 16.

On August 30, the Caledon Citizen was given a tour of the expanded facilities at the CECC.

A wide, brightly-lit corridor will greet residents when they walk in the entrances on the CECC's ground floor. Located in the corridor is a service desk and a concession stand that's been contracted out to a private vendor and will be called Heather's Kitchen.

Tom Darlow, facilities manager for the Town of Caledon, said the concession stand will have all the arena classics as well as some more elevated offerings.

The new Caledon East branch of the Caledon Public Library is also included in the CECC.

Dedicated to Cory Trépanier, the branch includes its own makerspace with advanced tools like 3D printers.

There's a fitness centre at the CECC with all kinds of weights, equipment, and cardio machines such as a stairclimber, elliptical and treadmills.

The two ice rinks are still at the CECC and have been upgraded with new paint. One rink has the Caledon Hawks logo at centre ice and the other has the Caledon Coyotes logo. Residents can see into the rinks from the main corridor, and the second-floor stands to watch the action on the rinks are now accessible to all. There will be a pro shop by the rinks where residents can get their skates sharpened.

In addition to the indoor rinks, there will also be an outdoor rink and pavilion out back of the CECC come wintertime.

A major addition to the CECC is a full-size gymnasium complete with basketball nets and a scoreboard. There are lines on the floor for all kinds of sports including basketball, pickleball, and volleyball. The gym can also be divided in two depending on what program is running.

Kathleen Prochilo, Caledon's Supervisor of Community Programs, said she expects many residents to play pickleball in the gymnasium, and added pick-up basketball should be pretty popular too.

Above the gymnasium on the CECC's second floor is a walking/running track. Prochilo said it will be an amazing asset for the community in the winter, as well as be a great way for parents and caregivers to pass the time while their children are playing sports.

Darlow explained the expanded CECC is close to 146,000 square feet in size, making it the largest recreation centre in Caledon. The next-largest centre is the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness in Bolton, which is 86,000 square feet.

On the second floor of the CECC, there's a fitness/aerobics room where the Town plans to host all kinds of different programs, including some kids dance programs. There's also a community lounge on the second floor where all are welcome to relax and meet up.

Near the lounge is a community room, which can be rented out for all kinds of things like seminars or birthday parties.

One of the most highly-anticipated parts of the CECC expansion was the addition of a pool. It's a 25-metre-long pool that features lanes for swimming, an accessible entrance, and a shallower area for those just learning how to swim.

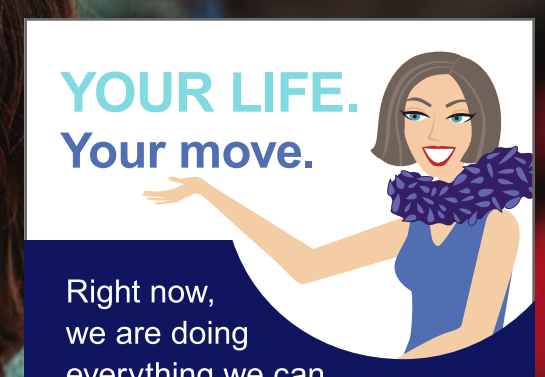
Darlow said it will be kept at a warmer temperature than other pools, which will allow it to be used for therapeutic programs too. The pool will be heated using the heat that's taken away from the ice rinks, to maximize energy efficiency.

FOCUS ON WOMEN IN BUSINESS

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Valleywood community comes together for second annual block party



Jude and James Attrell volunteered to take the plunge into the dunk tank for a good cause at the Valleywood Block Party.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN



Dancers from Ms. Marianne's Power of Performing Arts showcased their talents at the party.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Event doubled in size for 2023

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A sunny Saturday was the perfect time for neighbours to socialize and have fun.

On August 26, the second annual Valleywood Block Party was held at Lina Marino Park. From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. the park was packed with residents, entertainers, community groups, local vendors and more.

Sonia D'Alimonte, one of the volunteer planners that put together this year's block party, said she was so happy the sun came out for the event as the weather was a bit unnerving when volunteers were setting up for it.

"It's been a fantastic day," said D'Alimonte in an interview at the party. "Our dunk tank has been going non-stop."

The Valleywood Block Party acted as a fundraiser for Cassie's Place, a local non-profit that provides programming and a home away from home for individuals with disabilities. Residents could purchase three tries at the dunk tank to throw a ball at a target and try to dunk one of the many volunteers.

Joe Sassine, a volunteer with Cassie's Place, said support from the Valleywood community at the dunk tank was amazing. He said so many people were participating, and some people were even just donating extra money once they learned about the cause.

Other activities at the block party included dance performances, comic character visits, soccer games, a dog show, a magic show, a massive vendor market, and local food vendors. The Caledon OPP and Caledon Fire and Emergency Services also came out with vehicles for kids to see.

D'Alimonte said she started laying the groundwork for this year's event last October and said it was amazing to see everything come together.

Seeing Valleywood residents unite and have a good time makes everything worth it for D'Alimonte.

"It's so nice to see everyone connecting," she said. "A big reason why we started (in 2022) after COVID was we needed a reason to get out and mingle again. We're really happy to be able to bring this back again."

D'Alimonte said the volunteers and sponsors involved with the Valleywood Block Party are all trying to breathe new life into the community.

Aspira Bolton Mills September Events!

September 1st at 7:00pm
Live Music with Pianist Martin Wall

September 9th 1:00-3:00pm
Apple Harvest Open House
1:00 Fall Inspired Lunch followed by
Live Music by Sean Derraugh at 2:00
In person tours available from 1-4

September 20th at 6:30pm
Mexican Fiesta Dinner
with Live Mariachi Music

Please RSVP to Karissa
at 289-206-0775

Aspira Bolton Mills
Retirement Living

PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed 30 Metre Telecommunications Tower Site
C4372/TELE 2023-0008T
Located at 8112 King Street, Bolton

ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS INC. has proposed a 30m tall, lattice telecommunication base station and related radio equipment on private property at 8112 King Street, Bolton. The proposed installation is required to provide Rogers customers with improved wireless network coverage (wireless voice and data services).

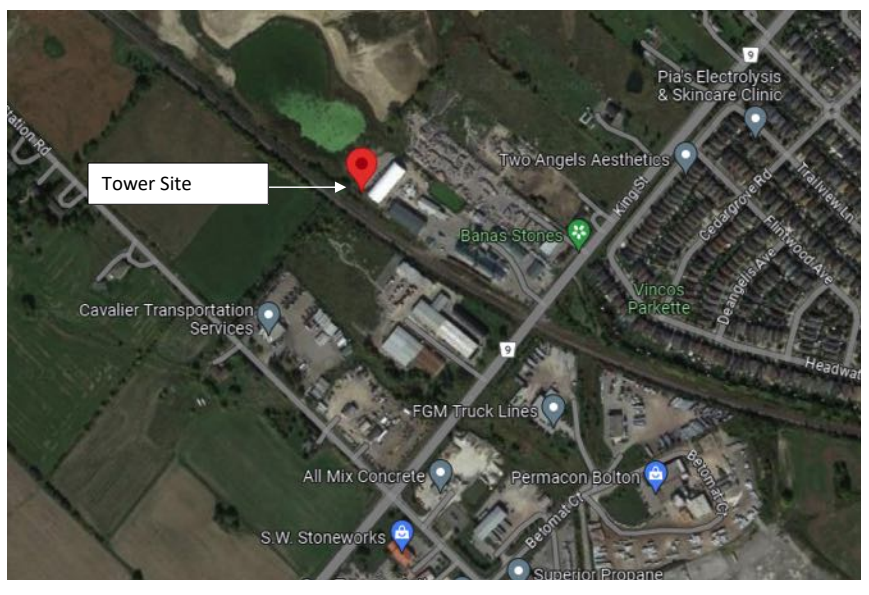
The geographic coordinates for the proposed site are as follows: Latitude: 43.872173 & Longitude: -79.770562. The facility is proposed in an industrial zone and will occupy a ground compound area of 10.0m x 10.0m.

FB CONNECT, on behalf of Rogers Communications Inc., is committed to effective municipal and public consultation. This notice serves as an invitation to submit comments in writing to the proponent as well as attend a public information centre on September 27, 2023 at 6:00pm at Albion Bolton Community Centre, Room D (150 Queen Street South, Bolton). Attendees will have an opportunity to provide comments and/or ask questions.

Attendance at the public information centre is not mandatory nor is it the only form of communication. For those who are unable to attend or prefer not to participate in an in-person session, please reach out directly to the contacts below via regular mail, phone, or email on or before October 1, 2023, which is the closing date for public consultation regarding this proposal.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the approval of this site and its design is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of Canada through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED). For more information on the federal process pertaining to these installations please contact the local ISED office at: ic.spectrumtoronto-spectretoronto.ic@ised-isde.gc.ca.

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Caledon Cup 2023

Caledon FC's "Summer-Ending" House League Soccer Tournament was a big hit

BY JIM STEWART

Gabriel Borges, Executive Director of Caledon FC, peered out from the East Caledon Sports Complex pavilion and was happy to see the fields full of soccer players.

From three-year-olds kicking the ball for the first time to U8, U10, and U12 teams competing for the Caledon Cup 2023, there was an air of "mission accomplished" on a beautiful Saturday morning in late-August.

"It's exciting to bring back soccer and resurrect the Caledon Cup with 20 house league teams competing in three divisions."

Borges looked out to the soccer pitches filled with colorful yellow, green, blue, and red Caledon FC jerseys and noted that the best part of the grassroots tourney was "seeing how happy the kids are."

"It's also great to see the Complex being fully used."

Mario Russo, Caledon Councillor for Wards 4, 5, and 6, jokingly took credit for "the great weather" and praised Borges's work to bring back the house league soccer tournament for so many Caledon kids.

The gregarious Councillor was also quick to credit the substantial team of volunteers for their selfless efforts.

"This doesn't happen without the volunteers and their community spirit."

Two of those volunteers—Meghan McFadyen and Alissa Condotta—worked admirably on the adjacent pitch to corral a group of three-year old soccer players for a group photo and set up the young ones for their tournament match.

The work of these Grassroots Managers did not go unnoticed by Caledon FC Board Member and Coach Gaspare Clemenzi who praised the efforts of McFadyen and Condotta for "helping to create a fun space for the youngest players and for their dedicated service."



PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

Coach Clemenzi also noted that, "This is a fun day for our rec players. It's a summer-ending event that I always looked forward to back in my playing days. We're happy to give out a table of trophies to the competitors today and we hope to grow from this, to create a base, and instill a philosophy in our program."

With Caledon FC's Marketing and Sponsorship Director Harman Mundair providing a great musical backbeat to complement the proceedings on the field, Executive Director Gabriel Borges's goal of "letting the community know that the Caledon Cup is back" was achieved.

The future of Caledon FC is, indeed, bright and its Executive Director acknowledged "It's all about playing soccer. It's time to focus on the present and it's time for kids to enjoy the beautiful game."

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"Helping YOUth find their employment path; that's valuable to us!"

by Mary Falcone, Manager, Youth Program



At a 2015 TEDx Youth Conference, Benjamin Todd, founder of the UK-based career consulting firm 80,000 Hours told the audience "To find work you love, don't just follow your passion, rather do what's valuable. Explore, build skills, solve big pressing problems. And from that, fulfillment and a passionate career will emerge."

Eight years later, as we emerge from a pandemic this sentiment remains relevant on a global scale and carries a powerful weight.

At Caledon Community Services (CCS) we understand the drive to not only find a job but to find meaningful work. Wanting to do something valuable is a desire the young adults we serve often struggle with on their career journey. It is daunting at 17 years of age, to decide: 'I want to do 'X' for the rest of my life.'

The ever-changing employment landscape, coupled with shifting social and economic landscapes compound the challenge of finding meaningful employment. Often young people feel unsupported or defeated as they look to the future. Even when they know the direction they want to go, figuring out how to get there can be a challenge.

Imagine if you had the right support to not only find your path forward (entering the workforce, enrolling in specific skills training or furthering your education) but also to help build transferrable skills for any career.

For youth in Caledon, that support is readily available through CCS' Employment and Training team and more specifically, through our LIFE for Youth program.

If you are between the ages 15-29, LIFE for Youth combines in-classroom teaching, helping you explore your interests and learn workplace skills, with hands-on job placements, where you can test potential career paths, build skills and inform decisions around your career path.

"When I started LIFE for Youth, I wanted a fresh start, to try something new and I didn't have a lot of direction," said Alex, LIFE for Youth participant. "Now I'm in a much better place and have a path that I'm on. It took a lot of work and it was really great to have this support to get there. I recommend this program to anyone and everyone."

We're here to help you explore, build skills and find what's valuable! Now enrolling for October start date. Take a step toward success with LIFE for Youth; visit www.ccs4u.org, call 905-584-2300 ext. 232 or email youth@ccs4u.org.

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.
Cathy Perennec McLean, Director, Employment and Training, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 220 or cmclean@ccs4u.org

This column is provided free of charge by the Caledon Citizen.

Use caution when enjoying end of summer water fun

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

With the final weeks of summer now here, many people will be enjoying the final time for water activities in the region.

Whether you are diving in for a swim, cruising along in a boat, or splashing by the water's edge, taking precautions will help ensure your experience goes well.

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is issuing some safety tips to help make sure you finish the summer safely.

Parachute Canada, an injury prevention website, reports that drowning is the leading cause of injury-related death in Canada. Many people are injured while doing activities where they never expected to enter the water. This includes unexpectedly falling into water while boating or tripping and falling into a backyard pool.

You should avoid swimming alone. If you get into trouble, there will be no one to assist you.

Children should never swim alone or be left unsupervised when around any body of water. Make sure there is an experienced swimmer in sight and within reach.

It is also recommended that adults swim with a buddy as even the strongest swimmers can run into trouble. Learning to swim is important but water safety means more that knowing the swimming strokes.

Taking a first aid course and learning water rescue and safety skills can assist you to safely help others and know what to do if there is an emergency.

If you are on a boat, you shouldn't drink alcohol. Operating a boat or watercraft takes the same care and attention as driving a car. Consuming alcohol and boating don't mix as it impairs attention, concentration, and judgment.

Being in a boat while impaired is a major contributing factor in drowning while boating.

You should always wear lifejackets or personal flotation devices.

A lifejacket is more buoyant and is designed to turn an unconscious person from face down to face up the water allowing them to breath.

A PFD is less buoyant and is designed to keep a conscious person afloat in calm conditions.

Taking precautions around the water means less chance of mishap and will allow you to finish the summer safely.

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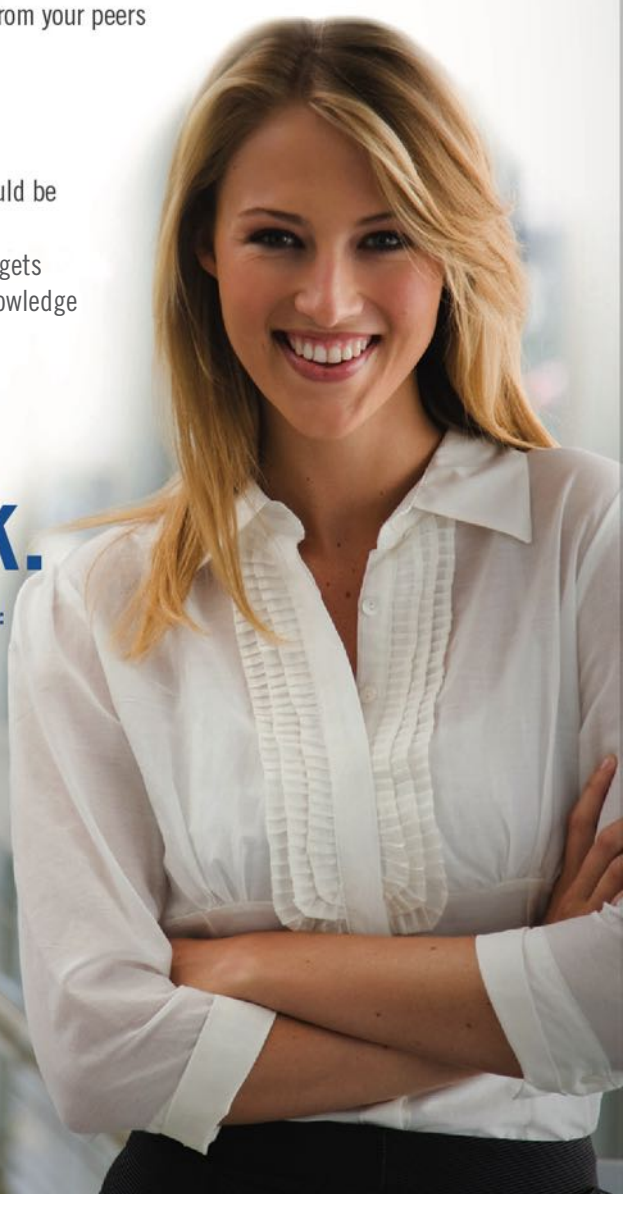
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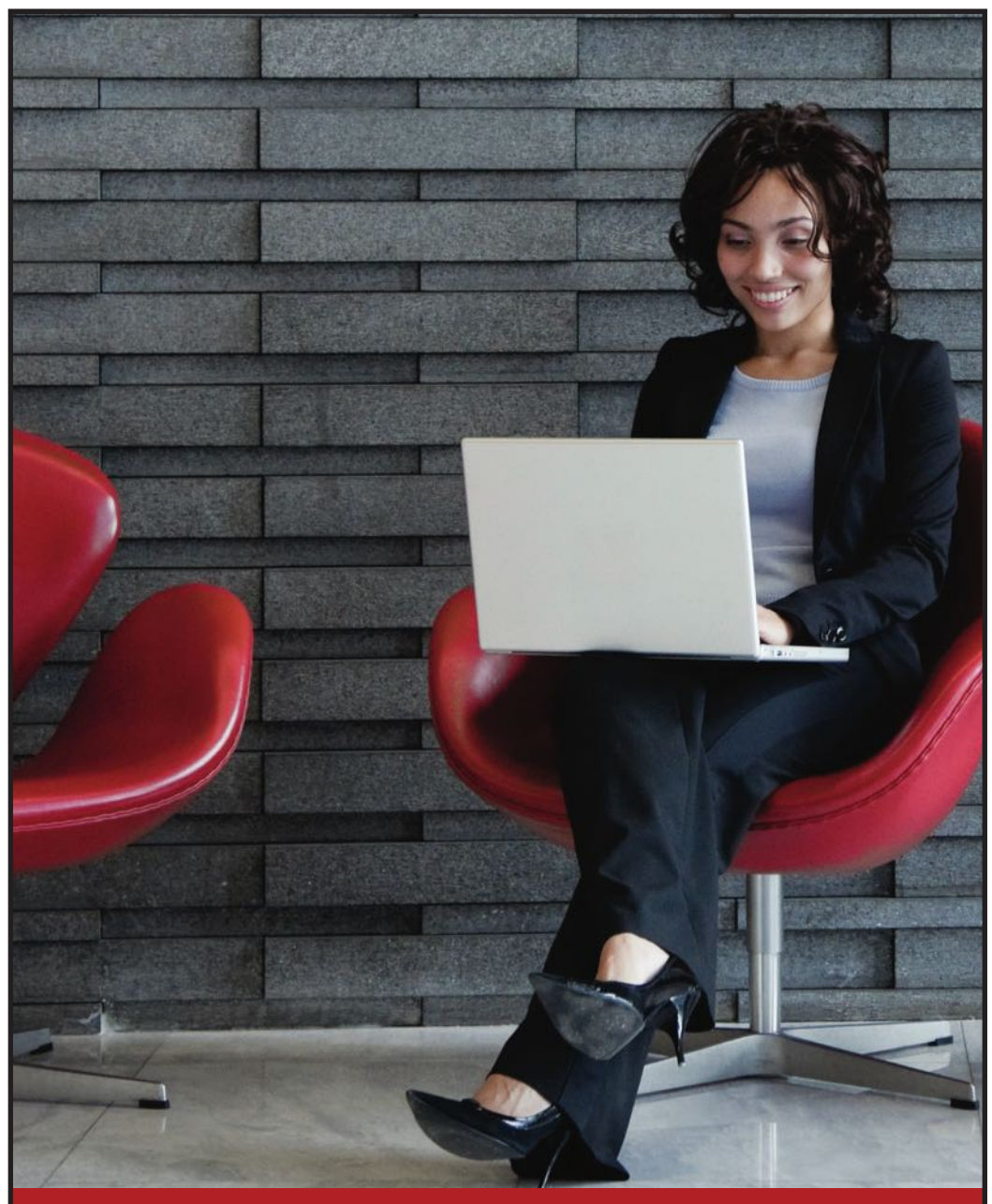
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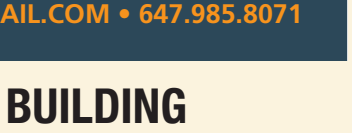
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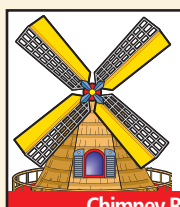


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Caledon Town Hall Players tackle Love Letters in season bonus

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

The Caledon Town Hall Players will perform a drama with a very small cast of two early in September.

"Love Letters" by A.R. Gurney is coming to the Caledon-based theatre company on September 8, 9, 15 and 16.

Director Stephanie Bailey took time to talk to the Citizen about this upcoming show, which is an add-on to their regular season.

"Typically, we do three shows a season, in November, February and May. But this year, we added a fourth show in September," she said.

In the drama, there are plenty of ways to communicate. At one time, pen pals were common, pen on paper, stamp on an envelope; sometimes, really close friendships grew – sometimes, even marriage or an affair. As it is with these two, Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner, who read the audience the stories of their own lives and the life of their friendship through 50 years of correspondence.

"You get to be yourself when it's on paper," said Bailey. "They explore their relationship across different times in their lives, from childhood on. This is a very powerful play, the two of them go through a lot of emotions."

CTHP never produces a play with just two characters because the mantra of the company is to "involve as many people as possible in all aspects of theatre." With this in mind, these two characters and their director include three people per play. Three groups of two characters and the director take turns to perform the play. The casting was arranged by lottery, actually picking names out of a hat.

Love Letters will be produced six times over two weekends. This way, nine people are involved in the acting, with the tech and creative crew seeing to the rest.

The experiment has brought new people who have never acted together before and the individual directors, each approaching the show differently.

"We thought audiences might like to see it [more than once]," said Bailey, "so that they can see how the play is re-interpreted."

CTHP landed on Love Letters for a number of reasons. The two-person script doesn't need to be memorized as the artistry is in the reading, easy when people are travelling during the summer, and this gave a chance to meet more actors, for there were no auditions.

"There was a level of risk as to who would be in the show. People might work together but not knowing who you're going to work with is a challenge," she said. "This is our chance to explore something new.

This year is CTHP's 65th anniversary. It is run entirely by volunteers with no paid employees and a "fantastic membership whose hearts are all on the-atre's survival. We try to get people as involved as they want to be; we adapt with life's changes," she told us.

There is a good mix of demographics, a couple of high school students who go through shows that involve high school casting. People working backstage want to get involved without acting and directing. Teens get their volunteer hours.

Love Letters is something different, truly different from other shows. Two people and raw emotion by watching two people grow up.

Dates and times are Sept. 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 8:15 p.m. and September 9 and 16 at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are available online: www.caledontownhallplayers.com.

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