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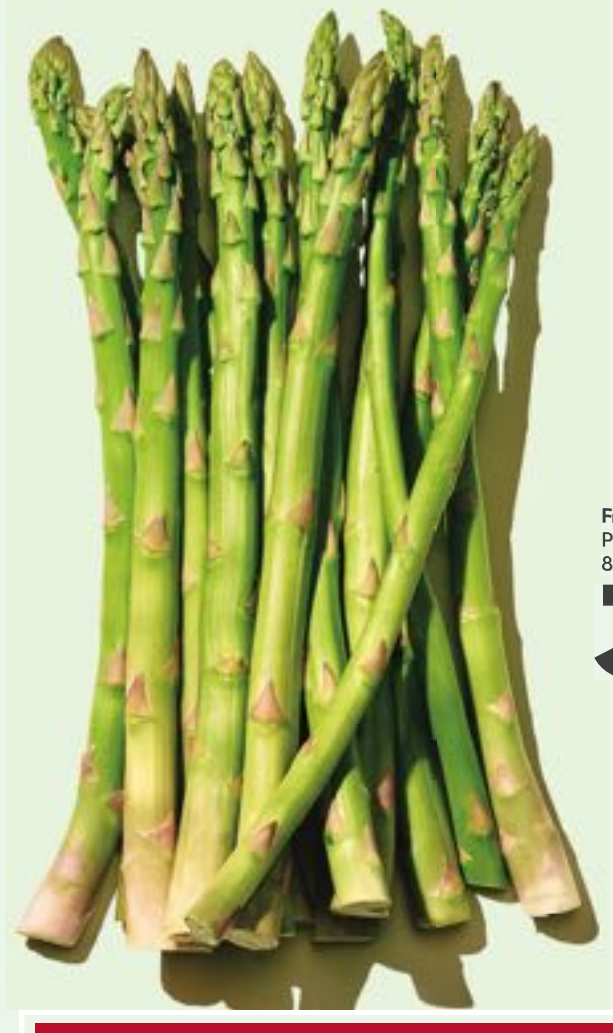


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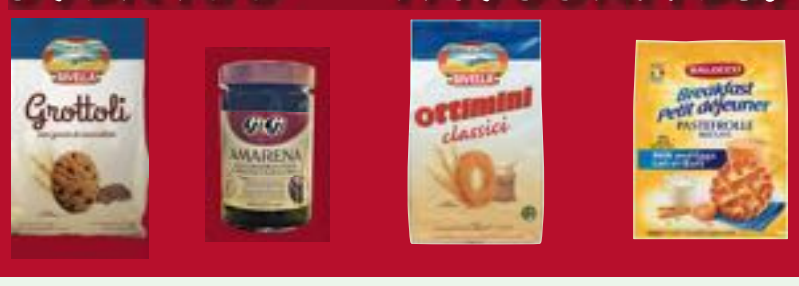
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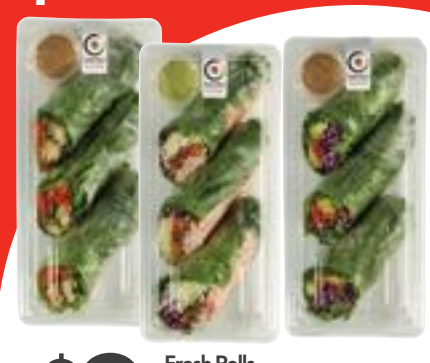


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COMMUNITY HAUNT

Rino Ferrante and Mary Ann stand outside 58 Harvest Moon Drive as they prepare to welcome guests to their annual "Haunt," which also serves as a food drive for The Exchange. For more on this year's event, see Page A3.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Zoning change proposal for trucking business sparks conversation on illegal land use

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At the October 21 Planning and Development public meeting, an application was brought forward to rezone lands to permit a tractor trailer repair facility, with accessory trailer parking.

The location, 8 Marconi Court, is 1.45 acres in size and contains a one-storey industrial building currently used as a warehouse and truck repair facility.

The truck repair facility is not a permitted use under the existing zoning.

They are hoping to expand use permissions to allow a tractor-trailer repair facility while reusing the existing building.

Delegating on the issue were three members from the Caledon Community Road Safety Advocacy group: Carmela Anzelmo-Palkowski, Franca Pisani, and Amanda Corbett.

"This property was purchased and turned into a truck depot, illegally," voiced Palkowski.

"Is this setting a precedent to business owners to just set up where they want and then ask for permission," asked Palkowski. "Allowing these businesses to operate illegally and then zoning them into compliance is not protecting our Town. It is not improving our safety on our roads."

"We really hope that this is not the case, that the Town is trying to zone these operations into compliance. The CCRSA and the residents, this is not what we are advocating for. We are advocating for good businesses, not ones that come here and operate illegally and then come and try to zone into compliance by checkbox with the Town of Caledon list."

Pisani asked whether a moratorium could be placed on properties with illegal land use questions before considering applications.

Continued on Page A10



A drone show recently lit up the night sky in a celebration of Diwali. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Sparks Fly" at Caledon's Diwali Drone Show

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On October 18th, more than 200 drones lit up the sky at the Brampton Fairgrounds during Caledon's Diwali Drone Show.

To celebrate the Festival of Lights, various displays of symbols that reflect the spirit and traditions of Diwali, as well as other graphics, were lit up for the thousands gathered to celebrate that day.

Continued on Page A6

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Behind the Scenes: Collaboration, creativity, and charm shine in Mayfield's Into the Woods



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At first glance, one might mistake the music echoing from Mayfield Secondary School's practice room for the Into the Woods soundtrack, but it's the students themselves warming up for this year's Fall production.

Performing Act One of the musical, students could be seen dancing across the room, completing lifts and bounds.

Those on and off stage had nothing but pride and passion dancing across their faces as they both watched on and participated in the rehearsal.

Not only the students, but also the teachers.

This year's musical is set to hit the stage from November 6 – 8, and Mayfield invites everyone to join them in the magic.

Into the Woods, with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by James Lapine, follows classic Brothers Grimm stories in this dark yet humorous fairytale musical, and Mayfield is putting their own special charm on the production.

Mayfield students Morgan Scholz and Anshika Saini are stage managers for the show and are currently assembling all the pieces, including sound, costumes, and set, to complete the first part of the production.

The two sat where the performance would eventually be held, surrounded by costume racks and set pieces.

They shared that the process for the musical began before summer even came to a close, with students vocally warming up and getting used to performing with one another.

"We're starting to see it come to life," says Tracey Freitas, Director and Drama RAP Teacher with Mayfield SS. "That's the part that I love the most, just watching them watch it come together and watching them realize that it's coming to life."

"You see everyone learning something new every day and forming new connections with each other," says Scholz.

"The whole story is about magic and friendship and love, but it really is magical when you see it come to life, and the show nights are going to be incredible," says Saini.

Within the production is a team of more than 200 students, 10 teachers, and a handful of staff members.

Scholz notes that many students from different departments may not have collaborated before, but through the production, "they're becoming a family."

"We're able to work off each other, bounce off ideas. People are able to find themselves in their characters, which is really exciting. Everyone backstage is putting in mass amounts of hard work and teamwork to put the production together as well. It's just incredible to see everyone working together," says Scholz.

Saini says she notices many looking forward to rehearsals every day.

"The arts are why these kids come to school," says Freitas. "They come to life when they come to rehearsal after school."

Scholz says the students are learning how to sing, dance, and act all at the same time.

"It's a lot to take in, but we have teachers who are supporting us, and staff and admin, and everyone's really welcoming, everyone's able to build off their skills and hopefully have some new ones when they leave at the end."

When you come to see the production, Scholz says you'll see a "great show of youth talent and hard work."

"The talent that these kids have is unmatched," says Freitas. "I watch a lot of professional theatre, and these kids do a fantastic job. The talent in this place is pretty incredible and if you come to watch this show, you're going to get your money's worth."

Saini says this is far from a "normal high school production," and Freitas adds that the students are displaying professional-level work.

Working on this production, Scholz says, has been an incredible experience.

"I've met so many people that I wouldn't have regularly got to meet because of this production, and I've learned so many skills. What it takes to not only bring people together, but want to work with one another and want to be better in what they're doing," she says.

Freitas has invested hundreds of hours in these types of productions, and says it's all worth it to see the students thrive.

"My favorite part is when the show goes up, just stepping back and watching them create all the magic. My job is done and they do it all, the kids do everything," she says.

These three hope that after watching the production, audiences will understand the vital importance of the arts.

Saini and Scholz say that it's more important now than ever.

"The arts and the ability to see people express themselves and have yourself expressed through art is one of the most important things that people can have. So hopefully when people leave, they have a smile on their face, they have a new favorite song, or they have a new favorite dance move that they saw someone do. But just walking away feeling excited about what youth can do when they're able to have these opportunities to do such," says Scholz.

"It's so exciting," says Saini. "I love working with everyone that's on the cast and I love talking to the teachers and learning from them especially."

Everything from conducting to choreography to set design, Mayfield teachers have been there every step of the way – with Brian Troung, Music Coach and Music RAP Teacher, Melina Pereira, Choreographer and Dance RAP Teacher, Melissa Locke, Vocal Coach and Music RAP Teacher and Jason King, Set Construction and Drama RAP Teacher, working alongside Freitas and the students.

Ticket prices are $20 and the production is being performed from November 6 – 8 with all shows beginning at 7:00 pm.

To purchase tickets, visit peelschools.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/445145/145/False/True.

"Come and watch these wonderful kids," says Freitas.





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Decorations have expanded yet again this year. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Harvest Moon Horror: Bolton's beloved Haunted House returns for fourteenth year

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Now in its 14th consecutive year, the haunted house at 58 Harvest Moon Drive in Bolton is open for this spooky season.

Run by Rino Ferrante and his sons, Matteo and Luca, the house is filled with various displays, blow-ups, animatronics, and frightening fun for the whole family!

Ferrante began the haunted house for his own kids on a much smaller scale, and, over time, it's grown to the scale it is now, with line-ups on Halloween running down the block and over 800 visitors throughout the night.

Even in the months leading up to Halloween, they attract dozens upon dozens of community members eager to witness the action and jaw-dropping spectacle.

For the last four years, they've encouraged residents to bring food or monetary donations for The Exchange, Caledon's food bank, run by Caledon Community Services.

The family noticed during COVID how much was truly needed at the food bank, and the idea has been running ever since.

They share that once again this year, the display has grown even larger and extended even more, offering more festive sights for all.

The haunted house is also available for accessible trick-or-treating.

The house is open every day from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., and on Halloween night, it will run from 6 p.m. until the line-up has disappeared.

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CALEDON OPP INVESTIGATING 2020 HOMICIDE

Police have released video footage of two suspects and their vehicle and are seeking the public's assistance in relation to a homicide in Bolton and an attempted homicide in Vaughan.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020, at approximately 11:30 p.m., members from the York Regional Police (YRP) responded to a shooting on Steeles Avenue West in Vaughan. According to reports, two unidentified individuals exited a white vehicle and shot a male. The victim was transported to hospital for treatment. On Monday, Jan. 18, 2021, at approximately 12:30 p.m., officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a shooting in the area of Harvest Moon Drive, Bolton, in the Town of Caledon. It was reported that two individuals entered a residence and shot two occupants inside the home, one of whom was also the victim in the November 2020 incident in Vaughan. The suspects then fled the scene in a dark-coloured sedan. Upon arrival, police officers located one of the occupants suffering from a gunshot wound. The individual was transported to hospital for treatment. The second occupant, 65-year-old Giovanni Costa of Bolton, was located deceased at the scene.

On Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022, with the assistance of the OPP Tactics and Rescue Unit, one person was taken into custody in Scarborough and charged with accessory after the fact to murder.

While the first incident was initially investigated by YRP, both incidents are now being investigated by the Caledon OPP Crime Unit, under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB).

The Government of the Province of Ontario is offering a $50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Giovanni Costa.

Videos of the vehicle and the suspects in the Bolton incident can be viewed at youtube.com/watch?v=38viUwMD5t0. Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact the Caledon OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

"Thanks to several public tips, investigators have identified new leads that are now being actively pursued in the homicide of Giovanni COSTA. While one individual was arrested, efforts continue to locate two others captured in the released video. A $50,000 reward remains available and we urge anyone with further information to come forward and help bring answers to Giovanni's family," said OPP Detective Inspector Steven Martell, CIB.



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EIGHT ALCOHOL-RELATED INVESTIGATIONS IN 26 HOURS: OPP

Officers from the Caledon OPP conducted eight alcohol-related investigations in just 26 hours.

"Between October 18, 2025, at approximately 11:30 p.m., and October 20, 2025, at approximately 1:30 a.m., Caledon OPP conducted numerous traffic stops upon vehicles that travelled through Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) programs in various locations around Caledon," say Police. "On three occasions, officers formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and were later criminally charged as a result of those investigations."

Mandeep Judge, 51, of Brampton, was charged with:

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

The charges have not been proven.

Michael D'Angelo, 43, of Caledon, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand

The charge has not been proven.

Megh Patel, 24, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand

The charge has not been proven.

"During those RIDE programs, an additional four motorists were found to have a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) within the "warn range", resulting in an immediate three-day driver's licence suspension.

"In addition, Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a single vehicle collision on King Street, near Emil Kolb Parkway, in the Town of Caledon. During that investigation, officers formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result, Anila Rizvi, 45, of Barrie, was charged with:

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

The charges have not been proven.

All four accused parties are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer to their charge(s). The vehicles were also impounded for a period of seven days, and their driver's licences were suspended for a period of 90 days.

"In Ontario, alcohol-impaired driving is one of the leading causes of death on the roads. You can face criminal charges if your blood alcohol concentration is 0.08 or more. You can also face charges if you are in the 'warn range', meaning your blood alcohol concentration between 0.05 and 0.079. It is also important to note that Ontario has a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to driver's consuming alcohol that are; age 21 years or younger, a driver of any age who holds a G1, G2, M1, or M2 licence, while driving a vehicle that requires an A-F driver's licence or Commercial Vehicle Operator's Registration (CVOR), or while operating a road-building machine."

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND ROAD CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged three individuals with operation while impaired offences during the Thanksgiving long weekend.

"On October 11, 2025, at approximately 11:30 p.m., Caledon OPP conducted a traffic stop upon a vehicle who travelled through a RIDE program on Albion Vaughan Road, and Queensgate Boulevard, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Officers investigated and formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

Following the investigation, Samantha Burridge, 32, of Bolton, was charged with:

- Drive vehicle with cannabis readily available;
- Operation while impaired – alcohol;
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
- Possession of a Schedule III substance.

The charges have not been proven.

"Less than ten minutes later, Caledon OPP conducted a traffic stop upon a vehicle who travelled through a RIDE program on Old School Road, and Heart Lake Road, in the Town of Caledon. Officers investigated and formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result of the investigation, Tajinder Singh, 29, of Waterford, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

"On October 13, 2025, at approximately 5:30 a.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a single vehicle collision on Centreville Creek Road, near Patterson Sideroad, in the Town of Caledon. Shortly after, officers arrived on scene and subsequently formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

Following the investigation, Jake Sutherland, 21, of Brampton, was charged with:

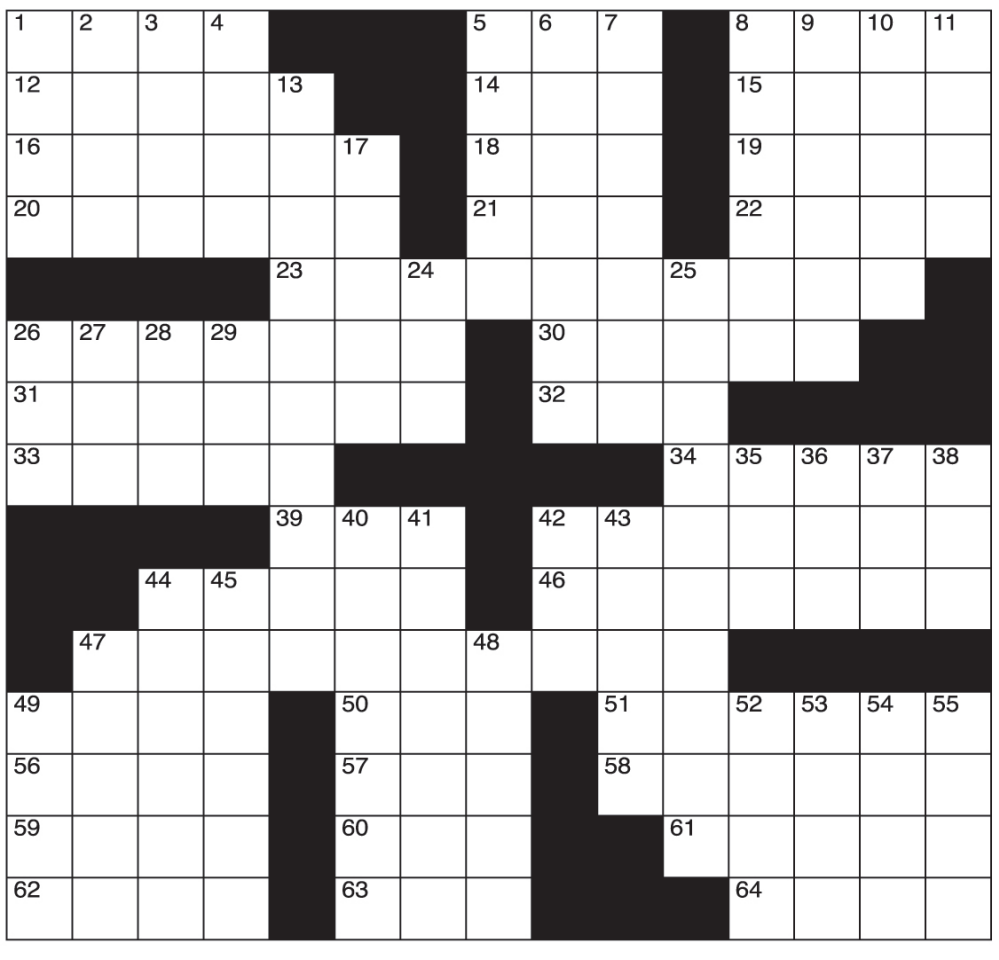
- Operation while impaired – alcohol;
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
- Novice driver - blood alcohol concentration above zero.

The charges have not been proven.

All accused parties are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on October 30, 2025, to answer to their charge(s). The vehicles were also impounded for a period of seven days, and their driver's licences were suspended for a period of 90 days.

The Citizen CROSSWORD

Solution in the classifieds.



CLUES ACROSS

1. El __, Texas town
5. Rocker's tool
8. A lot
12. Traveling by ground
14. Spelling competition
15. Two-toed sloth
16. Small perfumed bag
18. "Much __ about nothing"
19. Tough-skinned mollusk
20. Removes from record
21. It warms the planet
22. Leafy green
23. Quality of arriving favorably
26. Living thing
30. "Six of Crows" author Bardugo
31. Got around a rule
32. Resin from burned substance
33. Iraq seaport
34. Religious leaders
39. Fugitives are on it
42. Samson's influencer
44. Italian city
46. A quality of lacking interest
47. Predatory tropical fishes
49. Nobel physician Isodor
50. Luck
51. Stationary part of a motor or generator
56. Orthopedic professional group (abbr.)
57. One point south of due east
58. It follows 79
59. Paper currency
60. Anger
61. Spanish seaport
62. Sleep in a rough place
63. Famous museum
64. Selfs

CLUES DOWN

1. Bullfighting maneuver
2. From a distance
3. Soul and calypso song
4. Expressions of delight
5. Lower in esteem
6. Inner region of an organ
7. Flowers
8. A bog
9. Remove a fastening
10. Membranes
11. Enormous
13. One who abstains from drink
17. Malayan wild ox
24. Type of student
25. Rejecting all moral principles
26. Sino-Soviet block
27. Egyptian unit of weight
28. Wrong
29. Make a mistake
35. Indicates location
36. Boxing's "GOAT"
37. Where wrestlers compete
38. Timid
40. Disney town
41. Suggesting the horror of death and decay
42. Male parent
43. Remove for good
44. Simple shoes
45. Flowers
47. Hindi courtesy title for a man
48. Not pleased
49. "Atlas Shrugged" author
52. CIA officer and writer
53. Hoodlum
54. __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancellor
55. Woolen rugs

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ARTS & CULTURE

Sparks Fly at Caledon's Diwali Drone Show (but not literally)

Continued from FRONT

Following last year's event, which drew a large crowd, Caledon not only changed locations but also offered free shuttles this year.

Hunar Kahlon, Chair of the Caledon South Asian Association (CSAA), notes that the new location was necessary due to an even larger turnout this year.

He also shared he's been seeing a large amount of positive feedback to the event, whether that be surrounding the changes brought in this year, or the safe alternative to fireworks.

"With time we will be able to convince people that it's not the Festival of Fireworks, it's the Festival of Lights," says Kahlon. "And people are liking it."

He said he is seeing an increasing number of municipalities bring in drone shows to their own communities this year and people are also sharing how much they enjoyed the different religions showcased at the event.

"It is celebrated by different religions for different reasons, and we highlighted that, and a lot of people really appreciated that we sent out a message of unity," says Kahlon.

The show also featured various Canadian elements, such as a maple leaf and the Canadian Flag.

At the show were people from all backgrounds and all cultures, noted Kahlon.

New this year was also a narration aspect, allowing everyone in attendance to understand the significance of the festival.

"This way they were able to understand what's going on, what does that particular image mean, and what's the historical point of view behind that," explains Kahlon.

Kahlon is already looking ahead to next year's celebration, thinking of new ways to address items such as traffic management and the timing of the show. He says the shuttles have helped significantly with traffic, and he hopes they can continue to improve in that area in the future.

"Another major learning was that even though the show itself is great to watch, it only lasts about 10 to 12 minutes, we would like to incorporate other things into it, making it into more of a festival," explains Kahlon.

In the future, he says, they hope to incorporate different vendors in the festival.

"We need to support our local businesses and what better way to give them exposure than a Town initiative like this."

Kahlon says that as Chair of the Caledon South Asian Association, he is thankful to the Town for continuing to host this event.

"This is the third year in a row, and hopefully we continue this tradition. I am thankful for the people who came there, and I'm really thankful for those who decided not to use fireworks," he adds.

Kahlon aims to finally "curb" the firework problem.

"There are better ways to celebrate our festivals, and I hope we make an impact there."

Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen, who represents the area where the celebration takes place, says he's incredibly proud that the community can host such a meaningful event for the third consecutive year.

"This drone show holds special significance for Ward 2 because we have a vibrant and growing population of residents who celebrate Diwali. The Festival of Lights is such an important cultural and spiritual celebration, representing the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. Having the Town recognize and celebrate this special occasion with a spectacular drone show sends a powerful message about our commitment to inclusivity and cultural diversity," says Sheen.

Sheen says that the growth of the event over the years shows how "meaningful" the event has become to the community.

With the addition of shuttles this year, he says it removes barriers and allows Ward Two residents to attend and enjoy the celebration safely.

Sheen also notes the use of drones instead of fireworks, sharing that they truly embody the spirit of the celebration while being mindful of the entire community.

"This drone show provides a wonderful alternative to fireworks that's environmentally responsible and considerate of our many residents with pets and our rural neighbors with livestock," he says.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Bethell Hospice invites community to join Light and Love Ceremony

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

After facing postal complications for two consecutive years, Bethell Hospice is working to change and adapt its Light and Love fundraising strategies.

The event will be held on December 4 at the Inglewood Community Center at 7 pm, and everyone's invited.

The Celebrate Light and Love Tree Lighting Ceremony is considered a signature event of the Hospice.

"When we say celebration, it's about memorializing those we've lost in a very special way," says Nicole Hand, Executive Director of the Bethell Hospice Foundation.

"These aren't just people that we've lost at the Hospice," she explains. "These are also people who have been remembered through the Hospice but didn't necessarily pass there. It could be that their family members are volunteers or they themselves were donors and supporters, and it's important for them that their families continue to give back. It's a really lovely opportunity for people all across the community to participate and give a gift in memory of someone."

For every person who is remembered, a light is lit, and everyone in attendance speaks their name aloud.

"It's about the celebration of that light, and that ties in with giving because we have always said that our staff, our team, and our volunteers are the light and love of the organization. We're asking our community to join them and also share their light and love for Bethell Hospice and those they've lost," says Hand.

Invitations for the Light and Love celebration have historically arrived in the mail, allowing those the opportunity to donate and give.

Bethell's biggest concern is whether or not these invitations will arrive before the tree lighting, and they're working to combat this.

Their number one message? Everyone is invited.

For those concerned about giving their donations in the mail, Bethell invites them to donate through bethellhospicelightandlove.ca or by calling their Fundraising Office at 905 838 3534, or by visiting them in person at 15835 McLaughlin Road Inglewood.

If you donated last year, Bethell's team will personally call to invite you.

Due to last year's postal strike, Bethell did not meet the goal of their Light and Love fundraiser.

This year, they're hoping that with their new outreach strategy, they'll be able to reach their goal of $255,000.

Bethell Hospice's services are entirely free, and to continue to offer that to residents and families, they must raise $1.8 million every year.

"The reality is, this year is a tough year," says Hand. "We are grateful you continue to support us, but what this means is that we're going to have to reach more people and ask those that are able to give to support us at this time."

"Everything is becoming more and more expensive; just like your grocery bill and your lighting bills, our grocery bills and our lighting bills are increasing, too. It is imperative that if Bethell Hospice is on your gift list this year to please take the time to make it and ensure that we are able to keep our doors open and all our programs and services free of charge to those who need us."

Hand says they are so grateful to those who have donated in the past, and continue to support them, "It is an honour to remember your loved ones and to share that celebration with them and with those donors."

"We will continue to ensure that we provide the best opportunity, the best experience, and a very special evening for those who are able to attend. Even if you aren't able to attend, you can rest assured that your loved one's name will be honoured and remembered that night."



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Schoolyard Views

A free ride when you've already paid.

Rain on your wedding day.

A traffic jam when you're already late.

Alanis Morrissette had no shortage of (questionable) examples of irony in the 90s, but life, I think, served me up a prime example last week.

I had planned to quite literally take a walk down memory lane earlier this month but, as bad luck would have it, my intentions quite literally slipped my mind until it was far too late.

At the start of October, my first public school marked its 75th anniversary and alumni and faculty planned a party definitely in keeping with the milestone. Over the summer, the school posted dozens of class photos from the 1980s and 1990s, which brought back many memories, but as nice as it was to have those somewhat faded memories restored into glorious technicolour, it wasn't quite the same as roaming the halls.

I was somewhat trepidatious when I got on the bus for the very first time to take me to my very first Grade 1 class. Prior to this personal milestone, my kindergarten experience – or, I suppose, kindergarten equivalent – was limited to a private school that operated out of an industrial block adjacent to a bowling alley, with a little fenced in area in the back, normally reserved for shipping and receiving, substituting for a school yard.

While there wasn't a single blade of grass to be found out there, it served its purpose – but the idea of going to a school with a real yard, baseball diamonds, playgrounds and more, helped temper any trepidation with some genuine excitement.

Going from one school environment to the other was certainly a transition. As a five-year-old, everything at the "new" school seemed larger-than-life by comparison. While my first lasting impression was of the antiquated washrooms which were served by a large circular pedal-operated sink – I had no idea how it worked when I first got there – my second was of its glorious sun-lit library, with shelves groaning under the weight of volumes just waiting to be explored.

My third was the sheer expanse of the building. First opened in 1950, it was expanded and modified over the ensuing decades, with new additions cobbled onto the outer walls here and there, resulting in what seemed like a labyrinth of hallways, nooks, and even a stairway that now led to nowhere, sparking the imagination and, no doubt, a few spooky stories passed down from grade to grade.

My fourth was the people. I have to say that I didn't always see eye to eye with my peers at that time, and the teachers I had there were hit or miss, but the hits thankfully outweighed the misses.

One such teacher, even though she was not my homeroom teacher, had a sense that my own transition from one school to the other could be easier due to a little bit of bullying and some other factors simmering in the background. She took me under her wing and allocated time almost each and every day to take me aside and discuss the events of the day, how I was feeling, and helping me find my bearings.

I hope, looking back, I adequately expressed my gratitude for her taking the time to go above and beyond the call of duty, and I was curious as to what other long-lost memories would be stirred by walking those halls again.

Those memories, however, will have to sustain me as my own memory failed me so spectacularly.

I've been thinking about those influential teachers quite a bit lately.

With so much discussion happening at Queen's Park lately about our education system, how it operates, and how students and families are represented, and as back-to-school season shifts gears into a well-oiled machine, there is a lot to be said.

On Monday, for instance, Ontario Minister of Education Paul Calandra announced the Province had declared a trustee seat in Haldimand County vacant after the seat-holder in question failed to pay back $50,000 they expensed for a Board trip to Italy. It was, he said, a move to ensure education dollars are spent correctly – that is, on student success rather than junkets abroad – and it's hard to argue with that sentiment.

What's a bit dicier, however, is the idea being investigated to do away with trustee positions entirely within Ontario's respective school boards.

On the one hand, it's vital, in my view, for parents and students to have effective representation on school boards which are ultimately intended to serve them, particularly if we're required – and rightly so – to support our school boards with our tax dollars. On the other, however, having observed many school board meetings over my near 15 years as a journalist within our communities, I have seen a number of examples where elected trustees are not particularly effective in representing the people they serve – such as letting one's personal views and ideology get in the way not only of progress, but in how students and their families wanted to be represented.

There's a balance to be found, but I'm not quite sure where.

Student success is at the heart of all of these decisions, but what I would personally like to see enter the conversation is more talk on how we – writ large – can support teachers on the road to delivering that success.

Last week I had the poignant pleasure of interviewing members of a school community who stepped up in September to pay tribute to a beloved teacher who passed away over the summer. This was not a teacher who clocked in and clocked out as if it was a regular workday, but one who saw some of the needs faced by her students and, to address them, carved out a unique role for herself within the school community.

Last spring, at another area school that was working with community businesses to secure healthy snacks for their charges where they would otherwise have to go without, faculty members and parent volunteers outlined the stark reality that the role of teachers today.

Their reality was being called upon to do much more than impart the "three Rs" and having to take on the roles of counsellor, meal planner, and so much more for their students – often doing so out-of-pocket – in an environment that is, sadly, becoming increasingly thankless.

Much has changed over the last few decades when it comes to the role of public school trustees, and the same can be said for those persons who find themselves day in and day out at the front of classrooms, doing far more than what teacher's college prepared them for.

Looking back over my own high school days, perhaps these teachers have always gone above and beyond to meet student needs but their efforts have all too often flown under the radar.

If we're looking at significant changes to the structure of how our school boards operate, the realities that teachers now face day to day should be part of the conversation, too.



Vivid surroundings inspire deep thoughts about life

by Mark Pavilons



Driving down a country road the other day I filled my lungs with the still-mild fall air. It was a beautiful day.

I thought, then thought some more.

Not unlike an old, famous farm hand, I could "wile away the hours, conferrin' with the flowers, consultin' with the rain."

This brainless boob also vowed to "unravel any riddle ... For any individ'le ... In trouble or in pain."

Well, Scarecrow, what say you about human existence? What about my pain?

While enjoying the sun shine upon the landscape, I realized our breaths are limited, as are our days in this wonderful place.

We take roughly 900 breaths per hour, literally millions over our lifetime. Some of those, of course, are reserved for shock, exclamation, joy, blowing out birthday candles and even blowing raspberries.

Right until our last, raspy breath, we long for more time, more time.

We don't think about our mortality until we reach a certain plateau, one of old age, sickness or facing certain death. Then it becomes as clear as the first frost on still clinging leaves.

This planet, and this existence of ours is a bit of a Catch-22.

Yes, this is one beautiful rock in space, with so many wonders it would take several lifetimes to explore and enjoy.

My daughter and her boyfriend recently returned from a short trek to Arizona, where they encountered never-before-seen wonders. Of course, there's the Grand Canyon, which is on many people's bucket list.

They were in awe of the natural formations in Antelope Canyon. And they simply enjoyed hiking in these vast, previously unexplored spaces. Perched on the edge of a rock, like a scene from The Lion King, this intrepid duo gazed out upon the land.

Taking the lead from my mom, who urged me to see as much of the world as I could, my wife and I have seen many wonders. We've experienced sun-soaked beaches, marvellous sunrises and amazing natural features.

I would encourage everyone, regardless of age, work commitments and, of course, funds, to get out and explore. You don't have to visit the Great Pyramids of Egypt – there's plenty to do and see right here in Ontario.

Lexie says she created a new "list," one that involves visiting as many provincial parks and conservation areas as possible in the coming year.

I've visited almost every conservation area in Caledon and King and have checked off a few provincial parks. Simply trekking through meandering trails and quiet forests can fill those lungs, and your heart, with untold riches.

Nature is the key, and unfortunately, many have lost touch with Mother Earth.

In this day and age, many believe we are built for competition, success and achievement. We're meant to accumulate as much as possible in the time we have.

Many have tried.

But how do you place a value on sitting quietly, perched on an outcropping, gazing upon one of God's best creations? If we could tune in, would we talk to the trees and confer with the flowers? I know I would.

There's so much going on around us – from the sound of a gentle breeze and waving branches, to the eerie silence of a still forest. We're surrounded by song, rhyme, colour and feeling.

How would you describe the warm air as it passes over your skin, or the heat from the sun as it comes out from behind a cloud? How about the curious looks from a neighbourhood squirrel, or the mayhem caused by an out-of-control tail wag by your dog?

We get used to the everyday, sights and sounds that envelop us. Some don't even pay attention, or shrug them off as boring, or unimportant.

They are anything but.

Unfortunately, we here in western culture have embraced objects, gizmos and the internet of all things.

My son and I fell down a rabbit hole the other night, talking about God and being good Christians.

Without getting into a religious discussion here, suffice it to say that every day on this planet, and looking up into the night sky, we are reminded of the infinite power, beauty and mind-blowing glory of creation.

None of us – neither the most learned of religious scholars or top-notch scientists – know why or how we got here. Heck, we've been here for eons yet haven't figured out how to hinder weeds growing through the cracks in our patio stones. They have figured out how to survive, despite the odds and obstacles.

Every day, new photos are snapped of distant galaxies, nebulae and never-before-witnessed births of stars. Many of our fellow brothers and sisters don't give it much thought but boy, is there a lot going on out there.

And here, too.

Our very existence is a miracle. Every person, plant, animal and insect has been created for a purpose and has "value."

If we could only unravel any riddle by consulting with the rocks, trees and babbling brooks.

Listen carefully, brothers and sisters, they, too have stories to tell – ancient tales that date back to when the world was new. Glorious.

The Scarecrow also mentioned he found "rapture," when his brain fired up. But Professor Marvel was quick to point out that a brain is a "very mediocre commodity. Every pusillanimous creature that crawls on the Earth or slinks through slimy seas has a brain."

Perhaps we don't need excess gray matter to ponder life's mysteries. All we require is curiosity and our senses.

We don't need to understand air currents to enjoy the wind through our hair. Aerodynamics alone, can't fully explain how a dragonfly twists and turns.

As we take in our daily breaths, I hope there's a certain amount of awe and joy contained in those oxygen particles.

Our Readers Write

Fireworks should be "banished" from public use: reader

I am writing with a huge concern on fireworks and how they should be banished from private use.

Without a doubt they are not only annoying and unsafe and useless, but they are unnecessary to support religious or mundane celebrations.

There are a thousand ways to light up a dark sky to symbolize light over darkness, they don't have to be noisy and polluting and dangerous.

I am totally beside myself as I was unable to get a good night sleep for two nights in a row in Inglewood (of all places) due to noise until the wee hours of the morning of Monday, October 20, and Tuesday, October 21 – weekday nights.

Many countries have banned fireworks for legitimate reasons – injury, damage and nuisance.

Fireworks in the Netherlands are known to cause various negative effects to users, bystanders and people living nearby, especially around New Year's Eve, when extra police, firefighters and paramedics are deployed to control the situation.

There's also toxic exhaust generated by a display of colored element and its smoke.

Traditional fireworks are wrapped tightly with metals like copper and lithium, which create the blue and red colors we see in the sky. But when they explode, metallic compounds released into the environment can be carcinogenic or toxic to both humans and animals.

Meanwhile, smoke generates particulate matter, which O'Sullivan said can affect air quality and make breathing more difficult for people with asthma or other respiratory and cardiovascular conditions.

There are no valid reasons to sustain this invasive celebratory practice in our world.

I speak on behalf of my neighbors, colleagues at work in general

JULIE MARZOLI
CALEDON

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Caledon: Expansion is thy name

You'd be forgiven for having trouble keeping up with what's going on in our once sleepy little corner of the world. It's a time of expansion for Caledon, growth that comes whether we are ready for it or not, and not always growth that's under our direct control. Residents are being asked to cope with significant change, disruption, encroachment and in some cases, activities that are – let's call it what it is – illegal. Some residents are fighting back on behalf of us all, regularly delegating at Council in an attempt to help bring some order to the chaos. Thank you to those who take the time to do so. As for the rest of us? Elections are now only a year away. What's to become of Caledon when wild expansion is thy name and some politicos seem to have lost their way? Perhaps more residents will consider voting as their chance to have a meaningful say.

Caledon has been tasked with growing our population through housing starts. The Province only demanded 13,000 new homes be built in the coming years, but as became apparent last year, some on Council seem to want to exceed that target, with zoning changes approved in 2024 allowing instead for close to 35,000 housing units to be built. Nothing about such an excessive overreach suggests "gentle density," another current housing "community improvement plan" that's been voted in recently and which would allow residents to put up to three "additional residential units" on their property.

No part of Caledon is immune to growth, either. One would like to think some of our agricultural or greenbelt lands are safe and, in fact, the Town recently announced they were permanently protecting a number of parcels of land from development. While that's good news, it's being argued that those parcels "were already protected under the Greenbelt Plan" and/or never eligible for residential or industrial development in the first place. Some are calling this "greenwashing," by the Town, or more directly, an attempt to divert attention away from serious concerns about how Caledon will pay for all of this development, where the supporting infrastructure will come from and just how much development and land destruction is actually headed our way in the first place.

This past Tuesday, four - count 'em - four public meetings were scheduled to deal with development issues. My first thought is how could even our most dedicated citizens: the ones who regularly delegate to Council, research issues and take the time to educate themselves extensively about bylaws, the environment and development standards, even begin to share their concerns about four separate applications on the same night? The Town infers that community consultation is an important part of their decision-making process, but seems to be doing anything but making it easy for residents to take part and have their say.

We're told we need to "support new development to meet Caledon's needs." But what are Caledon's actual needs? What if all of these massive new developments didn't need to take place? Yes, we now need roads and infrastructure desperately, but that's because we've allowed building before the infrastructure was in place to support it. That's one of the many reasons area roads like Highway 50 in and out of Bolton are now a disaster. That, and because of all the illegal trucking yards that dot our landscape, ruining agricultural lands and adding to the traffic mayhem by drastically increasing the number of trucks on our roads.

Back to the four public meetings in one night. They concern developments referred to as Mount Hope, Mayfield/Tullamore and Bolton South. These each represent enormous swaths of land slated for both new housing and commercial/industrial development and don't include what is already happening in Mayfield West II where thousands of homes are being built and where no schools, libraries or recreation centres (not to mention public transit) exist to support them. The fourth meeting referenced a contentious proposal for a Tractor Trailer Repair Facility in Ward 5, meaning traffic safety advocates would have to try and be in four places at once if they truly wanted to have their say on both road safety and development issues.

The one proposal I'd like to highlight here is the Bolton South application. As I understand it, it will rely on a "Community Planning Permit System" which is a land use planning tool "available to municipalities under the Planning Act." It means the province can, in an effort to streamline development approvals, "replace the Town's zoning by law" but only for areas under study.

Forgive the quote that follows but it's important all residents (not just those able to attend one, or all of the public meetings on the same night) understand what this really means - at least for the "study area" of Bolton South. According to the presentation materials, "The Planned Bolton South GO Major Transit Station Area is slated to accommodate intensification in proximity to planned transit, as identified in the proposed Bolton Secondary Plan. In conformity to the Bolton Secondary Plan, the proposed CPP By-law establishes one Precinct (equivalent to a "zone" in a zoning by-law) identified as the "Urban Centre Area", which affords permissions for the development of a wide range of uses, including residential and commercial uses, generally in medium and high-density built form up to 25 storeys in height."

To this layperson that sounds like a whole lot of development happening in a small amount of area. While I'm happy it references public transit, I wonder, has Metrolinx actually committed to rail transit in Bolton? I know lands have been set aside, but do we have an actual written agreement/commitment in place? Affordable housing is also referenced further in the documents where it states: "A CPP By-law allows for additional community benefits, such as affordable housing, (referred to as "facilities, services, and matters") in exchange for additional height or density." To me, that just makes affordable housing sound like little more than an afterthought or a trade off to encourage developers to build as much and as high as they want, provided at least a few of those units are "affordable." By the way, according to the Province, there "are no legislative requirements to provide notice for ANY CPPS applications" so in the future, we might not even hear about them! That said, Caledon at least has committed to providing notice via mail out, website and onsite signage for at least "Class 3 Applications" in an effort to balance community and council expectations while still streamlining the applications process. Sounds like we should consider ourselves lucky when, or if, we get any notice at all.

Thanks to those residents who regularly appear before Council and attempt to represent the concerns of us all. We're limited in this space to providing a kind of "highlight reel" if you will, of what's happening around Town, endeavouring to distill information down to the most salient points all residents should be aware of. My hope is that by continuing to draw attention to what's happening around us, more residents will realize what's at risk and the impact both now and on future Caledon. We're growing at an alarming rate, without the benefit of a great deal of carefully considered care and control. Elections are now only a year away. What's to become of Caledon when wild expansion is thy name and some politicos seem to have lost their way? Perhaps, if not by delegating than certainly at least by voting, residents will finally have a more meaningful say.



Town of Caledon to present 2026 Budget overview November 5

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Municipal staff will present an overview of the 2026 Town of Caledon Budget at the General Committee Meeting on November 5.

The annual budget is a tool that guides how the municipality allocates resources to deliver services, maintain infrastructure and plan for the future in Caledon.

The Town states that community input is vital to ensure the budget reflects the needs and values of those who live and work in Caledon.

Therefore, the Town opened up a Have Your Say survey on August 14, running until September 30, to gather feedback from residents and businesses.

On October 14th, the Town of Caledon shared the top four priorities they found from the survey results.

These results included safety, infrastructure, and community spaces.

From the survey, it was shared that the public highlighted the need for reliable and well-maintained transportation routes, including snow clearing and road repairs.

As well as the public's growing interest in enhanced by-law enforcement, particularly around traffic safety and property standards.

When it came to parks, recreation, and community services, the Town shared residents' value for access to quality recreational programs, green spaces, and community facilities.

The fourth top priority shared was regarding fire and emergency services; residents "reaffirmed their strong support for robust emergency response capabilities."

These survey results went on to help inform Staff and Council as they finalize the 2026 budget.

Mayor Annette Groves shared "the feedback from residents confirms we're on the right track and aligns closely with our current priorities. It has reinforced our direction and helped us focus on the areas that matter most to the community."

When it came to the top priorities, Groves says that they were consistent with what they've heard in the past, with a continued emphasis on safety, infrastructure and vibrant community spaces.

Groves says that the 2026 budget will prioritize maintaining and enhancing essential services such as road operations, community programming and fire and emergency services.

"We are committed to managing growth responsibly, while investing in infrastructure and upgrades to services to support Caledon's future," says Groves.

The meeting on November 5 will include a presentation from Town staff and provide a clear overview of their approach and priorities for the coming year, "residents will gain insight into the Town's financial outlook, the pressures we face and how we plan to address the needs of a rapidly growing community," says Groves.

The November 5 meeting will be held both in person in Council Chambers and online, and will begin at 2:30 pm.

PUBLIC NOTICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

Caledon 2026 Budget Meeting Schedule

In the coming weeks, staff will present an overview of the 2026 Town of Caledon Budget. Please be advised of the meetings and dates below.

A copy of the 2026 Budget will be available at **caledon.ca/budget** for the presentation on Wednesday, November 5 and updates will be provided throughout the process.

MEETING LOCATION

All the meetings will be hybrid. Members of the public have the option to participate in-person in Council Chambers at Town Hall (6311 Old Church Road, Caledon East) or remotely.

For full details, visit caledon.ca/agenda.

Budget Presentation

- When: General Committee – **Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.**
- What: The first budget meeting serves as a primer to identify the needs and pressures the Town faces in the coming fiscal year.

Budget Proposed Amendments and Fees & Charges

- When: General Committee – **Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.**
- What: Before the budget goes to the regular Council Meeting, Council will have an opportunity to debate and propose amendments to the budget, as well as the Fees and Charges By-law. Each year, the Town's annual fees and charges are also updated as a part of the budget process.

Budget Amendments Approval

- When: Council Meeting – **Tuesday, November 25, 2025**
  Confidential session at 3:00 p.m. / Open session at 7:00 p.m.
- What: Recommended amendments to the 2026 Budget, from the November 18, 2025 Committee Meeting, go to Council for final approval.

TOWN OF CALEDON

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Proposed zoning change for trucking business sparks conversation on illegal land use

Continued from FRONT

Staff responded that they do not believe that there is anything in the Planning Act that would allow for that, and generally, applications must be reviewed on their merits.

"It's up to staff to really review an application on its merits, regardless of what's occurring."

"One of the main concerns we have with this property is the fact that it's one of the properties that's on the illegal land use map and is currently going through the court, to my knowledge, based on the information on that map," added Corbett.

Staff noted that the two processes — the application and court — are separate.

No charges on land use have been proven in court.

"Whatever charges are pending on that property is one process, and the application for the zoning by-law amendment is a separate process. They don't actually interact, they are handled separately."

One resident also asked whether there were any provisions in the Planning Act that would prevent applications being accepted when land use is being questioned.

"They're still going through the hearing, they're still going through the charges and working with the courts in that regard," said staff. "This is a separate process, so I don't know what the results will be of the hearing and the litigation. We are solely taking a look at the proposed use as they presented it to us and whether or not it does meet [provisions]. If it's something that we can support, and we haven't determined that to date."

It was clarified that under the Planning Act there are no provisions stating that they cannot receive the application or process it.

"As a matter of fact, we are obligated under the Planning Act to review the application," staff said.

Mayor Annette Groves added that they are bound by the Planning Act, and unless legislation changes, their hands are tied when an application comes in.

"We're continuing to advocate and ask the province to help us with the additional tools that we requested from them a couple of years ago, and we're hoping that they are going to be permitting that or giving us those tools, and it's not just Caledon, it's municipalities across the GTA that's really struggling with this," added Groves.

Councillor Mario Russo also added that there are currently only charges, and they "don't know for a fact if there are infractions, infractions in terms of from the legal point of aspect."

"There is a cautious component and that's why, I'm only speculating, our Staff is obligated to process the application in terms of planning merit, because going through the court system is a completely separate process that may actually have an outcome that this individual may be guilty or may not. These are all things that have to be considered," said Russo.



PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Town of Caledon raises flag to mark Love Your Library Month

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

This past blustery Monday, the Town of Caledon raised the flag to signify "Love Your Library" Month.

"Caledon Public Library is the heart of our community," says Mayor Annette Groves. "It offers free spaces where people are welcome to come and spend time without having to purchase anything to be there. The library offers free programs that promote social connections and support mental health for teens, adults and seniors. The library supports lifelong learning."

Groves notes that after high school, education becomes expensive and inaccessible to many, but the library offers free access to educational resources, including online courses and programs.

Colleen Lipp, Caledon Public Library's CEO and Chief Librarian, says that Love Your Library Month has grown out of the original Love Your Library Week.

"We decided that one week was not enough in Caledon and we wanted to turn it into a whole month," says Lipp. "It's an opportunity for us to raise awareness of what we do and to celebrate our staff and work with the Town and strengthen that partnership."

Lipp says during October, across the province, there is a celebration of libraries, and in Caledon, they've decided to" shout it from the rooftops."

Laurie Groe, Programming and Outreach Manager with Caledon Public Library, says many programs and initiatives are running during Love Your Library Month.

This month, they will be celebrating their new story times by hosting special sessions at their smaller branches with guest speakers.

They are also celebrating their Community Champions in partnership with their Community Partners.

During Holocaust Education Week in early November, CPL will curate films and discussions.

They will continue to host their maker programs throughout the month and will also start their new maker studio hours in November.

CPL has just launched its one-on-one tech help, available to book in advance.

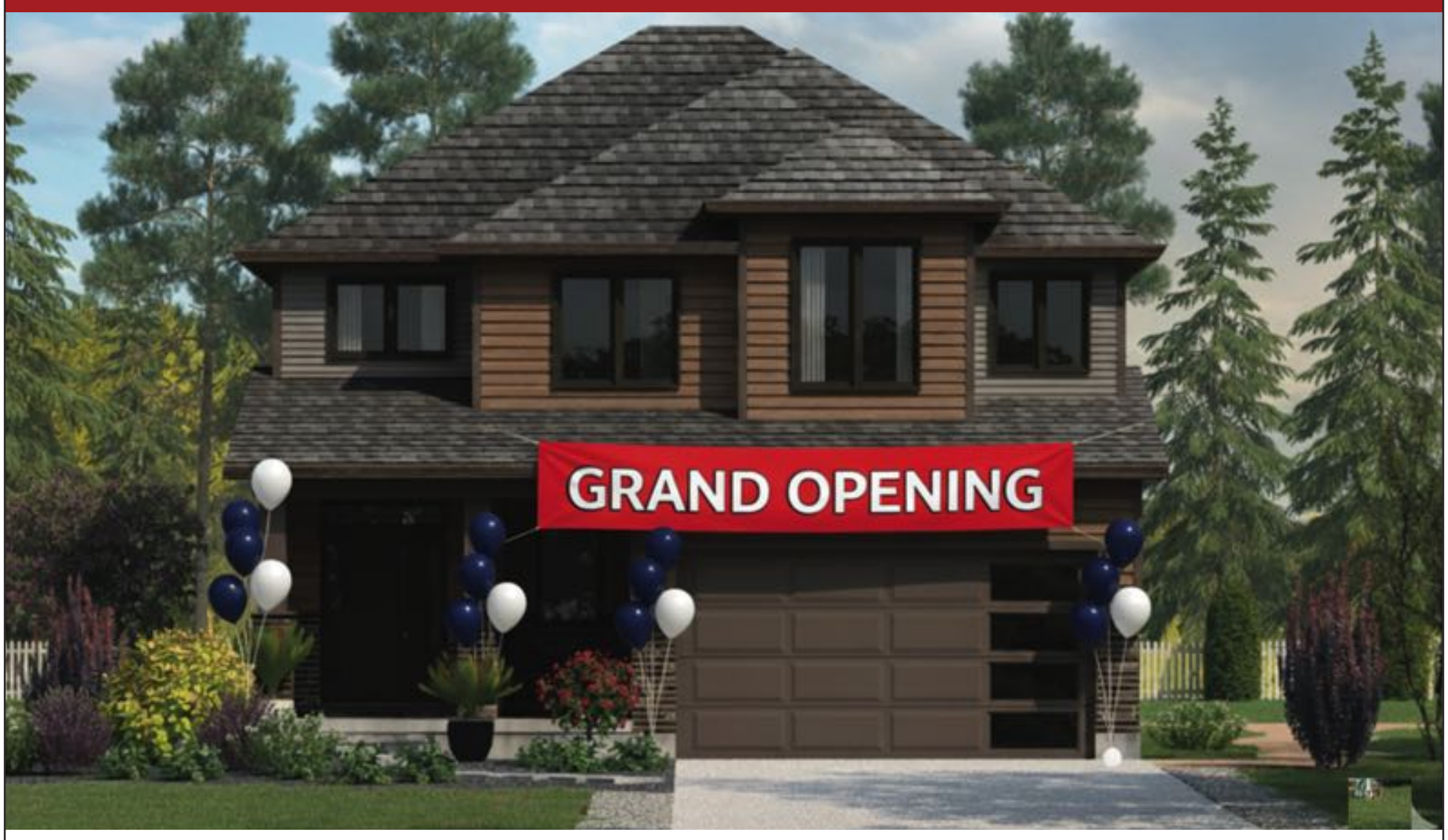
Once booked online, residents can provide staff with insight into what they hope to achieve, ensuring they're ready to assist you when you arrive.

This Thursday, October 23, at the Albion Bolton branch, there will be What is AI? with Kevin Matsui as part of their speaker series.

They will also host a speakers panel on November 20th, a part of their Speaker Series, titled Louder Than Silence, in recognition of Transgender Day of Remembrance, which honours the memory of transgender individuals who have lost their lives due to violence and discrimination.

To view their full calendar of events, visit events.caledonlibrary.com/events.

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Caledon Chamber of Commerce to host 2025 Fall Business Summit

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon Chamber of Commerce (CCC) will present this year's 2025 Fall Business Summit on October 29, with themes of growth, economy, and Artificial Intelligence.

With a day full of guest speakers and networking opportunities, this year's summit aims to strengthen local business resilience.

Marion Upshall, President at Caledon Chamber of Commerce, says that with the ever-evolving community in Caledon, growing to a population base of 300,000 and 125,00 jobs in 26 years, they aim to be ready and prepared for it.

Mayor Annette Groves will be one of the guest speakers at the summit, speaking about growth in Caledon.

Peel Regional Chair Nando Iannicca, will also be in attendance and will be speaking about growth as well, in relation to the Region.

The Keynote Speaker will be Daniel Tisch of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Upshall shares that Tisch has been extremely involved with the Province, as well as the federal government, as they navigate tariff issues.

"That whole economic landscape has been a rollercoaster ride. It's continuously evolving, but at the same time, we need to hear where we stand at this point. Each time I speak to businesses, it does not matter the size, that same feeling of uncertainty is forever at the back of everyone's minds," says Upshall. "It's important that we get these three levels discussing with our business community as how we're dealing with everything, how the growth is coming along, etc."

The other theme for the summit this year is Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Ready, Set, AI, presented by Dr. Kelly O'Neill and Ken Morris, will explore not only the concept of AI but also its potential to unlock business opportunities, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises.

It will also explore how AI can enhance local business resilience and drive growth.

"Many people look at AI and still get a little nervous about it; they will walk us through how AI can support the growth of their businesses," says Upshall.

Upshall says that with the messaging shared alone, businesses should look forward to attending this event and leave feeling supported.

"Having the support and confidence to continue moving forward, and not have this uncertainty continuously at the back of their mind."

Upshall emphasizes the importance of these summits for the business community.

"They come to us when they need support," says Upshall. "We have to provide them with the message as to what's coming down the pipeline as we continue to grow over the next 26 years. It's so important for us to support them in many ways."

Upshall says this will be one of the best business summits held to date, as well as one of the most important ones.

"Based on where our uncertainty is right now, I think it's one of the most important ones to attend."

The day will conclude with the Business Excellence Awards, an event that hasn't been offered through the CCC since 2017.

Upshall says that it's an exciting opportunity to reintroduce the awards and "bring them back to life."

"It's a great achievement to receive such an award, and it's recognition for their [businesses] hard work. For so many businesses, the rollercoaster rides that they have been on since COVID [have] not stopped. Those that are remaining in business and are working very hard, it's nice to be able to recognize them."

Tickets must be pre-purchased in advance and are available at caledonchamberofcommerce.ca/business-summit.

The cost is $75 plus HST for members and $100 plus HST for non-members.

Rotary Online Auction comes to Caledon for the first time

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

For the first time, the Rotary Club of Caledon will be participating in the Rotary Online Auction, now running for the 26th year.

This auction offers a wide range of items and services while raising funds for community projects, and last year drew close to 900 bidders and attracted over 30,000 website visits.

The auction will run from November 1 to November 15, in collaboration with Rotary clubs from Milton, Mississauga, Oakville, Burlington, Cambridge, and Kitchener.

These clubs do all the heavy lifting, meeting with one another to exchange items, making it easy for bidders to pick up in their own community.

Janice Bezanson, Treasurer for the Rotary Club of Caledon, notes that this year, Caledon businesses can gain exposure both locally and in regions where they may not currently reach.

Bezanson says the club decided to join this year because of how much Caledon has to offer.

Caledon, Benzason notes, offers numerous unique experiences that many are unaware of, and community businesses are already joining in to donate various items.

Rusty Jade Ranch has donated a Horse Experience for two, Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback had donated lunch in the Parliamentary dining room with a tour of Parliament and an invite to Question Period for two, the McMichael Gallery has donated a Family Pass, De Boers Market has donated $100 gift certificate, and much more.

Bezanson says that too often people are doing the "same old, same old," and through this, both people in and out of Caledon can enjoy everything the community has to offer.

The money made from the auction will go back to the Rotary Club of Caledon, allowing them to continue hosting numerous events for the community and enabling them to continue donating to various Caledon services.

Bezanson says this auction serves as free advertising for businesses, helping them to reach audiences they wouldn't have otherwise.

"It's a great tool that they could use. It's just such a great opportunity for Caledon."

The auction website, www.rotaryonlineauction.ca, is now open for viewing items and bidder registration.

The auction itself opens on November 1 and runs until November 15.

To donate items, reach out to rcpalgrave@gmail.com.



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Public Notice

Region of Peel
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NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1
MASTER PLAN FOR THE GROUNDWATER-BASED SYSTEMS

Background
Peel Region is undertaking a Master Plan Study for its groundwater based systems, located in the Town of Caledon. Peel owns and operates four (4) groundwater based drinking water systems that supply drinking water to several communities in the Town of Caledon. The Master Plan Study will identify long term drinking water servicing strategies and infrastructure needed to support projected growth and planned development in the serviced areas, consistent with the 2051 Official Plan. The Project Study Area boundary is illustrated in Figure 1.

Study Area
Although the Study Area encompasses much of north Peel, the Master Plan specifically focuses on the four (4) existing municipal groundwater-based drinking water systems (DWS), including:
- The Caledon Village/Alton DWS that services Alton Village, Caledon Village, Mono Mills, McCleodville, and Skywood Park
- The Cheltenham DWS that services Cheltenham and Terra Cotta
- The Inglewood DWS that services Inglewood Village
- The Palgrave/Caledon East DWS that services Albion, Mono Road, Cedar Mills, Centreville and Palgrave Estates



Figure 1: Master Plan Study Area Limits

The Process
The Master Plan Study will follow Approach 1 for Master Plans of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Process (February 2024), an approved framework under the Environmental Assessment Act. The study will complete Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA process.

Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC)
Public input is an important part of this study. We will be holding two virtual public meetings, called Public Information Centres (PICs), where residents can learn about the project, ask questions and share feedback. Each PIC session will feature a live presentation followed by a Question & Answer session. This notice advises the public of the **first round of PICs, which will be held virtually.**

PIC details

Community	Date	Time
Caledon Village/Alton	Oct 22, 2025	6 – 7 p.m.
Cheltenham	Oct 22, 2025	7 – 8 p.m.
Inglewood	Oct 29, 2025	6 – 7 p.m.
Palgrave	Oct 29, 2025	7 – 8 p.m.

For specific PIC meeting links, please scan the QR code with your smartphone.

If you'd like more information about the virtual PICs, please get in touch with one of the project team members listed below.

Kamal Adhikary (Region of Peel)
kamal.adhikary@peelregion.ca
gwmasterplan@peelregion.ca

Samuel Ziemann (CIMA+)
samuel.ziemann@cima.ca

This notice was first issued on October 16, 2025

BUSINESS

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Two Secondary Plans presented at Planning and Development Public meeting seeking Official Plan amendments

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Two secondary plans were presented this week seeking Official Plan amendments.

The presentations took place at the October 21 Planning and Development meeting.

The first secondary plan was the proposed Mount Hope West Secondary Plan, which is expected to generate between 700 and 1,000 new residential units, accounting for an estimated population of approximately 2,400 new residents.

The Secondary Plan area is approximately 33.5 gross hectares of land.

The applicant proposes a Neighbourhood Area designation for a majority of the lands with natural features and area designations in the southwest and northern portions of the secondary plan area.

The proposal includes a mix of residential uses, single-detached, semi-detached, townhouse, and apartment dwellings, along with a neighbourhood park, a commercial block and a stormwater management facility.

In the applicant's presentation, they shared they hope to "create a new community that will expand on Bolton's existing residential communities to the north, offering a broader range of new housing types than what's currently existing."

"We also wanted to introduce a new community commercial node and open spaces, in the form of a central park, to really just meet the day-to-day needs of residents."

The secondary plan aims to support a diverse mix of housing types and tenures, incorporating high-quality design and attractive built form, while creating a walkable community centred around park space.

Residents voiced concerns on issues at the Public Meeting, such as density, parking, traffic, transport, infrastructure, bike lanes, and more.

Amanda Corbett from the CCRSA voiced various concerns regarding density.

She noted this type of dense housing development, combined with the current lack of transit, creates several problems, including insufficient space for car parking, snow storage, and issues surrounding bike paths, walking paths, and sidewalks. She suggested adding "traffic calming, signage, turn restrictions in North Hill, and don't open Street A fully until Columbia Way has been upgraded."

Staff noted that as they're discussing a secondary plan, they're "thinking about higher level policies to guide it at all."

"We do understand that this is high level, but we're also not involved in the site plan process so basically now is the only chance we have to have our say," says Corbett.

Other residents also came up to speak about issues of density and car traffic. They requested that staff and planners look at the roads regarding visibility, nearby schools, and tractor traffic.

Staff state that following this meeting, they will come back with a report detailing the issues raised during the meeting and identifying how they have been addressed.

Many concerns were also raised regarding water and servicing, and Mayor Annette Groves noted that the province is currently looking at how servicing is going to be addressed.

The area currently falls under BRES, or the Bolton Residential Expansion Study.

It was initiated to determine where to accommodate the 2031 population assigned projected for Bolton by the Region of Peel.

"The province is going to be making a decision at some point in the next month or so with respect to servicing and who is going to be responsible for that," said Groves.

The second proposed official plan amendment was for the proposed Mayfield Tullamore Secondary Plan.

This proposed community will offer approximately 7,650 new residential units.

Staff presented that this new community plan area is meant to assist with providing population and household employment targets to the year 2051.

The units will be composed of a mix of detached, semi-detached, townhouse, and apartment dwellings, along with parks and open spaces, schools, and community facilities.

It would also provide for approximately 2,000 jobs related to population growth.

The proposed land is on approximately 617 hectares, "almost 30 percent, through the middle of the plan areas and the Greenbelt plan," it was shared during the applicant's presentation.

"That has always stood out as a starting point for this landowner group and for the work we're doing here. That spine of natural heritage provides both a beautiful landscape that needs to be protected and features that have to be protected through the development process, but also a great opportunity for trails and connectivity, especially for pedestrian and active transportation at work."

The applicant shared they also aim to have lots of housing options as opposed to a singular housing choice.

"Around 28,000 people and about just over 2,000 jobs is the estimated yield that would come from this development."

There are four additional proposed schools in the area, alongside 15 proposed parks and separated cycling networks.

During the applicant proposal, it was shared they aim to maximize walkability.

Corbett voiced similar concerns on this matter, including parking, snow storage, emergency services, trucking, and more.

With 4,000 two-way trips in the morning peak hour and about 5,000 in the afternoon peak hour, when it comes to the entire Secondary Plan, she voiced concerns about whether infrastructure is going to be in place to address the significant increase in traffic.

Malone Given Parsons Ltd., on behalf of Mayfield Tullamore Landowners Group, addressed some of these concerns, saying that parking has been "top of mind," and it will be determined through the zoning by-law.

"It will take time, and part of the phasing discussion we have is to look at that to make sure that the sequencing of our road delivery and the roads that are going to be provided will happen in concert with the Town's planned upgrades of the arterial road system, and in addition to our delivery of the collective road system through our area. It's going to be a multi-phase thing. It's not happening all at once," he says, noting concerns various other residents raised about arterial roads and traffic issues.

Many residents noted issues with the density, and Malone Given Parsons Ltd. shared that "if it was less dense for that many people, there'd be a lot more land brought into the settlement area to accommodate the housing, and there was a desire to have less land and have more density."

When it comes to parking, the issue was raised again regarding the amount of available spaces in such a dense area.

"It's a big challenge. You cannot have more affordable and smaller homes and have a plethora of parking to go with them because it undermines the whole nature of doing more affordable and smaller homes in the first place," noted Malone Given Parsons Ltd.

He noted that parking has been a significant consideration in the process, "we're very much up for those discussions and hoping that the Town will explore any of those options through the master transportation planning."

Both of these secondary plans will now move to the revised submissions stage in the status of applications.

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Peel Region

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Community Planning Permit By-law heads to November Public Meeting

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The next stage in the proposed Community Planning Permit By-law for the planned Bolton South GO Major Transit Station Area (MTSA) began Tuesday night at the October 21 Planning and Development meeting.

The planned Bolton South GO MTSA is a mixed-use, high-density, multimodal community in the draft Bolton Secondary Plan, being concurrently led by the Town.

This project supports new development to "meet Caledon's needs."

The proposal is to implement a Community Planning Permit System (CPPS) that will apply to the Bolton MTSA Strategic Growth Area.

A CPPS is an accelerated development approvals process that combines zoning, site plan and minor variance application processes.

The CPPS will replace the Town's Zoning By-law for the study area only; it is also part of the Town's initiatives under the Housing Accelerator Fund.

The current process that the CPPS aims to replace takes approximately 180 days from submission to build, whereas the CPPS can achieve this in approximately 75 days.

There are three approval classes in the CPPS: Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3, and each has a varying approval process.

The approval process ranges from Class 1, with Staff approval and no changes needed, to Class 3, which involves larger variations and requires council approval, along with mail to residents within 120m, as well as website posting and physical signage.

The "streamlined approvals process steps" include pre-consultation, submission, a 45-day review, and the decision.

There are no legislative requirements to provide notice for any CPPS application.

In the presentation, it was shared that all municipalities that have implemented, or that are working towards implementing a CPPS, have instituted some level of required notification for specific CPPS applications.

There will be various criteria for considering variations in this process.

In the presentation, it was also shared that a CPP By-law allows for additional community benefits, such as affordable housing, referred to as "facilities, services, and matters" in exchange for additional height or density."

In the project, they just completed the statutory public open house last week, and have moved on to the public meeting.

When it comes to implementing this system, it was noted that there is often a "learning curve."

"Staff, Council, stakeholder, landowner and public education and consultation is vital."

Eric Lucic, Commissioner of Planning and Development and Chief Planner, Town of Caledon, shared with the Citizen that the CPPS is being advanced in a pilot-area as a mechanism to more efficiently process development applications and expedite diverse housing supply.

"The CPPS aims to implement this envisioned policy framework by providing clear rules for development processes and application requirements, land use and design standards, as outlined in the draft CPP By-law to guide development in a way that meets housing, employment and community planning needs," says Lucic.

He adds that the CPPS makes the planning process more efficient.

"Shorter approval timelines allow all forms of development, including housing, employment, and community use to proceed quickly and efficiently, while transparency gives landowners, developers, and residents a clear understanding of what can be built and how applications are reviewed, helping build trust in the planning process."

Moving into the public meeting, the following steps would be a Final CPP By-law Development, also hearing public consultation, with council approval by the end of November.

When the presentation was finished, it was 11 p.m., which procedurally resulted in a Council vote to continue the meeting.

Following the vote to continue the meeting, a loss of quorum for Council resulted with Councillors Christina Early and Dave Sheen leaving the meeting, moving the public consultation for the Community Planning Permit By-law to the November 11 Planning and Development Committee Public Meeting where residents can again register to delegate or ask questions.

Sheen notes that his decision to cause loss of quorum was deliberate, as he feels this matter should be discussed with full attention.

"After several hours of earlier agenda items, it was clear that everyone in the room, committee members, senior staff, clerks, and the few remaining members of the public, was fatigued," says Sheen. "It became apparent that my departure would cause the committee to lose quorum, I chose to take that step deliberately to ensure that this important CPPS matter would be revisited when all members, and hopefully more residents, could bring fresh eyes and their full attention to it."

He says after listening to the presentation he felt that the CPPS "is not a small procedural adjustment, it is a conceivably a major new approach to development approvals, and not necessarily a better one."

Sheen says that his intent was not to delay for delay's sake or to stage any kind of protest, but, "to make sure that both Council and the public could approach this topic with the focus and clarity it deserves."

"The people of Caledon deserve an open, well-informed discussion on whether this new planning process truly serves the public interest, and that conversation shouldn't happen when everyone is too tired, or simply not present, to engage properly," he says.

Mayor Annette Groves says that she was very disappointed "in the decision yesterday made by a few Members of our Council to abandon a meeting causing loss of quorum."

"These meetings are to give the public a chance to hear important discussions, have their voices heard and engage in the democratic process. In addition, consultants were scheduled to be present, and now there is an expense for work that was not able to be shared. This decision of a few to abandon a meeting resulted in a waste of public money and a missed opportunity for transparency and accountability," says Groves.

She says that watching the meeting shut down because of a lost quorum due to Councillors' leaving was "disheartening and contrary to the commitment we owe our residents as elected officials."

"As an advocate of openness and transparency for our residents; I hope future meetings will reflect a stronger commitment of our Council to public engagement and responsible use of taxpayer resources."



Pictured left to right are Mayor Annette Groves; Amarjot Sandhu, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure, Government of Ontario; Nathan Hyde, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Caledon. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Town receives $15.2 million from Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On October 22nd, the Ontario's Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP) announced an investment of $15.2 million in the Town of Caledon.

This investment will facilitate the execution of a road project, enabling the development of almost 12,000 new housing units in west Caledon.

The funding is part of the Housing-Enabling Core Servicing (HECS) stream of the MHIP.

This road project will reconfigure the current interchange at Hurontario Street and Highway 410 in west Caledon to facilitate a new four-lane arterial road at Tim Manley Avenue and Valleywood.

This project involves the realignment of 230 metres of Hurontario Street and the construction of a 150-metre extension to Tim Manley Avenue.

This will ensure safer and faster access to that community, as well as facilitate new development, according to the Town of Caledon.

The project will also future-proof the intersection to accommodate changes in traffic volumes resulting from the construction of Hwy 413.

With the 413, modifications to the current Hwy 410 ramp will be made to support additional traffic, as well as the creation of three new on-ramps to Hwy 410.

On August 27, the Government of Ontario started construction of Highway 413, where work began resurfacing Highway 10 in Caledon in preparation for a new bridge over the future Highway 413.

The road project also includes the construction of 600 metres of new sidewalk and 150 metres of multi-use path, and the installation of new traffic signals and streetlights.

This grant will cover 50 per cent of the total project.

Completion of the project is expected in 2027.

"Our government's plan to protect Ontario includes critical investments to keep workers on the job and make local communities stronger," said Todd McCarthy, Ontario's Acting Minister of Infrastructure.

The Caledon project, he says, will deliver better and safer roads for residents and commuters for years to come, while also ensuring the community is able and ready to build new housing to accommodate growth.

Mayor Annette Groves said "this investment from Ontario gives our Town critical resources to help build road infrastructure that makes new housing possible."

"The investment also supports economic growth and jobs as Ontario continues to grapple with tariffs and trade uncertainties."

Added Caledon CAO Nathan Hyde: "This project showcases Caledon's innovative, collaborative approach to infrastructure development. Caledon's growth is an ambitious goal and we are delivering results through practical solutions, adaptive management and exemplary fiscal stewardship."





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2 pack cry-o-vac
11.00/kg
4.99/LB



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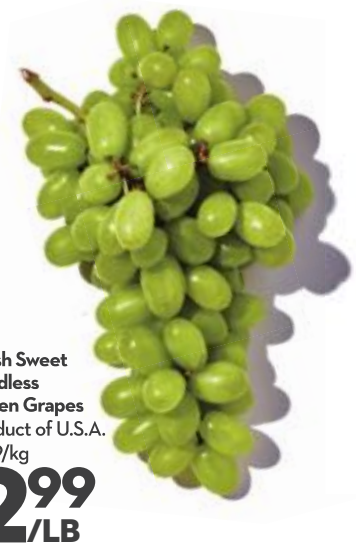
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SPORTS

Caledon Cavaliers' Cristian Iacovelli and Fiona Carberry selected to play for Toronto Rugby Reds at Rugby Ontario 7's playdowns this Fall

BY JIM STEWART

Caledon Cavaliers' Cristian Iacovelli was selected to play for the Toronto Rugby Reds earlier in the Fall and his U15 West squad captured a bronze medal at the Belwether 7's tournament held in Brantford on the weekend.

The Belwether 7's was the first stage of a provincial three-stage playoff format that runs into November.

Iacovelli and his regional all-star team—comprised of the best players from many GTA rugby clubs and coached by former national team player and current Barbarians' coach Marco DiGiralamo—will also compete in the Rugby Ontario 7's championships on October 26 hosted by Brampton RFC and on November 2 hosted by the Aurora Barbarians.

Iacovelli had much momentum heading into the Fall 7's season. His Caledon RFC squad completed a successful season in August when the U15 Cavaliers took second place in the Rugby Ontario Junior Regional Cup Finals hosted by London St. George's RFC.

Cristian's father, Mike, is the President of the Caledon Cavaliers RFC.

The Cavs' lead administrator discussed the significance of his organization's players representing the club on provincial level teams.

"Two of our Cavaliers' junior players have been selected to represent the Toronto Reds in the regional representative program. U15 Boys player Cristian Iacovelli and U16 Girls player Fiona Carberry were both selected for their respective Toronto Red West squads and began their inter-branch tournament series this past weekend in Brantford. Cristian's U15 team earned a bronze medal, finishing third overall in a highly competitive opening round, while Fiona's U16 squad put in a strong showing as they continue to develop their provincial experience."

The personable President expressed his satisfaction about the excellent achievements by Cavaliers teams in his season-ending post: "The 2025 rugby season will go down as one of the most successful in the history of the Caledon Cavaliers Rugby Club. Fueled by dedication, strong coaching, and a growing culture of excellence, the Cavaliers saw unprecedented success across their youth programs highlighted by the incredible performances of the U18 Girls and U16 Boys teams. Both squads embodied the Cavaliers' 'One Club, For All' spirit, proving that teamwork, perseverance, and heart can take a community club to the top levels of provincial competition."

Iacovelli highlighted the rise of the Cavaliers U18 Girls team as one of the feel-good stories of the year.

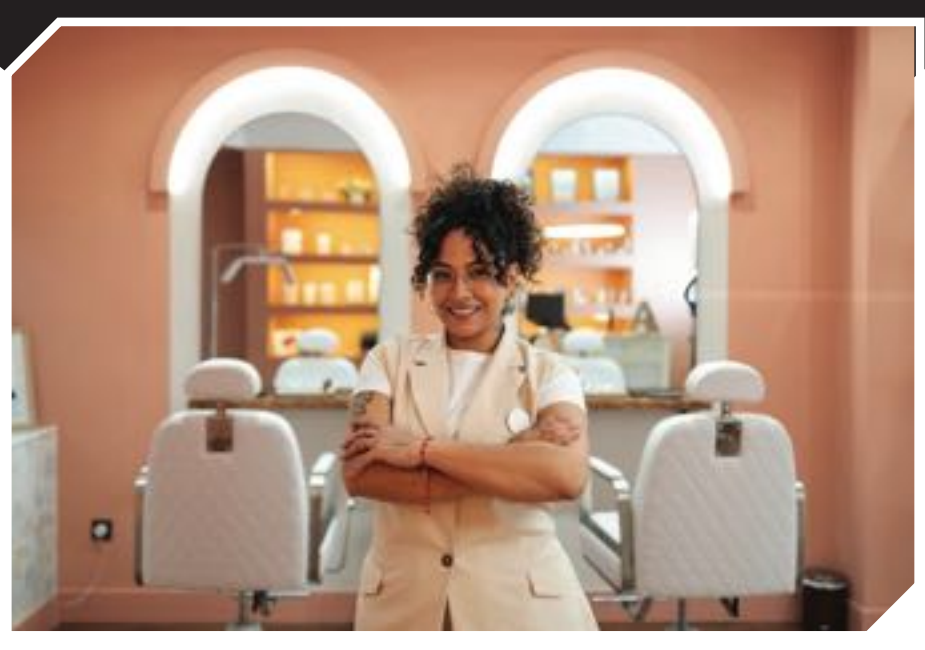
"The U18 Girls team emerged as one of the Cavaliers' brightest success stories of 2025. Throughout the season, the team demonstrated outstanding cohesion, skill, and determination earning their way to the Provincial Championships in Kingston. Facing fierce competition from across Ontario, the Cavaliers showed grit and maturity well beyond their years, ultimately finishing 5th in the province. This result represents not just a milestone for the team, but for the club as a whole. It marked the highest-ever provincial placement for the Cavaliers' U18 Girls and cemented their place among the top programs in Ontario. Their journey was defined by strong leadership on and off the field, smart game management, and a relentless commitment to each other."

In addition to the U18 Girls success, Iacovelli foregrounded the silver-medal-winning U16 Boys team as the Cavaliers' best success story of 2025.

He described the arduous journey taken by championship caliber squad: "The Cavaliers' U16 Boys capped off an extraordinary season with a silver medal at the London Provincial Championships. The squad displayed incredible depth, athleticism, and commitment, dominating much of their regular season before carrying that momentum into the provincial tournament. The road to the finals was not easy – it required resilience, teamwork, and the ability to perform under pressure. Every player contributed, and their ability to execute both offensively and defensively made them one of the most exciting teams to watch this year. Earning silver at the provincial level is a massive achievement, reflecting both the boys' talent and the coaching staff's focus on discipline, skill development, and mental toughness."



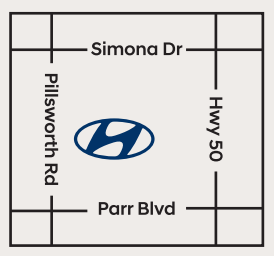
Pictured here are (TOP) the Cavaliers' silver medal-winning U16 Boys Team and (ABOVE) the U18 Varsity Girls Team. CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



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To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/3083

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OBITUARIES

FRANCES LOUISA CRONKWRIGHT



Peacefully at Bethell Hospice on Monday, September 8th, 2025 at the age of 82. Beloved wife of Gary Cronkwright for 61 years. Loving mother of Lesley Lafond (Joe) and Rick Cronkwright (Sara). Fran cherished her grandchildren Joshua (Eleanor), Ryan (Samantha), Victoria (Pat), Mason (Ashley), and Jillian (Evan) and was proud to become a great grandmother to Jackson. Dear sister-in-law of Kathy Roach. Predeceased by her brother, Martin Roach.

Fran was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother whose family was always at the centre of her life. She had a caring heart, a steady presence, and was happiest when surrounded by those she loved.

She also gave much of herself to her community. Fran especially valued her years of volunteer work with Community Living Dufferin where she took great pride in supporting others and building meaningful connections.

She will be remembered for her kindness, her commitment to others, the love she shared with her family and friends, and most of all for her warm and comforting hugs.

Visitation will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Saturday, October 25th, 2025 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Funeral Service will be held in the Chapel at 2:30 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Community Living Dufferin would be appreciated by the family.

Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com.

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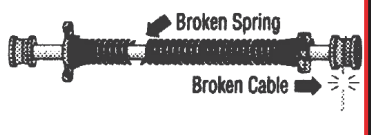
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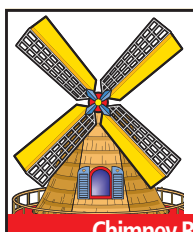
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