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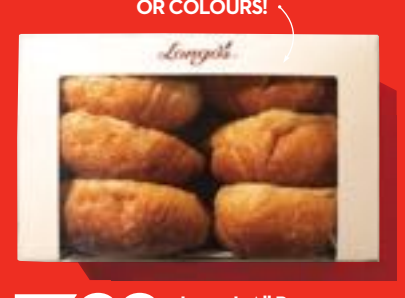


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Dr. Sherri Cox is pictured outside the centre.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Winter season brings ongoing work for National Wildlife Centre

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the wintery season falls upon us, many people begin to hunker down indoors, and some animals take to hibernation.

But the National Wildlife Centre is as busy as ever.

The field centre, located in Caledon, opened its doors at the end of April and has since helped over 1,200 animals.

Founder and wildlife veterinarian Dr. Sherri Cox says that when they opened, it was much busier than they had anticipated.

"We were getting over a hundred phone calls a day, and that's even with people not knowing we were here yet," says Cox, reflecting on their opening months. "It's been incredibly busy; we were here from say seven in the morning till midnight sometimes in the busy season."

Currently in their care, they have over 70 in-house, and during the summer, they would reach double that, at 140.

Even though it seems to have slowed down to the outside eye, the centre is bustling every day, with animals needing X-rays, surgery, rehabilitation, and some even have an extended stay.

Cox shares that some animals were born later into the baby season, resulting in the centre taking them in for the winter.

Over the winter, the animals will either be in the centre's care indoors, or in their outdoor enclosures.

What is currently adorning both these indoor and outdoor enclosures are Christmas trees, right from the Caledon community.

As the holiday season wound down, the Centre invited Caledon residents to donate their tinsel-free and spray-free Christmas trees.

Continued on Page A7

OPP Community Safety Office opened in downtown Bolton

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Caledon officially opened the new Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Safety Office in Bolton, located in the Humber River Centre.

The official ribbon-cutting was held on January 12 and was attended by Caledon OPP, Caledon Fire and Emergency Services, as well as local Councillors and representatives, including Brampton-North Caledon MP Ruby Sahota and Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones.

The office relocated from the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness to bring services closer to residents and businesses, while also increasing visibility and engagement with the OPP.

Continued on Page A4



PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Caledon Sports Hall of Fame ready to welcome attendees to the 2026 Induction Ceremony

BY JIM STEWART

Barrie Shepley had just completed the Caledon Agriculture Board meeting when we snuck in a wide-ranging phone call on a Saturday afternoon.

It's a busy time of the year for Shepley who's preparing to host the Caledon Sport Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony for the third consecutive time. The Chair of the CSHOF acknowledged "the interesting challenges involved in recognizing over one hundred years of sports in Caledon and the ridiculously amazing achievements. There's a lot of great people to recognize and, for such a small community, so many have done brilliant things."

The indefatigable Chair noted that "it's an honor to dig into the files to see the careers and contributions of these deserving athletes and builders."

Shepley was honored to be enshrined by the Selection Committee during the 2025 ceremony and admitted it was a moving experience.

"Part of my jam is getting people active and I've been inspired by these people, by their stories and remarkable achievements—to think that we've attended the same community religious services and shopped at the same grocery store. It's that connection that I felt."

Shepley saw the need to recognize area residents who had contributed mightily to athletics in the Town of Caledon: "Ten years ago, I wondered why we didn't have a Sports Hall of Fame in Caledon. I spoke with some Councillors who were very supportive and saw the importance of celebrating its athletes, coaches, convenors, media, and even league executives who spent decades organizing sports for kids. When the Caledon East Complex was completed, the Town gave us a place to house the Hall of Fame and it felt good to know that kids would pass through the Complex, that they would be inspired by the stories, the achievements, and the exhibits that celebrated the athletes and builders."

The engaging Emcee reflected with a high degree of amusement when asked about the most memorable moment from the last two ceremonies.

"The highlight of the night in 2025 was seeing the 1967 Ontario Champion Bolton Kinsmen on stage. Those guys were in their 70s, they were enjoying themselves, and many hadn't seen each other for forty-five years. A few of them even had their team jackets on. I keep getting great history lessons from inductees like them."

The Kinsmen reps offered some hilarious anecdotes about their rollicking lifestyle as hockey players in the 60s that brought the house down last January. Shepley noted the entertaining quality and poignancy of the speeches that have been delivered on stage over the last two events.

"The reality is many of the inductees have been in front of media so they have experienced and mature media voices. Each speech has been amazingly different. So much thought has gone into the speeches as the inductees reflected on decades as pencil met paper. The stories lift me six inches off the ground—they're filled with personal moments, about sacrifice and achievement. The speeches are such an important part of the event and it's great to see the audience take in these enjoyable moments. We want to get to the point where people really want to hear these stories and talk about the Induction Ceremony in such a way that we have them saying 'I can't miss this supper.'"

Shepley made his case convincingly for residents and sponsors to attend this year's banquet.

"You spend a little to attend, but it's another way of keep people active. It's an investment in the community. All of the parents who have had their kids in sports talk about it as the best investment they ever made. Sports connected the kids to their community and to their schools. Attending the Induction Ceremony is that kind of connection, too. The best part of attending is discovering that these great things have happened in our town. I'm not sure we brag enough about our athletic achievements—it might be a Canadian thing. So often we don't recognize the things we do in our home town. We have these great athletes at high schools like Hall and Mayfield and so many elementary school athletes have done amazing things. Hall is just across the street from the Hall of Fame and the Wolfpack Football team just won the Metro Bowl."

In addition to celebrating current achievements by prospective Hall of Famers, Shepley offered a glimpse of the future or "Phase 3" as he calls it when the Induction Ceremony has become "the pinnacle—the community's night of sports achievement and everybody wants to attend this ceremony. We'd like to build it to honor Athletes of the Year from the high schools. We want to build the event in the coming years to include a contribution to a local charity and grow it so it becomes something like the annual Conn Smythe Dinner. We want it to be the event where we're inspired by people who have done wonderful things in and for the Town."

To purchase tickets for the Third Annual Caledon Sport Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, contact events@caledon.ca or visit Caledon.ca/CSHOF.

The Ceremony will take place on Wednesday, January 28 in the Banquet Hall of the Caledon East Community Complex from 7 to 9 PM. Dress Code is Business Casual and doors open at 6:30 PM.

This year's inductees are Keith Beavers (Swimming), Helena Kavalaar (Fastball), Ashley Lawrence (Soccer), Tess Routliffe (Swimming), Jade Scognamillo (Swimming), Bruce Wanless (Lacrosse), George Gardiner (Horse Racing), Chris Humeniuk (Golf), and the 2013 Lady Wanderers Youth Soccer Team.



Town to host "Our Understanding of Mental Health Through Time" Lunch and Learn with CMHA

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

On January 19th, the Town of Caledon is inviting residents to join the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) for a lunch-and-learn exploring how perceptions of mental health have evolved over the years.

The topic will cover both how this perception has changed in society and the human lifespan, and will highlight key shifts in awareness, treatment, and support.

The Lunch and Learn will also provide insight into how a personal understanding of mental health can change from childhood through older adulthood.

A Town of Caledon spokesperson said the topic was chosen in response to the growing older adult population in Caledon and the increasing recognition that mental health is essential to aging in place.

They said that factors such as social isolation, caregiving responsibilities, health transitions, and major life changes can significantly impact mental well-being as people age.

This program was developed by the Town of Caledon and CMHA Peel Dufferin and was said to be informed by community-identified needs and CMHA's expertise in mental health.

Key objectives of the program are to enhance awareness and encourage greater utilization of CMHA services available to Caledon residents.

The Town of Caledon says that many older adults grew up when mental health was rarely discussed and often stigmatized, and, as a result, mental health concerns among older adults can be under-recognized, under-reported, or dismissed as a normal part of aging.

They stated that revisiting these perceptions helps challenge outdated beliefs, normalize conversations about mental well-being, and ensure older adults feel supported in seeking help.

"Mental health is a critical component of health at every stage of life and plays an essential role in aging well and remaining independent in the community," says the Town's spokesperson.

At the Lunch and Learn, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how mental health can change as people age and how emotional well-being is closely connected to physical health, independence, and overall quality of life, say organizers.

Through a series of programs, it is explained that attendees will be introduced to practical strategies that support mental wellness while aging in place, including ways to stay socially connected, navigate life transitions, manage stress, and build resilience.

This series will help participants recognize early signs of mental health concerns in themselves and others, which will "challenge misconceptions associated with mental health and aging, and teach where and how to seek help if needed."

The spokesperson says that these sessions aim to strengthen social connections, increase awareness of available supports, and foster a more informed and supportive community for older adults in Caledon.

This initiative is funded through the Seniors Community Grant Program from the Government of Ontario's Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, supporting efforts to promote social connection, reduce stigma, and strengthen access to mental health supports.

The Lunch and Learn will take place on Monday, January 19, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at Caledon Village Place.

A free lunch is also provided to all registered participants. Visit https://calendar.caledon.ca/default/Detail/2026-01-19-1200-Our-Understanding-of-Mental-Health-Through-Time-Lu.

Bolton Kin establishes bursary in honour of long-time Kin member



Leslie Caldwell

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Bolton Kin Club has recently established a bursary for long-time Kin member Leslie Caldwell, who passed two years ago.

The bursary is named the "Kin Leslie Caldwell Bursary."

It will be awarded annually to one graduating student for their "outstanding volunteerism and school academics."

Caldwell was a member of the Kin Club of Bolton for more than 20 years and dedicated much of her time to her community.

"She was not only a nice person," says nember of Bolton Kin John Stegeman, "but also she was a volunteer supreme. She was involved in every project."

Stegeman says Caldwell would always "light up a room" and was loved by everyone.

He shares that the bursary has been in the works for a few years and has now come to fruition.

With this bursary, instead of placing the focus solely on the applicant's financial situation, the Kin Club of Bolton also wants to know what these students do to make their community a better place, as Caldwell did.

Stegeman says that within the first 24 hours of the bursary application, they already had two applications and hope to get many more.

He will be going in person to the surrounding high schools in Caledon to discuss the bursary and provide information.

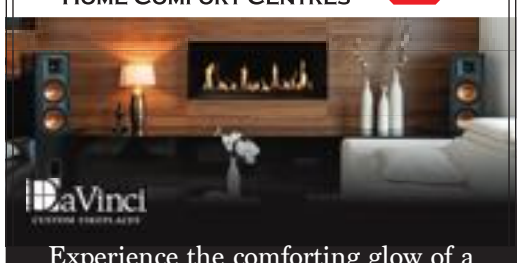
The bursary, in the amount of $1,000, will be awarded annually going forward to a Town of Caledon high school graduating fourth-year student who resides in Caledon.

These schools include Humberview Secondary School, St. Michael's Catholic Secondary School, Mayfield Secondary School, and Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School.

To view the full application visit www.boltonkin.com/about-us-1.





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Caledon opens new OPP Community Safety Office in Bolton



A look inside the new facility.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Continued from FRONT

"Today marks an important milestone for our community. This community safety office represents more than a change of location. It reflects our shared commitment to keeping Caledon safe, connected, and responsive to the needs of our residents," said Mayor Annette Groves at the official opening.

She added the office is about creating presence in the downtown core, "knowing the community, listening to concerns, and working together to address them."

"It's about collaboration, early intervention, and building a safer community every day," said Groves.

MPP Jones physical offices give individuals a point of contact to interact with local officers.

"The station represents far more than a new building," added MP Sahota, "When police officers are embedded in the community they serve, safety is strengthened not just through endorsement, but through relationships, understanding, and prevention."

Caledon OPP Commander Inspector Natalie Majer said the Community Safety Office is a public-facing space where residents and businesses can connect with the OPP on community safety, crime prevention, and local concerns.

She noted that the relocation brought them to the "heart of the community," increasing visibility and accessibility.

"This location supports our work across the municipality by providing an additional point of contact that strengthens presence, approachability, and meaningful community engagement," says Majer. "We've been working as a team, all of us, for some time, and it's lovely to see it finally come to fruition."

Mayor Groves recognized Ward 6 Councillor Cosimo Napoli, thanking him for his advocacy, saying that he was similar to a "dog with a bone" with this project.

"This is Councillor Napoli's riding, and we've heard loud and clear from the community that they wanted to see our officers more visible."

He told the Citizen that seeing this finally come to fruition is "fantastic."

Napoli said he has had numerous residents wondering why the OPP was moved from downtown.

"Having heard that from our residents, it brought up the fact that maybe we should have it coming back again. Since that came up, we have worked on it collaboratively with our staff, our council colleagues, and we made it happen, which is excellent."

They look forward to having the OPP's presence in Bolton, he said, and that it will hopefully increase safety, especially amid ongoing issues such as trucking and recent extortion cases.

"We have a lot of residents complaining about the trucks going through Bolton, so now with this police presence here, hopefully it would help in preventing those trucks from coming into Bolton," said Napoli. "That's one of the biggest concerns right now, is safety."

Currently, the new satellite office does not have a strict set of hours.

Jesse Nobleman with Caledon OPP says that officers have access to the office 24/7 and will be there sporadically in between attending calls for service and other duties.

This satellite office is not staffed like a traditional police station, and residents cannot file a complaint directly from this location. However, residents who call police to make a report may be directed to attend this location by appointment only to meet with an officer.

He says that residents are encouraged to continue making reports by visiting their Detachment in Caledon East, or via telephone at 1-888-310-1122 for non-emergencies, or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Nobleman notes residents who have questions or concerns about community safety can call their office at 905-584-2241.

Residents are also welcome to stop by the Bolton office and speak with an officer if they're present.

CALEDON OPP
"CRACKING DOWN ON UNSAFE DRIVING"

The Caledon OPP have recently concluded the annual Festive Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) campaign, as well as a weekend traffic blitz, focusing on distracted driving.

"Between November 20, 2025, and January 1, 2026, Caledon OPP officers conducted over 100 RIDE checkpoints, resulting in 27 operation while impaired-related charges," say Police. "From January 2 to January 4, 2026, Caledon OPP officers held a traffic enforcement blitz to kick-off the new year. Although the primary focus of the blitz was directed toward distracted driving, officers also enforced road safety laws pertaining to improper seat belt use, aggressive driving, impaired driving, and more! Throughout the weekend, officers laid a total of 219 charges and issued four seven-day driver's licence suspensions to motorists who registered a blood alcohol concentration (B.A.C.) within the Warn Range.

"Did you know that new penalties came into effect for drug and alcohol impaired driving as of January 1, 2026? These penalties include increased administrative licence suspensions for first and second-time alcohol and/or drug-related offences, as well as mandatory remedial education for first-time alcohol and/or drug-related administrative offences."

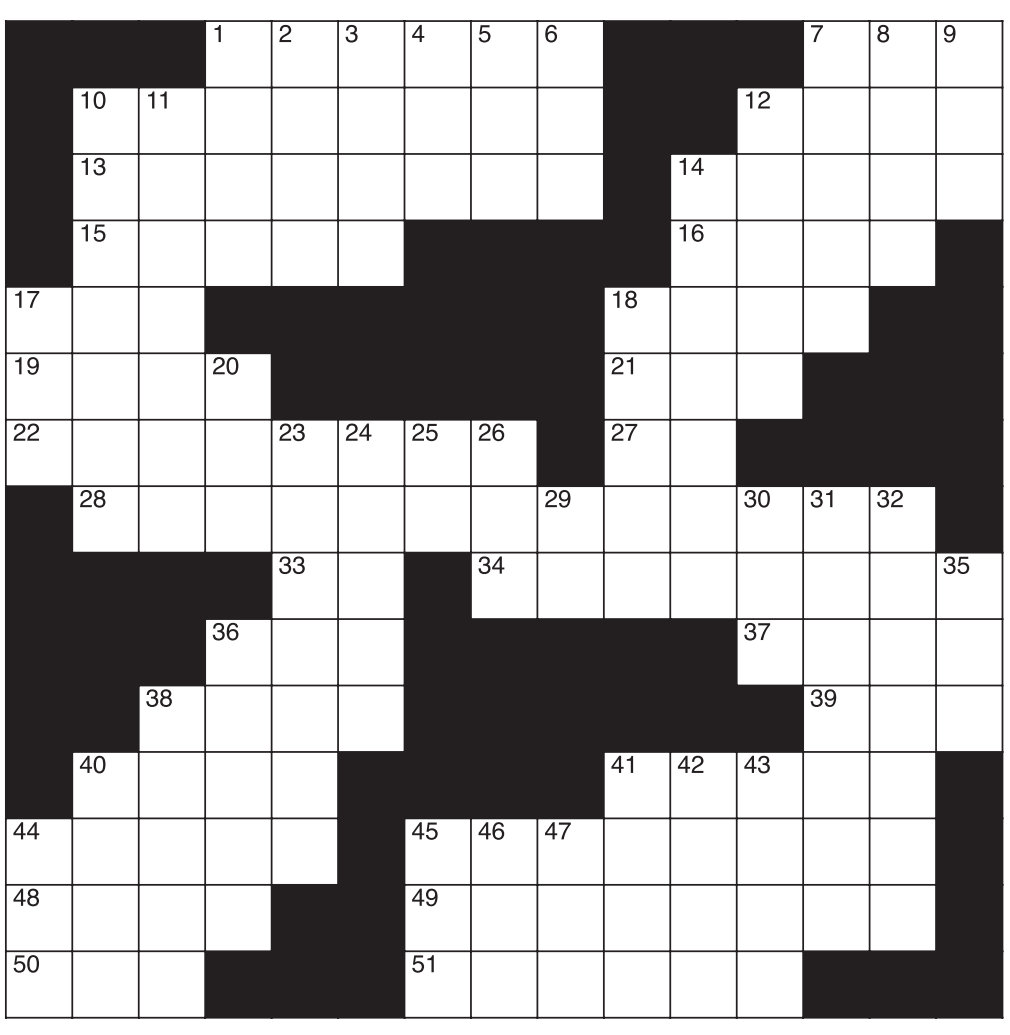
For more information, please visit: www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving.

The Caledon OPP would like to remind motorists to slow down, wear your seatbelt, pay attention, and never drive impaired. Together, we can make the roads a safer place.



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1. Mechanical lever
7. Rocky peak
10. Leave a country
12. Discount
13. D.C. ballplayer
14. Partner to "oohed"
15. Engine sound
16. Japanese ornamental box
17. Fido is one
18. Amounts of time
19. DiFranco and Phyo are two
21. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
22. Make secret plans
27. "Tiny Bubbles" singer
28. "His Airness"
33. Morning
34. Perfected
36. Winger guitarist Beach
37. Abba __, Israeli politician
38. Self-immolation by fire ritual
39. A way to save money
40. Pulpit
41. Make ecstatically happy
44. Once more
45. Works on
48. Nocturnal S. American rodent
49. State again
50. Expression of disappointment
51. Type of door

CLUES DOWN

1. Yugoslavian communist leader
2. Exchange rate
3. High school dance
4. Peter's last name
5. When you anticipate arriving
6. Israeli city __ Aviv
7. Goat-like mammals
8. Margarine
9. End-of-the-spectrum color
10. Make poisonous
11. Popular beverage
12. Actress Lathan
14. Where planes land and depart
17. Political fundraising entity
18. The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
20. Buffer used in microbiology
23. Light, open carriage
24. Metrical feet
25. Email subject line feature
26. A street with lots of nightmares
29. Rapper Rule
30. River in Scotland
31. One who settles a dispute
32. Most chummy
35. We all have our own
36. Arab tribe
38. Slap
40. Ottoman military commanders
41. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
42. Emit coherent radiation
43. Sun or solar disk (Egyptian mythology)
44. Inclined to
45. Olfactory reference syndrome
46. Chest muscle (slang)
47. Body part

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

Food drive donation honours Adrianna McCauley

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At Caledon Community Services Food Bank, the Exchange volunteers have previously shared that after the holidays, they often experience a drop in donations.

As much as the rate of donations drops, the need does not.

Pia D'Alessandro is making her mark to help, and she's doing so in honour of her daughter.

Her daughter, Adrianna McCauley, tragically passed in a four-vehicle collision in Bolton in September of 2024, when an oncoming truck driver ran a red light ten seconds after it turned red.

Pia shares that, for years, Adrianna drove herself to and from Laurier, where she attended and graduated.

She passed away only two minutes from her home in Bolton.

Over a year later, the driver who pleaded guilty received a sentence, and now, in the same month, Pia is making her donation to The Exchange in her daughter's honour.

Pia began her collection at the beginning of December, putting up signs and a shopping cart at her workplace.

The sign, telling people to donate non-perishable items to the local food bank, also features the words "In Honour of Adrianna."

The shopping cart is now full.

Inside, onlookers will see various cans, soups, and other non-perishables, ready to donate to The Exchange.

For Pia, advocating for her daughter will not stop there.



Adrianna McCauley
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

She will continue to honour her in spaces such as this and keep Adrianna's name alive for years to come.

"I am very thankful for everybody in this community who has been so supportive for me and my family," says Pia. "It won't stop here. I'm going to do everything I can to make a change in honour of my daughter."

Pia shares she will be supporting the Caledon Community Road Service Advocacy (CCRSA) group in all future endeavours, adding, "anything we can do to make changes."

In February, the CCRSA will hold a "Romance for Road Safety" fundraiser to raise funds for Road simulators at Caledon High Schools.

The CCRSA states that Caledon roads are "unique," and they aim to have students learn proper driving skills at a younger age to ensure their safety.

Email ccrsa.group@gmail.com for tickets and more information.

Motion brought forward to Council regarding on-farm Diversified Use

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At the January 13 General Committee meeting, Councillor Doug Maskell brought forward a motion to request the implementation of a licensing or permit framework for on-farm diversified use.

The motion explains that while on-farm diversified uses are recognized as not only important for supporting the long-term viability of agricultural operations but also for contributing to the local rural economy, certain on-farm diversified uses present challenges to the community.

Farm event venues for weddings and other celebrations have the potential to generate significant impacts on traffic, parking, noise, fire and life safety, and land-use compatibility with surrounding properties, the motion noted.

It explains that a Special Events Licensing or Permit By-law would allow the Town of Caledon to regulate, on a case-by-case basis, the duration, number, scale, and intensity of special events, "having regard for the location of the property and potential adverse impacts."

With the motion approved, it would direct staff to develop a licensing and/or permit framework for on-farm diversified uses that have the potential to attract a significant number of guests.

The licensing or permit framework would include criteria to ensure that on-farm diversified uses remain secondary to the farm operation, including that the farm must remain in active agricultural use, that the farmer resides on the property, and that any permitted on-farm diversified use ceases if the farm operation ceases.

It would also control variables such as the duration, frequency, and intensity of permitted events; insurance requirements; traffic management and parking controls; noise mitigation measures; and fire, life-safety, and emergency access requirements.

Andre Leitert delegated on the motion. He is involved with the Caledon East Rural Neighbours Advocacy and sits on the Illegal Land Use Task Force, and he says this motion is important as it "deals with some of the loopholes that exist right now."

He notes back to a time when, on a rural road in Caledon, almost 40 cars were lined up on the side of the road attending an event, to which a nearby farmer noted he would struggle to move his farming vehicles past them.

"It's an important motion. I think it helps in working with lands that are under NEC [Niagara Escarpment Commission] jurisdiction and provides a little more teeth in helping our bylaw folks deal with the illegal land use in Caledon, which is very prevalent," says Leitert.

Town Staff noted that this motion reflects the consultation they conducted through the Official Plan review with the agricultural community and residents on this issue, and that there is a policy in future Caledon that directs this by-law work.

Councillor Christina Early noted she remembered seeing a video on social media showing a property on a rural road with about 400 attendees at an event on Canada Day, which prompted a shutdown by the OPP.

"Why are we even allowing us to pursue this? Why are we even giving any wiggle room for these events to occur on the land?" said Early.

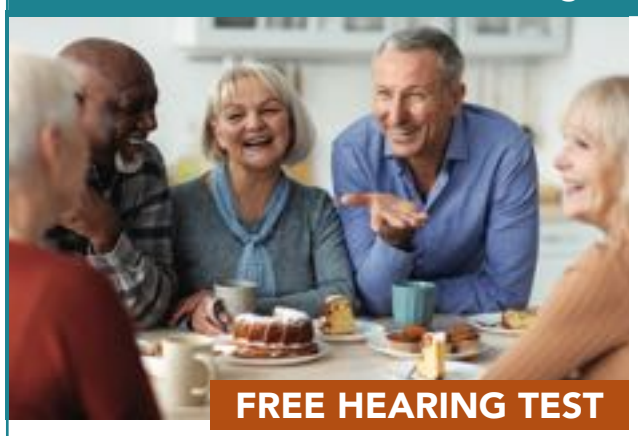
Staff answered these current rules exist from many decades ago, "these perpetrators, pirates, if you want to call it, have identified the ability to buy large parcels of land, no different than what we've had problems with, with the truck yards, large parcels of land, and continue to operate some form of farming on the land and make revenue and run a business out of it."

They added an issue stemming from this is investor groups buying acres on these lands and running event centres on the property.

Councillor Lynn Kiernan echoed the concern about these types of events, adding that she also wants farmers and their families to be able to have their say, such as those who attended the planning meeting with Town Staff.

Continued on Page A10

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NOTICE OF COMPLETION

MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY STRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO PATTERSON SIDE ROAD BRIDGES AND DUFFY'S LANE BRIDGE

The Study

As part of the Town of Caledon's Asset Management Strategy, improvements are being considered for bridges and culverts. This is due to the wear and tear on existing infrastructure and to plan for future increased traffic use. The Town has initiated a Schedule 'B' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, 2015 and 2019) to consider options for improvements to two (2) bridge structures located on Patterson Side Road (Bridge no (1) – ID B22162016 and Bridge no (2) – ID B22164017) and one (1) bridge structure located on Duffy's Lane (ID – B22072010).

Patterson Side Road Bridge (1)

For improvements to the existing 2 lane, T beam reinforced cast in place structure constructed in 1950 and located approximately 0.1 km west of Duffy's Lane over the Humber River.

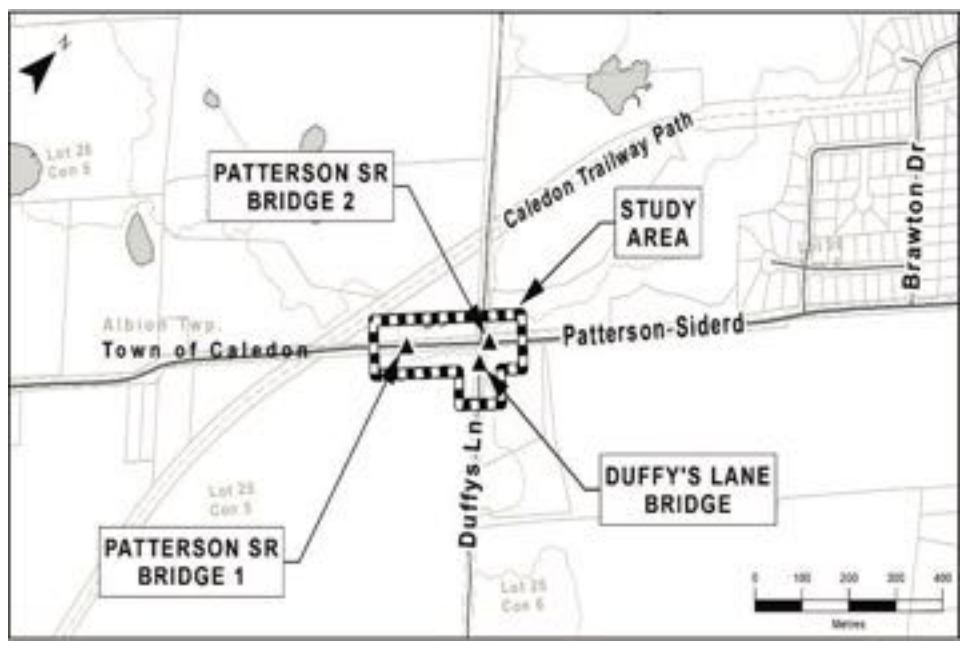
Patterson Side Road Bridge (2)

For improvements to the existing 2 lane, rigid frame, vertical leg reinforced cast in place structure constructed in 1950 and located approximately 0.03 km east of Duffy's Lane over the Humber River.

Duffy's Lane Bridge

For feasibility investigation to determine future management of the existing structure. The bridge is located approximately 0.03 km south of Patterson Side Road over the Humber River.

The approximate location of the project is shown on the map.



Preferred Alternative Solution

Through consultation with Agencies, Members of the Public, and Indigenous Communities, the preferred solution for the structural bridge improvements are as follows:

Patterson Side Road Bridge (1) and Bridge (2):

Design Alternative Solution 4 – replace the structures, was the preferred solution for both Patterson Side Road bridges. The preferred solution for Bridge (1) involves replacement of the full structure with a 16.25 m span bridge. This solution includes the ability to improve the alignment with the watercourse and widen the structure to meet the desired road platform width. The Preferred Solution for Bridge (2) involves the replacement of the full structure with a 14 m span bridge. The new structure can be constructed to the desired platform width and call allow for improved sight distance to meet the 60 km/h design speed.

Duffy's Lane Bridge:

The evaluation determined that preferred solution for Duffy's Lane Bridge was Design Alternative Solution 4B – replace structure vehicular bridge (single lane, modular). The preferred solution 4B includes a 1 lane, 2 way bridge structure with a 4.15 m (+/-) wide driving platform as a prefabricated girder type structure. The new structure would allow for a larger span and new bridge abutments and would allow for future road profile improvements.

Project File Report

A Project File Report (PFR) has been prepared to document the planning and decision making process for this study. By this Notice, the PFR is being placed on the public record for a 30 day review period from January 15, 2026 to February 16, 2026. The PFR is available for review through the Town of Caledon website at:

https://ic12.esolg.ca/11187116_TownofCaledon/en/news/public-notice-patterson-duffy-s-lane-bridge-environmental-assessment.aspx

If you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding this study, please contact one of the Project Team members below by **February 16, 2026**:

Town of Caledon
George Golding, P.Eng.
Senior Project Manager, Engineering Services
Tel: 905 584 2272 Ext. 4523
Email: George.Golding@caledon.ca

R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited
Andrew Dawson, P.Eng.
Consultant Project Manager
Tel: 705 797 4310
Email: Andrew.Dawson@rjburnside.com

In addition, a request may be made to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions may be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Request on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requesters contact information and full name for the ministry. Please visit the ministry's website for more information on requests for orders under Section 16 of the Environmental Assessment Act at: www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-section-16-order

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested, how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts, and any information in support of the statements in the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to the project contacts noted above and the following:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
77 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Comments submitted to the Town of Caledon for the purpose of providing feedback regarding this Municipal Class Environmental Assessment are collected under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act. Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. Questions relating to the collection, use and disclosure of this information may be addressed to George Golding, P.Eng., Senior Project Manager, Engineering Services at 905 584 2272 Ext. 4523 or George.Golding@caledon.ca.

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ARTS & CULTURE

Caledon Agricultural Society AGM talks importance of agriculture and soil health protection



Taccone is pictured addressing the room, including MP Kyle Seeback, MPP Sylvia Jones, and Mayor Annette Groves. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon Agricultural Society (CAS) held its annual general meeting (AGM) this past Saturday, and through division reports, agendas, and statements, CAS and its speakers also highlighted the importance of agriculture in today's world.

CAS holds numerous community events, both promoting Agriculture and providing fun activities for all. These events include their annual fair and their famous Canada Day Strawberry festival.

President Ed Taccone touched on the year CAS has had, noting their $3-million capital campaign to expand facilities on their existing fairgrounds to create the new Caledon Agricultural Society community centre, and the strong support they received.

"Everything begins with a vision," says Taccone. "You have to see it, feel it, and believe in it long before it becomes real. I have to say, with support from different levels of government and the community, we have a vision that will be fulfilled. I am incredibly grateful for the support of our Board of Directors and for the dedication of a strong, committed team, our sponsors, and wonderful volunteers."

In attendance at the AGM were representatives from all levels of government, including Canadian Senator Robert Black, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon Sylvia Jones, MP for Dufferin-Caledon Kyle Seeback, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, and various members of Caledon Council.

Seeback noted his yearly attendance at CAS's Strawberry Festival, helping flip pancakes, as the "best decision I've ever made."

"I get to meet so many people. It's such a great event that people here have worked so hard to make sure that it's such a great success," said Seeback.

Jones spoke of her long background with agricultural societies.

"I think now as we see how Caledon Agricultural Society is trying new things, is expanding what you do to serve the community, your understanding, appreciation and willingness to try new things. We all know that our communities are changing and our histories are also moving forward as we have more and more people who don't necessarily have an agricultural background, who don't necessarily understand the value and importance of our agricultural community," said Jones. "You really are trying new things and stepping out of what is a very comfortable, historic, important role and making sure that you continue to be relevant in the decades to come here in Caledon."

Groves noted the contribution the agricultural community makes to the economy, adding that they are a significant part of ensuring not only a very strong economy in this country but also in this community.

She continued that they are excited to partner with CAS for their community centre to help make their dream and vision become a reality.

Groves recognized Ward 1 has been without facilities for years.

"I am very pleased and very thankful to Ed and your Board, and to the entire community, for stepping up and recognizing that this community deserves a lot more."

In attendance that day were not only community groups such as the Caledon Lions Club, the Alton Legion, the Caledon Village Association and the Caledon Optimists, but also numerous representatives from surrounding fair boards in other communities, showcasing that this AGM was not only focused on bringing the community together, but all communities together to recognize the importance of agriculture.

On that topic, Senator Black spoke on the National Strategy for Soil Health Protection, Bill S-230.

Tabled originally on June 10, 2025, Black brought forward the "National Strategy for Soil Health Act mandates the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food," along with other Ministers, to develop a national strategy to support and promote efforts across Canada to protect, conserve and enhance soil health, including a view of achieving resilient and healthy soils across Canada.

Black is one of the three senators in the Canadian Senate who actively represent agriculture.

At the AGM, Black said the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry completed their soil health study in June of 2024, which conclusively found that Canada's soils, and the world's soils, are at risk.

"The United Nations said that in 2021, 30 per cent of the world's soils were degraded to the point where nothing could grow. They also went on to say that by 2050 that would be as high as 90 percent," says Black. "The national strategy will inform Canadians of the importance of soil and ensure that the government of Canada is mandated to make the strides in safeguarding the soils that we have come to rely on for our country's food security, our environmental stewardship and national security."

Black added the Bill includes a recommendation to declare soil a strategic national asset across Canada.

"We need to recognize its role as being as vital as the water we drink and the air we breathe."

Black went on to state 2025 was filled with many political tensions that have "put significant stress on our agricultural sector and among many other important Canadian industries."

"Canadian farmers are increasingly confronted with uncertainty as the combined pressures of potential and very real tariffs, extreme weather events driven by climate change and the steady pace of urban expansion challenges that all create new challenges for the sector. These overlapping forces not only disrupt the production and markets that farmers are involved in, but also demand resilience and adaptability in the face of mounting unpredictability," says Black.

In the face of these uncertainties, Black states it's imperative that all Canadians, including governments of all orders and policymakers stand with and for farmers and recognize the vital role that farmers and agriculture play in Canada.

"Agriculture is not just an industry, it's a way of life for everyone in the room. It sustains our nation, it connects us to our roots."

Black notes the work that fair boards and agricultural societies put in each year, bringing "agriculture front and center all year round," and adds to CAS, "from what I can see, you do a great job of it."

Following insights on soil health protection, CAS held its election, where President Ed Taccone was re-elected for yet another year, to which he said he accepted, adding that he has to see his vision for the community centre through.

As the AGM closed out, CAS announced its 2026 schedule for all important events, with the Fair returning to the Caledon community in June and the Canada Day Strawberry Festival, as always, being held on July 1.

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MAYBERRY HILL
Grand Valley

Winter season brings ongoing work for National Wildlife Centre

Continued from FRONT

"We try to keep everything natural from food, husbandry and habitat. These Christmas trees provide the normal smells that they would smell in there. They provide shelter and hiding, and we actually have them around our squirrel enclosures as barriers to the wind," says Cox. "It just brings that more natural feel."

Sometimes they'll use the whole tree in an enclosure, and other times they'll just use part of their branches.

One of their current guests has been truly appreciative of the community's donation.

"We have a porcupine and they like to eat bark, or they hide under it. They feel safer and that will lower their stress," says Cox. "It's all about the animal's well-being, and we're trying to restore health to get them back into the wild."

Not only has the community been dropping off their trees, but thanks to a partnership with Dunk Disposal, the group will be collecting post-season Christmas trees and delivering them to the Centre in Caledon by the end of January.

In the centre's care, not only are they looking after a porcupine, but they also have baby opossums, flying squirrels, eastern grey squirrels, and more.

Cox adds that some of the animals they currently receive are injured, many she says either struck by cars, or have flown into windows.

They are currently treating a bald eagle, a snowy owl, and a hawk.

Cox says that before opening their doors at the end of April, they operated as a mobile hospital and helped wildlife rehabilitators with their patients.

"But we couldn't help the community," she adds. "Now we serve both."

The centre has a hotline for the community to call when they find an injured animal.

"It's been amazing because we can help animals, and we can help the community," says Cox.

She adds that not all the calls they're receiving are related to an injured animal.

"A lot of phone calls and a lot of what we do is education," she explained, noting they receive numerous calls regarding animals living in people's sheds or attics. "A lot of it is how do we cohabitate with wildlife because as we do more development then animals are displaced and they're looking they don't have anywhere to go, we're trying to educate people."



The porcupine enclosure is taking advantage of donated Christmas trees – try to spot the prickly friend!
PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Cox says that they find more animals being displaced and hit by cars.

"It's unfortunate that so many animals are hit by cars, whether it's a bear or a hawk or a coyote or a rabbit. We see everything here from moose to mice, and turtles to trumpeter swans."

Some of what they see are a little larger than the animal they currently have in their care.

The National Wildlife Field Centre has recently been able to help rehabilitate and care for bears that the organization Bear with Us receives.

Bear with Us is an organization that works to rescue, rehabilitate, and release orphaned or injured bears that come into their care.

"Not everyone is sleeping right now because some need medical care. So we're overseeing that. They [Bear with Us] might bring down a bear that's been hit by a car or a bear that's sick and we'll do x-rays or what we need to do to help it, and then it goes back to Bear With Us" says Cox.

Between October and December, Cox says they assisted with four bears in Bear with Us' care.

As the centre is licensed as a mobile wildlife hospital, they can often go to the organization to assist as needed.

"We go to rehab centers that need our help where they can't bring an animal in," explains Cox, noting a moose they were able to go and attend.

At the centre are numerous staff and volunteers, whose jobs range from animal care and washing and laundry to medications and food, nutrition preparation, and dishes.

On one of the centre's walls is a large board, where staff can find information and updates on every single animal in their care.

Once they do their rounds, they're able to note how each animal is doing, for example, if their condition has changed, if they're gaining weight, eating, and more.

"It's just making sure no patient gets lost, and that we're on top of the health and care of every single animal," says Cox.

As they look towards the future, Cox says they are excited about the next step in their adventure: building the Centre of Excellence for Wildlife Rehabilitation, Medicine and Surgery.

She says their current field hospital is a step towards a bigger plan, where they aim to help connect people and wildlife.

They hope that, with the future centre, they will be able to further tie in the educational aspect, with features such as interactive displays, school group engagement, webcams in the animal enclosures and surgery rooms, and more.

Cox says they look forward to bringing people into that type of space.

With the centre, they will also be able to conduct more training. The centre is currently training biologists, vet students, veterinarians, but Cox adds that with the new centre, they will be able to train even more.

One of the biggest aspects of it all is that with the future centre they will be able to treat about 5,000 animals a year.

This estimated ten-year project will begin once the centre has raised sufficient funds for the future build.

"I'm really proud of the work everybody has done here. The community, the volunteers, everyone has pulled together so that we can help these 1,200 animals so far this year since we've opened," says Cox.

Cox says not only is she extremely thankful to her team, but to the community and all of their donors.

"It takes a village. A lot of individual people helping out is really helping a lot of animals, so thank you."

"If the public is able to get involved and help us, they can help wildlife."

Cox shares that the organization is not only looking to raise funds for its future centre, but also for an outdoor enclosure to better suit the needs of its larger flying animals, such as eagles, raptors, and owls, who need the space to fly and rebuild strength.

The centre is also always in need of smaller items, such as food, towels, and garbage bags, and they currently have an Amazon wish list.

As the season loops around once again, the centre will also be holding a "baby shower" for everything they will need for the babies in their care. And as always, the centre welcomes anyone who wishes to volunteer.

To the public, Cox invites them to call if they ever have questions, or find an injured animal.

And most of all, be wary of those with whom we share this space.

"Enjoy wildlife. We're very fortunate to live in an area that is so abundant with wildlife. Just be aware, slow down, to protect wildlife."

TOWN OF CALEDON | NEWS | Subscribe to the Town's email newsletter at: caledon.ca/enews



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Generations in the Kitchen

Calling all older adults in Caledon!



Family Day: Monday, February 16, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Southfields Community Centre (225 Dougall Avenue, Caledon)
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TOWN OF CALEDON | Age-Friendly Caledon | Canada



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BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Back to Work, Back To Reality

Are you among the many government employees who have been mandated back to the office this month?

Are you happy about it?

In a highly informal poll conducted amongst five impacted friends and acquaintances over the last week or two, feedback is decidedly mixed.

Those in favour of the full-on return-to-office scenario, rather than the minimum three-days-in-the-office model that carried Ontario into the New Year, have welcomed the opportunity to interact face-to-face with their coworkers once again, the novelty of seeing them through postage stamp-sized pane on their Zoom screen having worn off months, or even years ago.

They were looking forward to the chance of getting into a new routine with their coworkers and the informal exchange of ideas and views that are inextricably part of the in-person work process.

Those against the move, however, have a comparative laundry list of reasons they would rather stay put.

For some, it was the convenience factor of essentially being able to, as Dolly Parton so memorably sings, tumble out of bed, stumble to the kitchen, to pour themselves a cup of ambition – or coffee, neither Dolly or I are here to judge what gets you going at the start of the day – before presumably rolling or skipping to the desk to get cracking.

That wasn't the only matter of convenience that came up.

Others have cited their respective commute time from home to work and back again – sometimes taking up close to three hours of their day – as reason enough to stay put, noting this time, especially if endured five days a week, can be put to far better use, including more time to get, you know, the actual job for which they have been hired done.

It's not as though the impacted employees didn't have enough lead time to get themselves prepared – mentally or otherwise. The move was announced this past August by Treasury Board President Caroline Mulroney.

"The government has been closely monitoring the evolution of in-workplace standards for public and private sector organizations," she said in a statement. "The return to five days per week in-workplace standard represents the current workforce landscape in the province and it reinforces our commitment to reflecting the people and businesses we serve across Ontario.

"Based on the nature of their work, over half of the Ontario Public Service are already required to attend the workplace full time. Starting on October 20, 2025, employees who have been attending their workplace for a minimum of three days per week will increase their attendance to four days per week as part of a gradual transition period to the full time in-office standard effective January 6, 2026. This transition is an important step that supports the government's ongoing efforts to build a more competitive, resilient, and self-reliant Ontario."

In the five odd months since this announcement was initially made, I'm yet to be convinced that any element of this shift will result on a more competitive, resilient, and self-reliant Province, outside, perhaps, when it comes to the bottom line of businesses that strategically positioned themselves around places of government, sure in the knowledge there would be a steady stream of employees to take advantage of their products or services. They have undoubtedly sustained a heavy blow since we began to re-think our work models out of sheer necessity in 2020.

That said, however, I can see – and have been on – both sides of the coin.

When our world was quite literally locked down in that dark year, I anticipated something of a slowdown when it came to my weekly output. That didn't happen in the slightest and, as I settled into the work from home routine, I saw my own efficiency hit new heights.

Until they didn't.

I lasted about a year-and-a-half in the home office, not because the work was getting to be any more difficult to complete in the domestic setting as such, but rather because I started to feel the four walls of my home office start to close in around me. I made the decision to come back into the office earlier than many simply to preserve my own mental health and to re-establish clear lines between work and home.

Of course, I was afforded the luxury to choose – an option that is no longer available to many government workers.

At the same time, for the people I manage, my own personal experience did nothing to influence my mindset that as long as the necessary work gets done, I don't really care whether it's completed at the office, at home, or any other place where you can set down a laptop for a few hours at a time. Of course, this line of work requires reporters go out to attend various events, meetings, and conduct in-person interviews, but as long as the job gets done, that's the main thing.

The move back to the office is meeting some resistance with a January 5 report from the CBC noting that, according to OPSEU, nearly 10,000 requests for "alternative" work relations were still up for review.

"We should be asking who is this benefiting in the end?" OPSEU President JP Hornick told the CBC, adding the shift back doesn't make sense in today's work environment. "The return to work seems to be based on pressure from perhaps corporate landlords from other municipalities."

With myriad alternative options to keep employees engaged and productive, I'm inclined to agree with OPSEU that it "makes no sense in this day and age."

Yet, at the same time, one key benefit I see of going back into the office doesn't seem to be getting as much airplay – that is, the benefits of getting out of your own environment and having real face-to-face interactions once more.

As Artificial Intelligence grows at a rate previously unfathomable and increasingly becomes an inextricable part of our lives whether we like it or not, the value of true human interaction can't be understated, nor can the importance of getting out beyond the walls we've created for ourselves.

Over the holiday downtime, I have to admit I succumbed one or twice to so-called "doom-scrolling," which is defined as "continually scrolling through and read depressing or worrying content on social media or a news site, especially on a phone." And while some of the news was depressing enough, what was especially worrisome to me were those who found themselves questioning so many elements of established reality, however mundane, unable to determine real from fake, even casting doubt on some elements that are part of our collective lived experience and things we were able to see and hear for ourselves.

Some say the antidote for this is getting out and "touching grass" – and, fair enough – but, at the end of the day, that all boils down to being a fully-fledged participant in our society, and this shift certainly couldn't hurt.

But efficiency? I still have my doubts.

Time will tell, but my one friend who is now anticipating a minimum 15 hours of commute time this week, will probably have something to say as well.



Numbers and stats don't lie – we are all miracles!

by Mark Pavilons



We were given the most precious gift of all, through all the odds, twists and turns, global events. We emerged from a loving mother, and hopefully welcomed into a gracious family.

We had no choice where, when or to whom we would be gifted. Given the vast array of situations and inequities on this planet, we could have ended up on desert plains, snowy mountains or modern, urban centres.

We could have been brought into this world by a tribal shaman or aristocrat's midwife.

Unlike the Christ child, our fate, future, path, journey and entire lives were uncertain. Some of us, past our prime, are still trying to sort things out.

No matter how you look at it, YOU are nothing short of a miracle. We are a mathematical oddity.

If you examine the numbers and data in physics, chemistry, geology, cosmology and astronomy, it seems like we're are here for a reason. One scientist believes the universe "saw us coming."

Cosmologist Roger Penrose calculated that the Big Bang and the universe's initial expansion occurred within a window so narrow that any deviation would have prevented stars from forming. The late Stephen Hawking said that if the rate had differed by one part in a hundred thousand million million, the universe would have either collapsed or expanded too rapidly for stars to form.

The early universe's formation revealed astonishing uniformity and an unfathomable precision.

Perfect math if you will.

If density variations had been just 0.0001% greater, excessive gravity would have collapsed the universe; 0.0001% less, and matter would never have come together into galaxies at all.

So, my fellow miracles, the universe was like a nursery, paving the way for humans. Talk about beating the odds and being welcomed into existence.

Then came our small, quiet planet, tucked away at the outer rim of the Milky Way.

Earth maintains its position within a habitable zone so narrow it allows liquid water to exist. Just 5% closer to the sun and we'd experience a greenhouse effect like Venus (over 900°F). And 20% farther and we'd become a frozen wasteland like Mars (average -80°F).

This is a precise orbital "choreography," handmade for we humans.

Our planet's atmosphere is composed of precisely 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, 0.9% argon, and 0.1% trace gases – a mixture that sustains complex life through an extraordinarily delicate balance.

Just 4% more oxygen would make forests spontaneously combust during lightning storms, while 4% less would make complex animal life impossible.

Our gravitational pull strikes the exact balance needed for complex life – strong enough to retain an atmosphere but weak enough to allow large organisms.

British physicist Brandon Carter noted that even small gravitational variations would make trees structurally impossible, preventing ecosystems from developing oxygen-producing forests and complex land animals.

And let's not forget our biggest partner – our unusually large moon. At roughly 1/4 Earth's diameter, it stabilizes Earth's axial tilt at a nearly constant 23.5 degrees. Without this precise stabilization, Earth's tilt would chaotically oscillate between 0 and 85 degrees over millions of years, causing extreme climate fluctuations incompatible with complex life.

The moon formed through an extraordinarily precise collision with a Mars-sized protoplanet.

This cosmic accident had us "winning the lottery."

The origin of all life on this planet is even more unbelievable.

Simple protocells require at least 10-15 specifically arranged molecular systems functioning together to create life. While simple organic molecules form naturally, the leap to integrated, self-sustaining systems would require at least 382 genes arranged in a functional sequence.

Eukaryotic cells – the foundation of all complex life – arose through what evolutionary biologist Lynn Margulis described as an "improbable endosymbiotic event" where one bacterium somehow took residence inside another without being digested, eventually becoming mitochondria. Biochemist Nick Lane's analysis shows this event was so extraordinarily unlikely it probably occurred just once in Earth's history, roughly 2 billion years ago.

All of these things so far in this journey to creation are staggeringly improbable. Hello Mr. Improbable; good day Ms. Extraordinary.

And what paved the way for us to be walking upright, using our hands and brains?

Scientists say high intelligence evolved just once, concluding that intelligence is not an evolutionary inevitability.

Human brain development required a perfect storm of unlikely factors: bipedalism freeing hands, precise vocal apparatus changes enabling speech, specific dietary shifts increasing available energy, and unique social structures supporting language. Despite sharing over 98% of our DNA, even our closest primates never developed language, mathematics, technology, or abstract reasoning anywhere approaching human capability.

The staggering mathematical improbability of these and other factors aligning perfectly demands our "deep gratitude."

We exist in a universe where countless variables had to be calibrated with impossible precision for conscious life to emerge. This knowledge transcends scientific disciplines and philosophical divides, making us marvel at our extraordinary cosmic situation.

Whether through chance, necessity, design, or multiverse, our existence represents what physicist Paul Davies calls "the biological equivalent of a miracle."

Yes, my friends, you and I are miracles, so rare and mathematically unlikely that we should embrace our frozen tundra or high-rise amenities. We should be amazed every time we shake hands and smile at one another.

When you dial your phone to order Uber Eats, trillions of things would have had to come together to allow this to happen. And the person delivering your food is equally as "improbable" as you.

From one miracle to another – congratulations. I'm glad we made it this far.

(With information from Chuvic, "Were the odds ever in our favor? 25 statistical proofs that life is a miracle," Science Sensei.)



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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Overwhelmed?

I know it's a little early in the new year to be feeling overwhelmed but honestly, can ya blame a gal? There's a lot happening in Caledon (and the world) right now and frankly, a lot of it just isn't that great. We might even go so far as to say it's downright awful and while I don't want to make assumptions or "judge a book by its cover," 2026 is off to a pretty lousy start. Feeling overwhelmed by it all? Me too.

I think I'll probably leave the griping, worry and yes, even the fear, of what's happening beyond our borders for other pundits to ponder. I'm just not sure how adding my voice to the fray will make any sort of difference in the tragedies unfolding variously in the world. I'm not sure they'll make much of a difference here either for that matter, but something needs to be done so perhaps meager words here might encourage us all as a community to collectively rise up and demand help.

Illegal trucking yards continue unchecked. Applications continue to come before Council for existing yards to be rezoned to allow for parking, but often only after said parking has already begun. I believe the lingo associated with this is attempting to "zone into compliance," and Council, as I understand it, is required to hear these applications rather than dismiss them out of hand. Frustrating. As well, truck volume on our roads as a result of these yards, and the many, many large warehousing businesses that have set up shop here, has reached epidemic proportions. Add in the Votorantim Cimentos/CBM St Marys mega quarry application in Ward One and the "it's still possible" threats to Swan Lake being filled in by construction debris and that's about a million more trucks on already overcrowded roads.

Ok, so that last number was an exaggeration but the real estimates peg potential truck traffic on Highway 10 and Charleston sideroad at a minimum of 1600+ trucks per day and that number is based only on quarry estimates and doesn't include any potential fill truck traffic. Oh yes, and BTW, while Swan Lake might be enjoying a temporary reprieve, nearby Willoughby Pit has been approved to be filled with over 11,000,000 cubic metres of fill. What will be carrying that fill? Yet more trucks of course.

Next up you have the ongoing issue of Highway 413 which will chew up acre upon acre of agricultural lands, wreak havoc for years during construction, destroy habitats for species at risk and also (yes I know it doesn't even seem possible) increase truck traffic! This will be true at least for the duration of the construction period although it seems likely such an increase would be permanent with trucks barreling past us at highway speeds on the regular.

Meanwhile, as has made the rounds on local TV stations, Caledon seems to be the new epicentre for a round of extortion-related crime. It's a worrisome issue to say the least and also happening at a time when OPP resources are already stretched thin. Caledon after all covers approximately 700 sq. km of geography so policing across the breadth and depth of our community was always going to be a challenge. As we grow by upwards of 30,000 new homes and each of our villages, hamlets, small communities (along with Bolton) expand, the problem - without adequate resourcing to hire more officers - will likely only get worse.

All of this is happening at a time when the Region continues to download services to the Town of Caledon, at the directive of Premier Ford. Yes, the decision to dissolve the Region of Peel was reversed but "finding efficiencies" is still on the agenda and it remains to be seen what the longer-term impacts to Caledon residents will be in terms of both services and taxes. Will we ultimately gain more control over our roads and infrastructure? If so, which roads? Highway 10 was already repaved under the auspices of making way for Highway 413 and while both roads do (or will) run through Caledon they remain under provincial control so what influence might we have over them? Best to assume none, and even if we do control some of our more local roads, if they are deemed "Strategic Goods Movement Networks," it's likely the best we might be able to do is control and/or limit the volume and times of truck travel.

Caledon residents have been asked to absorb a significant volume of change over a relatively short period of time. Such change will continue unabated as we grow. We are also one of the many communities where Strong Mayor Powers have been granted "to accelerate key provincial priorities." We have already felt the impact of these measures too. It can be overwhelming and leave residents feeling defeatist or apathetic but please don't!

Follow in the footsteps of the people who stood up for Swan Lake, who sit on the Town's illegal land use task force or who are fighting for traffic safety. Write to the Premier, our local MPP and to our federal Member of Parliament. Talk to your local and Regional Councillor and attend and/or delegate at Council (even virtually) to hold our elected representatives accountable, and so that they are fully aware of your concerns and priorities. We all play a role in helping to make change happen, even if it's incremental, too slow, or seems impossible.

If Premier Ford can say he "heard from the people" that we apparently no longer wanted ASE (questionable) and took immediate action, there's always the hope, slim though it might be, that he'll hear, listen to and respect other types of resident concerns.

Caledon has a lot of them and while I absolutely feel overwhelmed and perhaps you do too; sitting around, staying silent and doing nothing won't change anything either.

MPP Jones reviews challenges, accomplishments through 2025

BY SAM ODROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin–Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, who serves as Ontario's Deputy Premier and Minister of Health under Premier Doug Ford, recently shared her thoughts on what was achieved in 2025 during an interview with the Citizen.

Locally, Jones said the opening of the MRI suite at Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) last fall was an incredible improvement to the community.

"I've been part of the Headwaters community for decades, and I can tell you that there's been many people over the years who have stepped up and wanted to see an MRI in our own hospital," she said.

Jones said it was incredible to see so many people step up to quickly fundraise for the MRI and get it operational last year, and it felt great to give it the stamp of approval as the Minister of Health.

She also gave kudos to HHCC for using a prefabricated building to get the MRI up and running more quickly, allowing residents to access diagnostic imaging sooner.

"It truly is game-changing not to have to spend time trying to find an open MRI, then working through paramedics to get them to the appropriate facility. It's all happening at Headwaters, and I am absolutely thrilled," Jones said. "It's got to be the highlight for me of 2025."

She also noted, as Minister of Health, 49 new MRIs were approved across Ontario last year, bringing care closer to home.

The Town of Shelburne securing financial assistance from the province to expand its water sewage treatment plant is another key investment made in 2025 that Jones lauded. She said expanding sewage and water capacity means the municipality will be able to move forward with developing more houses and a long-term care home.

Meanwhile, Orangeville received $8.1 million for improvements to its water infrastructure capacity through the province's Municipal Housing-Enabling Water System Fund stream of the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program (MHIP). This funding will support the development of approximately 3,055 new housing units in Orangeville.

One of the greatest challenges facing Dufferin–Caledon residents, according to Jones, is the growing unaffordability of day-to-day living.

"There's no doubt that people are being stretched, whether it's through just the general cost of living, whether it's the ability to find and secure accommodation, rental homes, etc.," she noted.

One initiative aimed at addressing this issue and benefiting commuters, Jones said, was the Ford government's permanent tax cut on gas.

Ontario's fuel tax was reduced from 14.7 cents per litre for gas down to 9 cents per litre in 2022, and made permanent in May 2025.

"Dufferin–Caledon has a very high percentage of commuters who travel southwest-northeast, so anything that we can do to make that a little more manageable. I think it was an important signal to take something that was year to year and make it permanent," Jones noted.

On affordability, she also lauded the Ontario government for avoiding increases to the provincial sales tax rate or provincial income tax rates.

"That's certainly sending a very clear message that we intend to do everything we can to operate within our fiscal responsibility," Jones said.

However, municipal leaders and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) have raised concerns about the province downloading costs onto municipalities by cutting services and shifting provincial responsibilities onto them. AMO argues this has resulted in higher property taxes for ratepayers or cuts to services.

Looking ahead to 2026, from the Ministry of Health's standpoint, Jones said her focus will be on continuing to improve Ontarians' access to doctors.

"We're making good progress on primary care expansions, making sure that everyone who wants to has an opportunity to sign up with a primary care practitioner, so that work will continue," she said. "For individuals who are looking, I hope that they will explore the Health Care Connect and sign up through that program."

Ontario residents can register with Health Care Connect, and once available, the Ministry of Health will connect them with a primary care provider in their community.

About 2.5 million people in the province currently lack a doctor, according to the Ontario Medical Association.

Another focus for Jones in 2026 is to continue taking a collaborative approach to governance.

"Locally, I think it is important for politicians, regardless of our political stripe or background, to be able to work together. So obviously, (Orangeville) Mayor Lisa Post, now (Dufferin County) Warden Post – there will be many issues that we will work together through," said Jones.

"At the end of the day, we both serve the same community and the same people."

A municipal election will be held across all of Ontario's 444 municipalities in October, and Jones noted a federal election may be triggered. Before concluding her interview with the Citizen, Jones said she would encourage residents to get involved and share their thoughts with all levels of government.

"If I can leave one thing with people, it's get engaged, get involved and ask questions, because we all become better representatives when we get that feedback from our constituents," Jones remarked.

COMMUNITY events

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

Bolton Kin Toonie Treasure Sale Saturday January 24th from 10 am till 1 pm at the President Building Albion Bolton Fairgrounds. Racks and racks of new/gently used apparel for men, women and children all for a toonie ! All proceeds help support community needs.

Pouring in Positivity:
A Powerful Stress-Management Retreat through Art for People Who Want More Peace
Join us for a unique retreat day combining positivity techniques through the art of Dotpainting in the historical village of Alton. The new year is the perfect moment to set gentle, lasting habits — and what could be better than learning simple, practical ways to shift toward more positively.
Learn a powerful and practical stress-relief technique through a beautiful water metaphor.
Discover how to gently and naturally replace negative thoughts with positive ones.
Learn Dot Painting from an experienced artist and create a meaningful artwork that becomes a daily reminder of the calming technique.
Spend a day in a cozy studio in the historic village of Alton
Enjoy a nourishing experience with good food and wonderful company.
Leave feeling lighter, grounded, and inspired.
Date: Sat, Feb 7 from 10 am to 3 pm
Registration fee including art supplies, lunch and snacks: $225
To register, visit https://wholepepperstudio.com/events
Email art@wholepepperstudio.com or call Janine at (519) 496-4008

Albion Bolton Historical Society - Monday, February 9, for a 7:30 PM start, at Rotary Place, 7 Rotarian Way, Bolton, Multi-purpose Room 2. NOTE: NEW MEETING LOCATION. Following a brief AGM there will be a Historical Show & Tell. Members & Guests are asked to bring a local historical item to share with the group. Guests $5.00. Questions: nhillerphoto@bell.net or 905-584-2801 visit us at boltonhistory.com

Caledon Chamber Concerts presents
Payadora Tango Ensemble
Saturday January 31st at 7:30 p.m.
Great Hall
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For tickets and more information:
www.CaledonChamberConcerts.com
Or call Janice Reed 905-838-0888

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2026 Caledon Sport Hall of Fame
INDUCTION CEREMONY

The induction ceremony for 2026 will take place on **January 28, 2026**, from 7 – 9 p.m. at the banquet hall at the Caledon East Community Complex (CECC).

ATHLETES
- Ashley Lawrence - *Soccer*
- Bruce Wanless - *Lacrosse*
- Helena Kavelaar - *Fastball*
- Jade Scognamillo - *Swimming*
- Keith Beavers - *Swimming*
- Tess Routliffe - *Swimming*

BUILDERS
- Chris Humeniuk - *Golf*
- George Gardiner - *Horseracing/Breeder*

TEAM
- 2010 U13 Lady Wanderers - *Youth Soccer*

Get your tickets today and come celebrate our 2026 inductees!
To purchase tickets visit **caledon.ca/cshof**.

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BUSINESS

YOUR SOURCE FOR BUSINESS IN CALEDON

Struggling to buy road salt? You're not the only one

Caledon businesses feel effects of road salt shortage

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Due to an early winter and the colder conditions for precipitation, road salt made an appearance earlier than usual this year, salting our roads, sidewalks, and our driveways.

Municipalities have been using their salt supplies earlier and more frequently due to the increase, resulting in quicker depletion, and with salt mines in Ontario struggling to keep up, many shelves are left empty.

GB Stone Inc. is a full-service landscape and hardscape yard servicing the Halton and Peel Regions out of Caledon. They stock and sell road salt to their landscaping customers. They have been serving the surrounding communities for 11 seasons now.

Andrew Little, with GB Stone Inc., says that they are definitely feeling a "shortage," and that getting their hands on road salt this year has been difficult.

Little adds that when it does come in, it's less frequent than usual.

In the past, he explains, their customers could come in and pick up their supplies at any time, but this year they've been prioritizing communication to let customers know when the stock arrives.

"This year has been a bit trickier," says Little. "We just keep in touch with them to say, this is what I have left, these are when my next loads are coming in. We'll just have to keep an eye on it until they get caught up so we're stocked back up again."

Little also says they saw an increase in demand earlier than usual.

"It was definitely earlier than what anybody was really expecting."

He adds that when it comes to their winter business, it's been picking up in recent years as Caledon continues to develop and grow.

"Our focus was to make sure that we could build off that and that we had products to service that community and those in it," says Little.

"It was hard this year because it was just slower coming in, trying to find it, having loads cancelled, and you're trying to build your business here. But we found a way through it and we're only halfway through the winter so we'll see how the rest of it goes. But for now, I think we seem to have it down with our customers."

Little adds that's one of the trickiest parts of their business: not knowing when winter starts or when it will end.

"It was an early start. You kind of try to prepare for it, but I don't know if you ever really can," he says.

The salt hasn't been as readily available as it was in past years, he says, but "it's also been an odd winter."

Little explains with both the early start and the weather's rapid changes from warm to cold, to freezing rain to snow, he feels it's part of the issue causing the shortage.

Geoff Coulson from Environment Canada gives an inside look at the winter season we've been experiencing thus far.

Coulson consulted the temperature and precipitation snowfall information for the winter so far, looking at the information for the past 70 days and comparing it to the long-term average. He says that "a few potential reasons for the need for road salt in different parts of the province certainly jump out when you look at some of these factors."

Firstly, temperatures in southern Ontario, including the GTA and Caledon, are experiencing colder-than-normal temperatures, he explains, which creates more of an opportunity for mixed precipitation, freezing rain, ice pellets, and snow.

Anyone who took their daily walk last Friday would have felt the spring-like temperatures, and Coulson adds that day-to-day variability is still very much something the public will have to deal with as we go through the rest of January and into February.

When looking at these longer-range models, Coulson says to expect January to remain somewhat colder than normal, especially as there is "plenty more winter left to go."

Although Southern Ontario has been experiencing these weather changes and more active weather, he says that, certainly in the north of the province, there's been another area of active storm systems that's resulted in a fair amount of snow or mixed precipitation in those areas as well, for areas near Lake Superior.

Regarding his estimate of the shortage, Coulson says it is a culmination of colder-than-normal temperatures, leading to salt use on slippery surfaces, and an active lake-effect snow season off Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, for example, with some areas already seeing more snowfall than usual.

"Normally, it's mostly northern Ontario by the second half of November you expect to see wintry weather, whereas in southern Ontario we could go through December remaining relatively mild having maybe a few snow events here and there. But this winter in particular has seen sort of active winter weather in a number of locations in the province all the way back to starting in early November," says Coulson.

"It was an early start to wintry weather," continues Coulson. "We've kept up with it over the course of the last number of weeks, and also a number of events where it wasn't necessarily snow but we had events of freezing rain or ice pellets and again those situations would demand that local road crews go out to make sure that the roadways are properly taken care of."

Going forward, he says to keep in mind the colder-than-normal temperatures anticipated, as well as the more active weather to come, especially for those ready to hit the roads.

"It's always a good reminder to stay on top of the latest forecast for their area especially if they're planning travel, not only what the weather is doing in their location but what the forecast is for their destination because the conditions can be highly variable at this time of year both in terms of temperature and precipitation so it's always a good idea to stay on top of the latest statements from Environment Canada to know what you could be dealing with on the roadways."

The shortage is not just affecting businesses, but also residents trying to find road salt for their own driveways and sidewalks.

A spokesperson from The Home Depot Canada says that they "are actively working to manage inventory of rock salt and ice melt in our stores."

They also suggested that customers may also consider products for traction, such as sand and gravel, and snow tools like shovels and snowblowers to manage winter weather.

Motion brought forward to Council regarding on-farm Diversified Use

Continued from Page A5

"One of our primary objectives is updating our on-farm diversified use policy on agricultural land so that we can maintain the integrity of the NEC plan to protect the land, but allow the farmers to stay on it and make a living that is accessory to their farming," said Kiernan.

Town Staff said with the approval of the Future Caledon Plan, the policies were approved that "relate to on-farm diversified uses that are in conformity with the provincial policies and direction to support additional opportunities for farm properties, farm owners to have secondary uses to their farm operation. It's not intended to allow high volume events that are in fact the primary use on the property, and the policy speaks to that."

Maskell stated that when putting together the Official Plan, in speaking with consultants, they shared "that the best way to deal with this going forward was to create some sort of permitting or licensing system for these on-farm diversified uses."

"This really just gets the ball rolling on this and it's important that we get rolling on this because we're going to see more and more of these places popping up across Caledon. We need to have a strategy to deal with it," says Maskell.

The motion was unanimously approved and will return to Council at its January 27 meeting for final ratification.



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SPORTS

Hall Wolfpack Football Gala celebrates senior squad's historic four-championship season



Wolfpack players Bryce Prieur (Iron Man Award), Trey Robinson (Patrick Marcello Catholic Leadership Award), and Tyler Fagan (Courage and Dedication Award) won prestigious prizes at the second-annual Hall Football Gala. PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

BY JIM STEWART

The Hall Wolfpack Senior Football team celebrated "an historic season" at its second-annual Gala on Thursday night.

Emcee and Wolfpack Coach Tommy Chondronikolas's opening remarks were met with thunderous applause.

"You've set a new bar for excellence. Those banners will fly in the gym. They are the pride of the entire community."

Coach Chondronikolas's warmth and firmness of purpose were embraced by the 175 attendees. As emcee, he kept "the trains running on time" and celebrated his team's success, including the Wolfpack coaching staff's strategic approaches to the game. A rich video compilation of plays, delivered at crucial points in the season, was shown to illustrate the coaching staff's meticulous preparation for its eleven games and the players' brilliance in executing them.

The long-time Hall staff member guided the group through a highlight reel of the club's biggest moments, including footage of Hall's blowout victory at the Metro Bowl in Toronto's Varsity Stadium and the season's crowning moment at the OFSAA Central Bowl at the University of Guelph.

The veteran coach moved through an ambitious agenda that honored dozens of student-athletes for reaching the pinnacle of success.

The Robert F. Hall cafeteria stage, from which Coach Chondronikolas delivered his opening remarks, was lined with green and gold Wolfpack helmets and framed by the four banners and championship trophies the team captured in October and November.

Against that backdrop, Hall Principal Ricardo Scalzo welcomed the players, coaches, parents, staff, and guests.

"We're celebrating something extraordinary. I've never been part of something so special in all my years of teaching. I saw what a football program can do for a community. Schools with football programs are better schools."

In addition to praising the value of football at Hall, Principal Scalzo closed his succinct address by reminding the student-athletes to be appreciative of their athleticism and the dedication of their coaching staff.

"Never forget your talents are gifts from God. Thanks to the coaching staff for forming these young men."

The young men of the East Caledon school's senior football squad ran the table in the Fall—capturing the ROPSSAA Tier One championship, followed in quick succession by 905 Bowl and Metro Bowl titles, and culminating in a Central Bowl at OFSAA.

The historic season was chockful of brilliant individual performances and six Wolfpack players received major awards: Kyamni Stanley – Most Improved Player; D'Eandre Burke – Rookie of the Year; Owen Kenny – Special Team Player of the Year; Emrick Gauvin – Lineman of the Year; Mason Burke – Most Valuable Defensive Player of the Year; and Nicholas Pagani – Most Valuable Offensive Player of the Year.

Coach Jonathan Beresford took the stage, acknowledged that his football club "had one common goal," and presented "Wolfpack by the Numbers": "10-1 record; 55 sacks; 201 points scored and 84 points scored against; 21 interceptions; 4 championships; 11 coaches; 64 practices; 26 touchdowns; 41 'Rizz' points; 51 players; and 27 film sessions."

After the sparkling statistics were reflected upon by an appreciative audience, the most poignant moment of the evening was a speech delivered by Assistant Coach Sean O'Keefe whose wife, Elizabeth, passed away on December 23. O'Keefe praised his wife's bravery in light of her terminal illness.

Although his wife had been hospitalized in the Fall, he noted that, "it was Elizabeth's wish that I should coach the Wolfpack throughout the playoffs – despite her sickness."

O'Keefe thanked the coaching staff for their collective support.

"My football family has been there for me."

Finally, he directed his kind and appreciative words towards the fifty-one players: "I've never felt so surrounded by love."

Coach O'Keefe pushed through his moving speech and presented the Courage and Dedication Award to Offensive Line stalwart Tyler Fagan who appreciated his coach's moving words: "I was honored to be presented with this very meaningful award. I wouldn't be in this position that I am without Coach O'Keefe. He coached me with the Orangeville Outlaws, too, and has had a huge impact on me."

The Iron Man Award was presented to Bryce Prieur for his "exceptional endurance and versatility."

"Iron Man" Prieur accepted the award on crutches—the most charmingly ironic moment of the evening—and was appreciative of the coaches who motivated him over his seasons on the team.

"It means a lot to receive this from my coaches. I've appreciated their work. This award is about my consistency. I never missed a practice. It was all about showing up and building a winning team."

The Patrick Marcello Catholic Leadership Award for "leading a virtuous life and demonstrating pedigree on the gridiron and in the classroom" was presented to Trey Robinson.

The affable senior was given the mic for a moment and he noted, "There was no better way to go out."

After he exited the stage, Robinson expressed his gratitude: "It makes me feel great. It's all about being a part of a family. I've spent the season looking after my family on the field. Together, we succeeded at the highest level. It shows that Hall is a place where faith and athletics meet."

The 150 attendees expressed their hearty approval of the character award recipients and were treated to a delicious meal featuring porchetta (savory, juicy Italian roast of boneless pork), rose pasta, tossed salad, steamed vegetables, roasted potatoes, and freshly-baked buns prepared and served by the school's Culinary Arts students and staff.

After dinner, the Hall Coaching Staff presented the Academic Athletic Award to durable running back Lucas Carson-Pedri who starred on the gridiron and in the classroom. Carson-Pedri—who rolled up impressive numbers in the backfield – accrued a 93.1% average to top his fifty teammates. Fifteen members of the Wolfpack made the Honor Roll and were recognized for their diligence.

In addition to the focus on academics and the school's student-athletes, event organizers celebrated the success of current Alumni Wolfpack players in post-secondary destinations, including Delroy Njonguo and Roy Vanderveen (Waterloo Warriors), Layomi Ojutalayo and Delphyn Ngaleu (Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks), Daniel Dove (Windsor Lancers), Kentrall Amanatey (Queens Golden Gaels), Joseph Campanelli (York University Lions), and Leo Palmieri (NCAA D3 Alfred University).

Notably, the achievements of Layomi Ojutalayo at WLU were foregrounded, including the former Wolfpack star being named Captain of the Golden Hawks twice in his OUA career, including when Laurier won the 116th Yates Cup and the Uteck Bowl. Ojutalayo—who won the Bill Haggstrom Trophy at WLU and was selected for the 2026 College Gridiron Showcase in Texas—delivered congratulations to the team via a video link from the Lone Star State.

A Note of Thanks

On a personal note, I'd like to thank the Wolfpack for an unexpected honor bestowed on me at the Gala. The team acknowledged The Caledon Citizen's extensive coverage of the team's championship drive and presented a 2025 Builder Award to me.

In addition to this meaningful keepsake, I was asked to deliver an impromptu speech to the attendees.

Getting a writing award makes this three-newspaper gig even more satisfying. It was great to see copies of The Citizen getting picked up by attendees as mementos which document a great local team. The 2025 Wolfpack Senior Football Team has made a great case for enshrinement in the Caledon Sports Hall of Fame – when the players have retired from the game. That on-stage reunion in the not-so-distant future will be an enjoyable one to cover.





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OBITUARIES

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ELIZABETH "BETTY" HARDIE (NÉE MCCONNELL)

August 25, 1939 – December 26, 2025



Elizabeth "Betty" Hardie of Orangeville, Ontario, passed away peacefully on December 26, 2025.

Betty was a devoted wife, loving mother, and cherished grandmother whose greatest joy came from bringing family together. She was known for her warmth, her generous spirit, and her love of hosting family gatherings filled with conversation, laughter, and connection.

Born in Scotland, Betty and David made the courageous decision in the 1960s to leave behind family and friends to build a new life in Canada. In her adopted home, she carved out her own close-knit community of family and friends and created a life defined by love, dedication, and resilience.

Betty spent many years as a valued employee of the Clorox (Glad) Company before retiring. Her strong work ethic and commitment to those around her were evident in all she did.

She is survived by her beloved husband, David Hardie, with whom she shared 64 years of marriage; her children Andrew Hardie (Joventina Alcayaga) and Linda Watson (Harvey Watson); her five grandchildren Sarah Watson, Thomas Watson, Oz Watson, Marybeth "Myles" Hardie, and Mark Hardie; and her sister Roseleen Crosbie.

A private family ceremony was held on December 27, 2025. A Celebration of Life in Betty's honour is being planned for March.

The family would like to extend their very heartfelt gratitude to the doctors, nurses, and staff at Headwaters Health Care Centre for the wonderful and compassionate care that Betty received.

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

A tree will be planted in memory of Elizabeth in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville.

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

PAUL GORDON NORTON

OCTOBER 26, 1962 – JANUARY 10, 2026



We are saddened by the loss of our dearest Paul Gordon Norton in his 63rd year. Peacefully in his sleep Paul passed away into a better place.

Paul leaves behind his loving partner Beverlee Judges, loving and caring brother Timothy, and his loving and blessed mother Patricia. He was predeceased by his beloved wife MaryAnn and his father David.

Paul grew up in Orangeville, attending Princess Margaret Public School and ODSS, plus Fanshawe College in London.

Paul participated in many sports; hockey being his first love – he was a goalie and played for many teams over the years.

Cremation has taken place with a private family burial. A celebration of life will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers donations in Paul's memory may be made to the Collingwood General & Marine Hospital. Friends may visit Paul's online Book of Memories at *www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com*

ALMA BERNICE CODD (FIELDHOUSE)

MAY 17, 1930 - JANUARY 5, 2026



Bernice was born in Vaughan Township on May 17, 1930, and was the oldest child of the late Harry and the late Alma Fieldhouse (nee Weatherill). She was the beloved wife of Terry Codd for 53 years and devoted mother to Charlie (Heather), Lynn (Ian, deceased), Jan (George), Doug (Vanessa), Barb (Paul) and Bruce (deceased). She was the loving Gramma and Nan to Kelly (Jason), Bruce (Nicole), Nancy (Brad), Brock (Laura), Kent (Amanda), Dane (Lindsay), Charlie (Breanne) and Ira (Tara). Loving great grandmother of eleven. Sister to Don (Annie) (both deceased), Bruce (deceased) (Gladys), and Ann (Trevor, deceased). Bernice and Terry began their married life in Woodbridge in 1951.

In 1955, they and their then three children moved to Kinistino, Saskatchewan, Terry's hometown. In 1962, they moved back to Ontario with their six children and subsequently moved to Grand Valley, Ontario where they purchased a farm and began a dairy operation. After the farm was sold Bernice and Terry began enjoying retired life. During those years they enjoyed travelling to Florida and Saskatchewan yearly, gardening and spending time with family and friends. Bernice had many hobbies as well; quilting, knitting and crocheting were just a few. She also volunteered her time at Headwaters Health Centre. After Terry passed away in 2004 Bernice moved to Orangeville and then Arthur. Bernice loved a good game of cribbage, Rummio and euchre. She also enjoyed watching the Toronto Blue Jays and curling on television.

In accordance with Bernice's wishes cremation has taken place.

A family celebration will take place later.

Donations may be made to Matthew's House in Alliston and the Canadian Cancer Society in Bernice's memory.

Online condolences can be made at *www.imfunerals.com*

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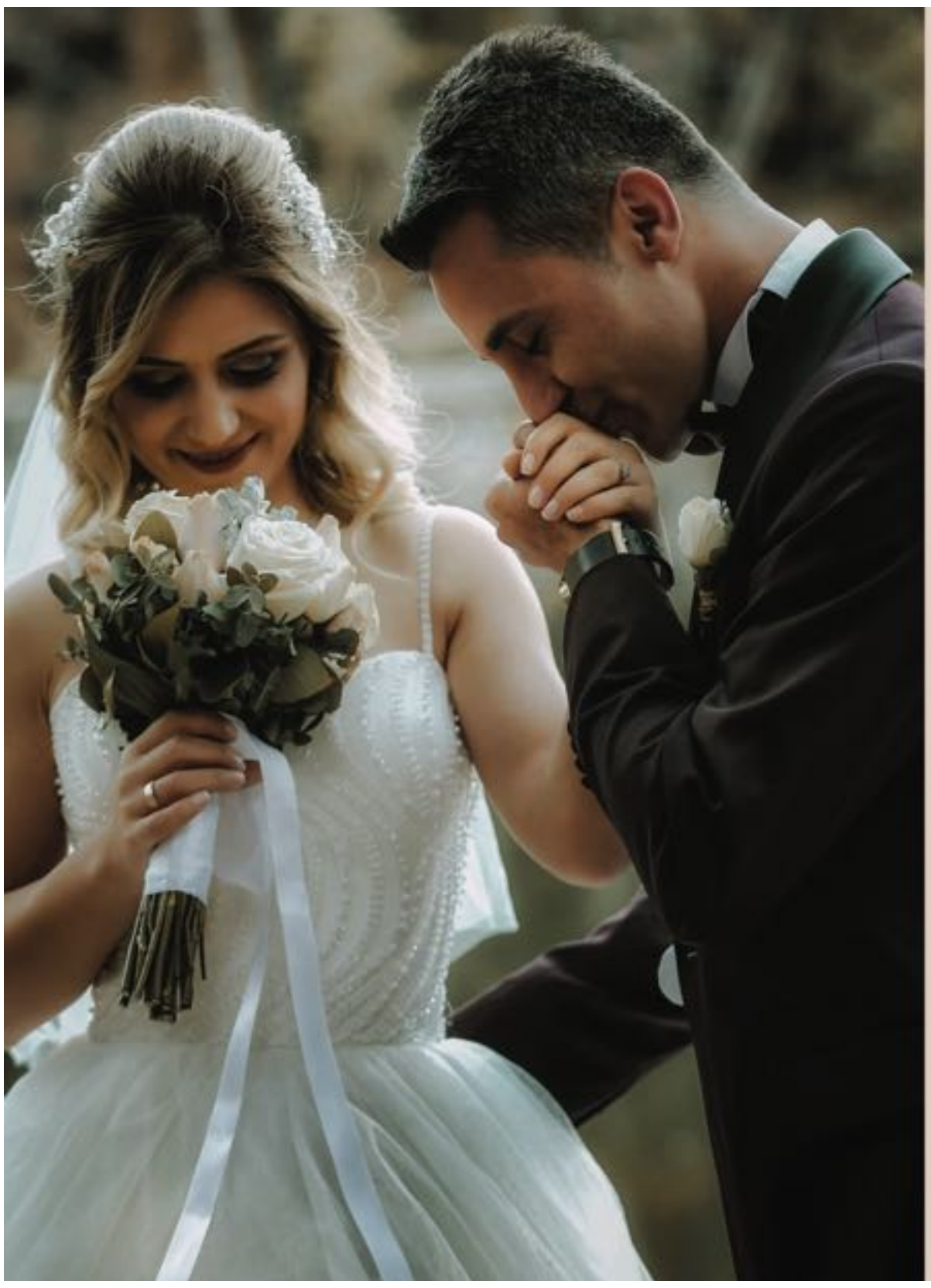
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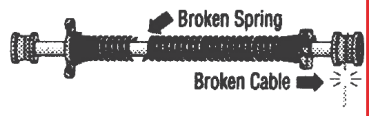
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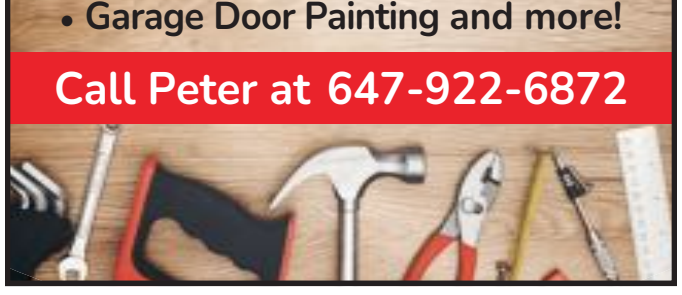
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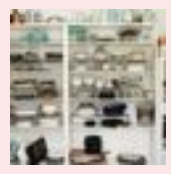
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Admirals capture "must-win game" by blasting the Blades 5-2 in penalty-filled contest

BY JIM STEWART

After getting thumped 6-1 on home ice by the Collingwood Blues on Thursday night and shut out 8-0 by the Menace in Milton on Friday night, the ninth-place Caledon Admirals were in dire need of a win versus the visiting Oakville Blades on Sunday afternoon.

Curtis Freeman led the resurgent Caledon offense with two goals and Braeden Van Gelder completed 2/3 of a "Gordie Howe Hat Trick" with a goal and a fighting major to inspire the Fleet to a convincing 5-2 conquest of the tenth-place Blades.

Nate Brentnell and Cole Kirton added one goal each to keep Caledon (16-19-1-3) in the playoff race and put Oakville (11-27-0-2) further in the rear view mirror.

The penalty-filled Admirals-Blades matinee at the Mayfield RC could have been an episode in the new season of Shoresy. Forty-seven infractions were whistled down by game officials, including a pair of dustups featuring Christian Armstrong of the Blades and Jack Fang of the Admirals in the second period and Oakville's Tyler Shaver and Van Gelder in the third period. All four players earned game misconducts for dropping the flippers. In all, nine misconducts were meted out.

The embattled Admirals played with urgency on Sunday afternoon in their must-win mid-January game.

Van Gelder's goal eight minutes into the first period—set up by Nolan Keeler's 25th assist of the season—staked Caledon to a 1-0 lead. Van Gelder recently returned from a two-month stint in the QMJHL with Cape Breton. His veteran presence on the Admirals' injury-depleted blue line steadied the team as did the restoration of his captaincy.

Eighty-three seconds after Van Gelder lit the lamp, Freeman—with helpers from Brentnell and Clarence Allain—gave the Admirals a two-goal cushion going into the first intermission.

Thirteen minutes into the middle frame, Brentnell's power play goal—assisted by Cam Lang and Xavvier Rowe—made it 3-0.

Freeman's second of the game came on the penalty kill when he slipped the puck past Blades netminder Max Grovestine—a January 8 addition to the Oakville roster, courtesy of the Newmarket Hurricanes.

Freeman's shortie was set up by Lang's 19th and Allain's 28th assists of the season, respectively.

Although the Blades countered with two late goals in the third period by Tanner Nettleton and Matthew Ross, the Fleet calmed the waters. Caledon goaltender James Meredith turned aside Oakville's extra-attacker incursions and Kirton fired an empty netter with 1:59 left on the clock. Meredith turned aside 32 of the 34 shots he faced to earn the much-needed W.

The win allowed the Admirals to pick up two points on the eighth-place Rebellion. The struggling King squad lost 2-0 to the powerhouse Toronto Patriots at the Zancor Centre on Sunday afternoon. It was the Rebellion's eighth loss in nine games. Admirals' veteran forward Deacon King was traded to the Rebellion on January 8 and earned an assist on his new team's opening goal against Georgetown on Friday night.

King's homecoming will take place on Thursday, January 15 when his new club takes on the Admirals in a game rife with playoff implications. Puck drop will be 7:30 PM.

On Saturday, January 17, Caledon will travel to Georgetown and King will travel to Oakville as teams jockey for the last playoff spot in the OJHL West Division. King (20-16-1-0) has a five-point lead in the standings with two games in hand on Caledon.

Caledon Chamber Concerts to present Payadora Tango Ensemble

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon Chamber Concerts is gearing up for its January concert on January 31, featuring the Payadora Tango Ensemble.

Payadora is an award-winning chamber music ensemble that performs original compositions and arrangements of a core repertoire, drawing from Argentinian/Uruguayan Tango and Folk music.

The ensemble features Robert Horvath on Piano, Joseph Phillips on double bass/Guitar, Rebekah Wolkstein on Violin, Elbio Fernandez on vocals, and Drew Jurecka on Violin.

President of Caledon Chamber Concerts Gordon Morton says that those in attendance will get far more than just tango at January's performance, adding that the ensemble is extremely eclectic and has something that appeals to everyone.

The ensemble performed a few years earlier, and Morton says people raved about it, although he adds that he was initially apprehensive, expecting mostly traditional tango composers.

To that, Rebekah Wolkstein, now both the artistic director for Caledon Chamber Concerts and musician in Payadora, responded that they do something quite different, including music composed by their own members.

Up until last year, Morton was the artistic director before Wolkstein took over,

"I took a chance. I said, well, I trust you. I trust your judgment," says Morton, remembering their conversation. "It was such a success. When she proposed it again for this season, it was a no-brainer."

Payadora has been called a "World Class Contemporary Chamber Ensemble," and they are "tango and beyond."

Morton adds that not only is their music enjoyable, but the group's interactions are as well.

"You can tell when they're performing, they really enjoy performing together. They interact well with each other. They interact with the audience. It makes for a great audience experience."

For those who may have the same apprehensions Morton originally did, he says, "take a chance."

"You won't be disappointed. They are classical musicians, but it's not highfalutin classical music, it's music for everybody. Everybody can get something out of this concept. It's so different that it's fun. It's fun to watch them. It's fun to listen to. And it's a great venue."

The concert will be held at St. James Anglican Church in Caledon East.

In the last couple of years, Morton says they have made admission free for those 18 and younger.

"We just want to encourage younger people to get involved with this type of music with all types of the broad range of classical genre to introduce them to it. They can actually come and experience it and find out that it's not that scary."

This allows the concerts to become more of a family affair, allowing those of all ages to come and enjoy the music, he says.

Morton began Caledon Chamber Concerts back in 2003, after attending house concerts a couple held in his neighbourhood, and when the end of those concerts was announced, Morton says he thought it would have been a real shame to see it come to a close.

"This is something that involves the community, and it was a great thing," he says.

From 2003 to 2007, he took over and ran it entirely on his own at St. James, and in 2007, it was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization and created a board of directors.

"As they say, the rest is history."

From 2003 to now, Morton says it has been satisfying to see it grow to what the Caledon Chamber Concerts is today.

"It's personally satisfying to see that it's still going after all this time, but also the fact that we've had a lot of new audience members."

For those looking to attend the upcoming concert on January 31, tickets are available on Eventbrite or cash at the door, with the concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

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