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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 22 No. 36 905-727-3300

TheAuroran.com

FREE

Week of June 23, 2022



NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY UNVEILING

Town Park was abuzz on Tuesday as a new art installation was unveiled to mark National Indigenous Peoples Day. The piece, "Aamoo" / "Bee" is an interactive art piece commissioned by the York Region Arts Council and produced in collaboration with artist Donald Chretien (Nipissing First Nation) with a cultural narrative by Ojibwe Elder Shelley Charles of Georgina Island First Nation. "Aamoo - The Bee plays an important role in the plant world pollinating berries, including the first berry of the season, the strawberry Odemin; the heart berry representing the rejuvenation of the changing seasons." Pictured here is Traditional Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley who presided over the unveiling alongside Mayor Tom Mrakas.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Food Pantry seeing shifting dynamic as affordability crisis continues

Give where you live, food banks urge

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Inflation has hit everyone, but some are better able to manage the hit than others.

That is particularly evident at the Aurora Food Pantry, which has seen significant shifts in their clientele as affordability

continues to be in crisis mode.

"In addition to the people who have been coming to the Food Pantry for quite some time, we're now seeing two different groups: we're seeing more people who are coming in from other countries who are landing here and needing some help to get going, and that includes people from the Ukraine and trying to help them," says Allison Stuart, Board Chair of the Aurora Food Pantry. "Although they have come to Canada, many of them are still living

out of a suitcase because they have been temporarily housed while more permanent housing is being found. They are still struggling with that, and we're trying to be really flexible with that population so we're able to support them as they continue their terrible, terrible struggle.

"The other group of people we're seeing are people who are working full time, or who may have full time and part time jobs, who have never been to a food

Continued on page 23

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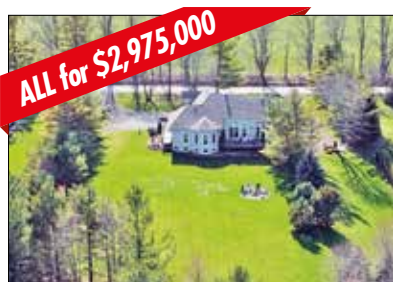
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LOVE IS LOVE - Pflag York Region were among the several community organizations who filled Newmarket's Main Street on Saturday for the York Region Pride Parade. Pflag, which provides support, resources, and education, to the 2SLGBTQ+ community and their families, sent a powerful message in support of the Trans community. For full coverage of the Parade, see Pages 20 and 21.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

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TOWN OF AURORA

NOTICE BOARD

June 23, 2022



Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday, June 28	6:15 p.m.	Council Chambers	Audit Committee
Tuesday, June 28	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Wednesday, June 29	6 p.m.	Video Conference	Aurora Appeal Tribunal
Tuesday, July 5	9:30 a.m.	Video Conference	Joint Council Committee
Tuesday, July 5	5:45 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, July 5	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee

*General Committee, Public Planning and Council meetings are available to the public in-person and via live stream on the Town's YouTube Channel.

What's Happening

CURBSIDE GIVEAWAY

Place your unwanted, gently used items labelled FREE at the curb for other residents to take.

Saturday, June 25, 2022
aurora.ca/wasteevents



AURORA'S 2022 CANADA DAY FESTIVITIES

DANCE IN THE PARK
Thursday, June 30
7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Aurora Town Park • 49 Wells Street

CANADA DAY FESTIVITIES
Friday, July 1
10 a.m. Parade Yonge Street
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Lambert Willson Park
135 Industrial Parkway North

FAMILY ACTIVITIES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE
INFLATABLES LIVE MUSIC

FIREWORKS
Presented by Healthy Planet

Saturday, July 2
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Aurora Town Park • 49 Wells Street
Enjoy the Aurora Farmers Market and Artisan Fair.
Dress in red and white and earn a prize!
theaurorafarmersmarket.com

aurora.ca/canadaday
#AuroraCanadaDay • 905-726-4762

We reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.



JUNE IS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH



Get out and play!
aurora.ca/recreationparksmoonth

aurora.ca/recreationparksmoonth



Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition

Feature Artist: Jaqueline Edwards - Fur, Feather and Fin: A Celebration of Nature

For the month of June, Aurora's Online Skylight Gallery is featuring works by Jaqueline Edwards. A local artist and member of several art societies who finds great inspiration in the natural world, and in particular wildlife. In her exhibition, "Fur, Feather and Fin: A Celebration of Nature", viewers can expect beautiful imagery of local wildlife and animals from around the world featuring some floral themes. Her paintings generally reflect realism, but she also enjoys exploring texture and combining abstract elements with a realistic focal.

All work is for sale, please contact Andrea Araujo at aaaraujo@aurora.ca if you are interested in purchasing a piece. View this online gallery at aurora.ca/skylightgallery.

Canada Day - Holiday Schedules

Have fun over the holidays! We have programs and activities for everyone to enjoy.
Visit our Holiday Schedules webpage for full details at aurora.ca/holidayschedules.



Register to become a candidate in the 2022 Municipal Election.
Register from May 2 to August 19
aurora.ca/candidateregistration

PROTECT YOUR DOGS FROM TICKS AND FLEAS



Flea and Tick season is here

When using the trail system keep your dog's away from long grass and wooded areas. Ticks are tiny parasites that feed on the blood of animals and humans and can transmit several diseases including Lyme disease that both animals and humans can contract. Fleas are tiny wingless insects about the size of a grain of sand and brown in color that lay eggs and the cycle of laying eggs will continue if not treated.

Check your pets for ticks and fleas daily, especially after spending time outdoors and visit your veterinarian for regular checkups.

Spring & Summer 2022 Program Guide

Our Spring & Summer 2022 Program Guide has arrived. Registrations are now open for Recreation and Aquatic Leadership programs. Registration starts on June 13 for Aquatic Learn to Swim summer programs. The guide can be viewed online at aurora.ca/recguide.

Pre-registration is required for registered programs and recommended for drop-in activities. Register online at aurora.ca/eplay or pay in-person at one of our recreation facilities (A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C.).

Summer Camps 2022 Program Guide

Summer Camps are coming to Aurora! Our Summer Camps 2022 program guide has arrived. For full details, please visit us online at aurora.ca/summercamps.

Registrations are now open and pre-registration is required. Register online at aurora.ca/eplay or in-person at one of our recreation facilities (A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C.).

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Garden Tour showcases green thumbs across Aurora



Local gardeners are gearing up for this weekend’s garden tour hosted by the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society. Pictured here in the garden of tour participant Maureen Crosby (right) are Linda Blachford, Sue White, and Judy Ryan. **Auroran photo by Brock Weir**

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Maureen Crosby didn’t inherit her green thumb.

Growing up in a townhouse in downtown Toronto that was practically lawn-free, as a teen she would haul buckets of dirt up to her third-floor bedroom and place them on the roof outside her window.

Before long, she had a thriving makeshift garden to call her own.

While she can’t explain its origin, a passion for gardening was born and now that she and her husband are settled into their “forever home” on Dunning Avenue, local plant-lovers can see the fruits of her labour this weekend on the Garden Aurora’s annual Aurora Garden Tour.

Set to take place across the community this Sunday, June 26, the tour runs from 12 noon to 4 p.m., featuring gardens of just about every variety – all chosen for their “wow” factor.

For members of Garden Aurora (formally the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society), a very personal “wow” factor is the fact they are back after a long pandemic hiatus.

“In 2019, we identified eight gardens for the 2020 tour,” says Garden Aurora’s Judy Ryan. “We had to cancel 2020 and we asked those eight gardens if they could recommit for 2021 and they all said yes and were looking forward to it. 2021 came along and we had to cancel again. Six of the eight committed again for 2020, so we had to find two more gardens for 2022.”

Keeping to their commitment never to repeat a garden within the decade of a span, this year’s tour will feature seven gardens completely new to the tour and one “fan favourite” from the past.

Among the beautiful greenspaces is the Crosbys.

The couple has created beautiful gardens wherever they have lived in Aurora, but now on Dunning, which they have deemed their “forever home,” Maureen has created a sanctuary that is deliberately cottage-like in feel.

“I was flattered to be asked,” she says, noting she was asked to participate once before but had to bow out. “This year I’m

ready!”

“We had a small townhouse in Toronto and there was really no garden and no backyard, just a parking spot. My room went out onto the roof and I would put milk crates full of dirt out there and plant flowers by climbing out the window. After that, life kind of got in the way [but when we could] we went crazy with the gardens and the planning. We don’t have a cottage, so we wanted to make this a place to enjoy over summer.”

The criteria for Garden Aurora in selecting each year’s showcases is that they are owner-created, owner-maintained and offer a variety of different types of gardens.

“We want people to go out and feel that what they are looking for they can achieve, too,” says Ms. Ryan. “We want each garden to be different from each other because it is not a competition. We’re looking for achievable, owner-created, owner-maintained, and something that people are going to remember and hopefully learn from and maybe try to re-create some parts of it in their own landscape. We also look for different sizes. We are focused really hard on finding small gardens on the east side of Town but parking over there is prohibitive and really, really tough [but we] do have two gardens on that side of Town. You don’t need to have a big landscape to garden. You just need to want to do it.”

People not only want to do it but they want to see it as well, and tickets have been going fast.

“A lot of people are dying just to bust out [of their homes] and there is such a level of enthusiasm,” says Ms. Ryan.

To book your ticket for the Aurora Garden Tour, visit New Roads Garden Centre (17235 Yonge Street, Newmarket), Wild Birds Unlimited (16655 Yonge Street, Newmarket), Black Forest Gardens (15445 Keele Street, King), Luda Flower Salon (130 Hollidge Boulevard, Aurora), and the Aurora Farmers’ Market on June 25.

Tickets, which are \$15, will also be available at Garden #1 on the self-guided tour at 197 McClellan Way on the day of the tour itself.

For more information, visit www.gardenaurora.ca.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Public Ownership: The Secret Weapon in the Fight Against Climate Change

The impacts of the climate emergency can already be seen across our country. In particular, these impacts are becoming increasingly evident through its impacts on Indigenous and Northern communities, from devastating wildfires and record droughts to disappearing permafrost and extensive flooding. It is clear that urgent, collective action is needed.

We need a range of tools, including public ownership, to begin immediately investing in climate mitigation and adaptation. Private Members' Bill C-245 uses public ownership to support communities in the fight climate change.

It proposes that the Canada Infrastructure Bank (a crown corporation) be reformed to remove the disastrous public-private partnership models and focus instead on public investment with priority given to infrastructure projects that will support communities fighting climate change.

It's time we propose solutions in terms of public ownership including as a primary tool in the fight against climate change. The Canada Infrastructure Bank should be delivering for communities instead of corporations, but it is failing to do so. It is currently sitting on \$35 Billion, and has yet to see one project to completion in its nearly five years of operation. It has no particular commitment to climate action or Indigenous governance and reconciliation. The Bank could be so much more, including the issuer of green bonds to allow for the realization of the infrastructure needed as part of a green new deal.

We have the capacity to meet our climate targets through public ownership and the power of public investment. We have the power to build a more sustainable, climate-resilient future, but Bill C-245 is crucial for ensuring that communities are given the tools and funds needed to implement these necessary projects.

*For more information on Bill C-245,
go to [nikiashton.ndp.ca/news/liberals-
must-put-people-first-fight-against-
climate-change](http://nikiashton.ndp.ca/news/liberals-
must-put-people-first-fight-against-
climate-change)*

Linda Barson
East Gwillimbury

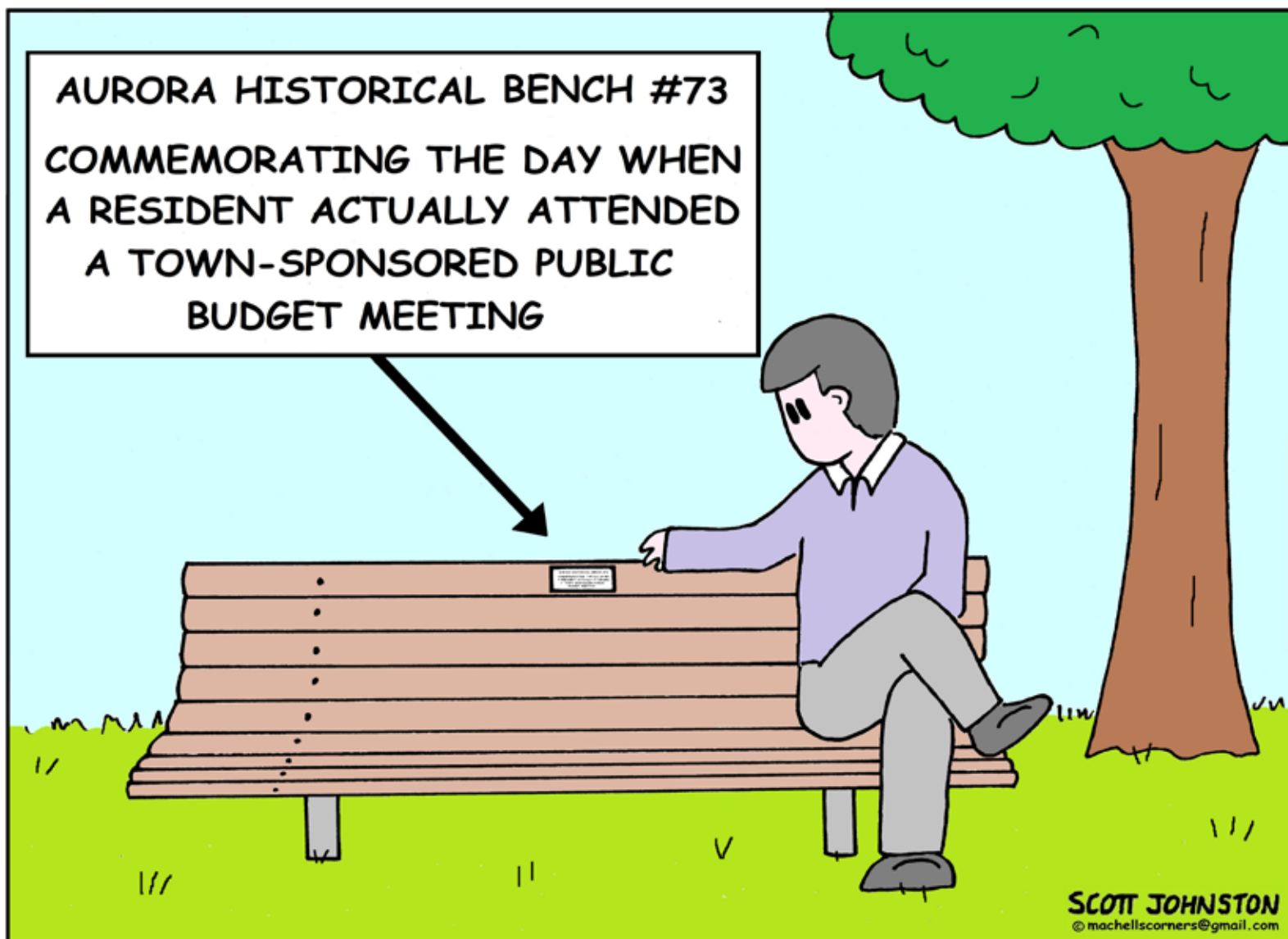
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Deadline for submissions
is Sunday at 1 p.m.

Machell's Corners



Reverence for well-placed irreverence



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

the less than rapid-fire gags of Air Farce's Mike from Canmore and Jock McBile (John Morgan) were fair game.

Perhaps this is why when we had our in-class elections, with the class divided up into the major political parties and “party leaders” duly appointed, it was a less than reverent affair – until it wasn’t.

One of the go-getters representing the former Progressive Conservative party and its leader, Jean Charest (everything old is new again!) went rather method in his portrayal, being the only “party leader” to produce election posters for distribution throughout the school. Given our steady diet of television irreverence, however, this spilled over into the campaign when many students took the posters that had been distributed, opened our respective pencil cases, and let our artistry fly in the forms of Groucho mustaches, Coke bottle glasses, etc., scrawled over the leader’s face.

Naturally, this riled one of the two teachers, who collected the photocopied fliers, marched us out into the hall for a sound chastising and a not-so-veiled threat of sending all the offending flyers to Charest's office to make an example out of us.

If he actually followed through, we never heard anything further, but maybe this was the beginning of the end and the start of a new trend.

Although 22 Minutes is still on the air, it seems the era of good-natured irreverence on our leaders is well and truly over.

Maybe the stakes are simply too high these days as people, no matter what political colour you bleed, continually push the idea that we're collectively in the "fight for our lives." There doesn't seem to be any room for humour, or even looking at the lighter side of things.

Foibles still come into the fore, of course, but at best they're looked at through a gravely serious lens or, at worst, weaponized into personal attacks or targeted attempts at character assassination.

While I enjoy covering politics, I couldn't help but feel a sense of relief when this year's Provincial Election was done. Why? Simply to get a break from television ads and video ads online that focused less on policy and what each leader or party was pledging to do for the Province over the next four or five years, and more on the messenger.

Despite what the Progressive Conservatives wanted to sell us, Kathleen Wynne (and anyone who was ever in her orbit) was not the boogeyman responsible for all of Ontario's ills. Nor, despite the photos they chose to depict her, was Andrea Horwath ready to menace Ontarians at a moment's notice. Nor, as the opposition parties would have us believe, is/was Doug Ford at the root of everything in Ontario that had to change, and nor was a vote for the Greens and Mike Schreiner nothing less than flushing your ballot down the toilet.

At the Federal level, not every policy presented by the Liberals is a bad one simply because of your personal feelings towards Justin Trudeau as a person or; worse, his hairdo or his sock selection. Nor was every effort by the opposition to hold the Feds to account ridiculous simply because they were offended somehow by Andrew Scheer's dimples or any other alleged foibles highlighted by all successive Conservative leaders, permanent or interim.

In my view, the last couple of elections at both the Provincial and Federal levels have only illustrated how far our public discourse has fallen from a time not-so-far-removed from the present and the reasons for this are well worth a deep dive another day.

But, with another election on the horizon, this time for the persons eager to represent us at the municipal level, it can only be hoped that debate sticks to the vision each person has for our community, including the skills they hope to bring to the table, and less on pure and unadulterated vitriol and very personal attacks.

Apparently we can't handle the levity anymore.

In my more than 10 years covering municipal politics, so far these lower tier trips to the ballot box have been essentially immune to this type of politicking that serves no one, but, unlike the Federal sphere, there was once a time when Provincial politics was blessedly pedestrian.

Hopefully we're still able to keep this genie very firmly in the bottle.

THE AURO^{Local}RAN
Aurora's Community Newspaper

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 Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.

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Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.



The Aurora Museum & Archives is thirsty for... Endemic Elixirs!

Through the early 20th century, small bottling firms dominated markets that were too far from the big cities. The Aurora Beverage Company operated on Berczy Street from 1949 – 1959, bottling popular local drinks such as Kik Cola, Mandalay Punch, and the above, Sun-dial (2006.4). The Aurora Beverage Company delivered their products all the way up to Lake Simcoe and it is possible that this drink is named after an old tourist landmark of a giant sundial in Orillia. When it's hot this summer and you pop off the top of your drink, remember the sweet flavours of Aurora Beverages!



Time Travellers Diary

By Jacqueline Stuart

Alleyways

Recently I took a little trip in time that had nothing to do with Aurora – until it did.

I was looking at photographs I took years ago of alleyways in Victoria's Chinatown, and the photos made me think of Aurora's alleyways. Admittedly, they are not quite so long or attractive or numerous as Victoria's passages, but they are ours!

I am not talking about planned pedestrian pathways but about alleys which developed because there happened to be useful space between buildings.

On the west side of Yonge Street, for instance, there is an alley between Yonge and the Temperance Street parking lot.

Until the late 1920s there was a gap between the buildings on either side of the present steps.

Then the landowner of the day made the somewhat risky investment of filling in that space with retail accommodation on the ground floor and an apartment above. Those spaces were scarcely wider than the span of a tall man's outstretched arms, but they did find tenants.

On April 14 in 1972, a fire started in the Textile Bargain Centre, the occupant of the ground floor space at the time, and quickly destroyed it and the apartment above. When those areas had been enclosed the side windows of the existing buildings had just been filled with boards. The fire made short work of those barriers and the interiors of the adjacent buildings were severely damaged.

Two years, later the Town purchased the site, removed what remained of the structure, and created the pedestrian link between Yonge Street and the parking area to the west. The old window openings were properly bricked up!

Across Yonge Street and slightly to the north is another alleyway with a bit of history. It runs east and west along the south wall of Paul's Barber Shop. The width of this little paved passage makes the one across the street look like a superhighway, but this is not an official walkway. If you visit to have a closer look, just peer in from the sidewalk.

What you will see is a "ghost sign" on the brick wall. You will immediately recognize the product being advertised as it is perhaps the best-known product name and logo in the world: Coca-Cola.

But why put that famous name where it can hardly be seen?

Answering that question helps us to roughly date the sign

The building which provides the south wall of this alleyway – and also hides the Coke sign – was completed early in 1921 as a branch of the Sterling Bank. Clearly the sign pre-dates this building: just getting the sign painter's scaffolding or even a ladder into the post-1921 space would be nearly impossible, and pointless. So: 1920 or likely earlier for the sign. Over a century old!

If you gaze at this ghost sign for a while, you will see that there may be another one underneath. I'll leave the challenge with you: what did that one advertise? And as you move around Town, look out for other such remnants of the past – I know of at least one other.

THIS WEEK'S NEW POLL

Do you plan to vacation outside of Canada this summer?

Yes No Unsure

www.theauroran.com

Previous Poll Results

Are you satisfied with the results of the 2022 Provincial Election?

RESULTS TO DATE June 21, 2022	YES 40%	NO 60%
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Affordability Plan



MP'S REPORT

Tony Van Bynen, MP
Newmarket - Aurora

Pension Plan, Old Age Security, and the Guaranteed Income Supplement. The federal minimum wage, which we increased to \$15/hour, is also indexed to inflation.

Carbon Tax Rebate

Under the federal pollution pricing system, the government applies a price on pollution in jurisdictions that do not have a system of their own that meets the federal stringency requirements — specifically Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. In those jurisdictions, approximately 90 per cent of direct proceeds from carbon pollution pricing are returned to residents of those provinces through CAI payments. The other 10 per cent is used to support farmers, small businesses, Indigenous groups, schools, universities, and municipalities.

No funds collected are retained by the federal government.

In 2022-23, the increased CAI payments mean an Ontario family of four will receive \$745 annually. Payments are now made quarterly, starting in July with a "double-up" payment for the first two

Running on Empty



INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

any two of the eight people currently on Aurora Council.

I also bet that most people didn't notice that I increased Council's numbers from seven to eight in that last sentence.

While not strictly politically-centred, the recent lack of interest in the Town's budget process, where no one showed up to an open meeting for people to raise questions and provide input on the multi-year budget, is another example of how blasé, or maybe it's jaded, people are becoming about politics.

I guess in the case of the budget, we're all just assuming either the best, or the worst.

Sadly, this lack of interest appears not just to be applicable to the voters, but also to the ones they are potentially voting for.

Effective May 2, potential candidates for Aurora council have been able to file their papers signaling their intent to run in the election less than four months from now.

As I write this, almost halfway to the cutoff for filing later this summer, the

We recognize the challenges inflation is creating for Canadians – from the cost of filling their tanks to the rising cost of groceries.

Although inflation is a global challenge, made worse by Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, our government is putting more money into the pockets of Canadians when they need it most. Through the Affordability Plan, we are building on our rapid economic recovery from the COVID recession and taking tangible steps to make life more affordable for Canadians. The \$8.9 billion plan includes:

- Enhancing the Canada Workers Benefit—at a cost of \$1.7 billion in new support for workers. This will provide up to \$2,400 to low-income families starting this year.
- A ten per cent increase to Old Age Security for seniors over 75, which will provide up to an additional \$766 for more than three million seniors starting next month;
- A \$500 payment this year to nearly one million Canadian renters who are struggling with the cost of housing;
- Cutting child care fees by an average of 50 per cent by the end of this year in all provinces and territories;
- Dental care for Canadians earning less than \$90,000 – starting this year with hundreds of thousands of children under 12, and;
- The indexation of benefits, including the Canada Child Benefit, the GST Credit, the Canada

It seems politics is no longer as fascinating as it once was – if it once was.

Take the recent provincial election. Only 43% of eligible voters turned out to cast their ballot. Not that 100% of voters are expected to show up, but well under half is a pretty sad number. In this case, this is the lowest ever for a provincial election.

It's not like there weren't enough issues at play to get people fired up, including the economy and rising costs, COVID and education, health care and elder care, or transportation and infrastructure, to name a few.

It's not just ballot figures that took a hit. According to Stephen's column in this space last week, even volunteer numbers seemed to be down in this year's election.

While the Federal election last year – another one with near record-low turnouts – was held during greater uncertainty around COVID, I'm not sure that excuse can be used for this year's provincial election.

There just seems to be a general and continuing decline in sound bites, headline-grabbing news, and general interest, in all things political-election-related, on this side of the border, anyway.

I fear this also seems to be the case at the local level. One mention of municipal politics and most people's eyes seem to glaze over.

I bet most residents couldn't name

quarters of the 2022-23 fuel charge year (April-June and July-September), followed by single quarterly payments in October and January.

Canada Greener Homes Loan

By helping Canadians retrofit their homes to be more energy efficient, we can contribute to making life more affordable, creating good jobs, and creating a greener, cleaner environment for generations to come.

Last week, the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, announced the launch of the new Canada Greener Homes Loan. This program will provide \$4.4 billion in interest-free loans, of up to \$40,000 per household, for Canadians to retrofit their homes.

The Canada Greener Homes Loan is an inclusive program designed to help up to 175,000 eligible homeowners undertake deeper, more costly retrofits that will have a significant impact in reducing a home's environmental footprint, energy bills, and in improving home resiliency.

Bill C-28

The Government of Canada is unwavering in its commitment to ensuring that our criminal justice system keeps communities safe, supports victims, and holds offenders to account, while upholding Charter rights. Women and youth are disproportionately affected by violence, such as sexual violence, including where the perpetrator is intoxicated.

This is tragically an even more common

Continued on page 15

combined number of people who will be running for the position of Mayor or one of the six ward Councillors totals ... one.

Yes, one person so far has put up their hand to run for Council. Let's hope when future candidates signal their intent, their campaign literature doesn't prominently feature being decisive as one of their key attributes.

While with luck this fall's election will spark some interest, it may be a challenge as we'll likely see the same old issues raised. There's only so much one can do to drum up enthusiasm about another discussion on council accountability, development, small business support and infrastructure.

Of course, the budget and taxes should be a topic of discussion, as well, despite the lack of interest shown by residents at the beginning of summer.

One new feature of this election is the ward system.

We're still one Town with the same Town-wide issues noted above, but perhaps by having councilor candidates focus their campaigns in smaller parts of Town, with perhaps a few more focused local issues, this will pique people's interest.

Then again, this may all be moot if by the time nominations close we still only have one person who's submitted their nomination papers.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at: machellscorners@gmail.com

Council members question how Wellington lands were re-designated at Region

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Plans for a 519-unit apartment building on Wellington Street East near Leslie were rejected last week as Council members questioned how the lands were re-designated from employment to residential use by the Region.

At issue at last Tuesday’s Public Planning meeting was a proposed seven-storey building for the intersection’s southwest corner.

A report before Council by Rosanna Punit, Planner for the Town of Aurora, said the lands were listed under a Business Park Designation but as the Region moves forward with its Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR), “the lands are not intended to be maintained” for employment use.

In an email shared with media by Councillor John Gallo, it was claimed the conversion of these lands from employment to residential use had already taken place following a letter written to the Region last year by the Town’s former planning director David Waters.

“It would have been an enormous series of incompetence for other staff at the Region to not know the application for this site, to be converted from employment lands, was removed,” Councillor Gallo wrote, stating this move went against Council direction. “You took the word of the Director of Planning for the Town of Aurora, which was contrary to all reports and direction of Council and made the changes outside the MCR process.”

Councillor Gallo continued to voice his concerns at that evening’s Public Planning Meeting, as did local environmental advocate George Skoulikas who said he was “very surprised” to read the lands in question were “not intended to be maintained” as employment lands through this Regional update.

“The words ‘under review’ suggest

it is still in process when York Region long-range planning staff have already recently confirmed [the process] was finalized last year and no further adjustments are contemplated,” said the resident.

“This is an absolute non-starter,” said Councillor Gallo. “A letter from (Waters) dated October 13, 2020 requested the change to the mapping of 1298 Wellington Street East [to] remove it from Regionally-significant employment lands was enough for York Region to change the mapping.

“I can’t believe sitting here today that that process was followed properly. Certainly no direction from Council and definitely reports to Council indicating otherwise...no one member of staff should have that type of power to convert ten acres of employment lands into non-employment lands. It should not happen and that is exactly what happens. We should not be putting this to a public planning meeting until they deal with the employment land conversion. I will not be voting for this.”

Added Councillor Wendy Gaertner: “This must be denied tonight. We need to have it in writing from Regional staff about the MCR and what is happening with this land in the process. Regional staff seems to be contradicting municipal staff. We need to clear that up before we make any decision on what is to be done.”

Council ultimately rejected the application on several grounds, including encroachments on environmental features, inappropriate density, impacts on species of concern, as well as the removal of a “short supply” of employment lands and “significant issues with land conversion and the MCR process.”

While the applicant can appeal Council’s decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT), Marco Ramunno, Aurora’s present Director of Planning, reiterated the MCR is ongoing.

“It is up to local Council to consider,

moving forward, whether [to change] the land use,” he said. “We’ll have our first draft released to Council and the public for ongoing consultation for final consideration before June of 2023 and that is where we identify as well our new planning horizon to the year 2051.

“These lands are no longer identified as employment in the Regional plan. Planning staff here at the Town of Aurora, back in 2018, a number of reports identified those various requests to convert employment lands to other community-type plans, various reports to Council back in late 2019. I will stress the Regional Official Plan shows these lands as community lands and they have been removed from the employment lands under the...land use designation.”

In response to the Public Planning meeting, York’s Chief Planner Paul Freeman said that in addition to employment conversion requests “received by their landowners and their agents,” the MCR process “involved refining employment area boundaries in consultation with local municipalities. “Identification of the south-west

corner of Wellington and Leslie Streets in the Town of Aurora was deemed as Community Area on Map 1A of the Draft Regional Official Plan endorsed by York Regional Council in November 2021 for consultation,” he said in a statement. “This was in response to a request from senior Town staff, as noted.

“Given previous employment conversions in the area, west of Leslie Street, York Region did not deem the subject parcel Regionally significant employment land and will therefore not be mapped as Regional Employment Land in the Regional Official Plan. Uses for this parcel of land at the southwest corner of Wellington Street and Leslie Street will be determined by the Town of Aurora, including employment land should they deem it as such.”

The updated Regional Official Plan will be proposed to Regional Council for adoption next Thursday, June 30, and will be subject to further approval from Ontario’s Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing, as well as municipal partners “for conformity as local municipal official plans are updated.”

Newmarket man charged following reported sexual assault in Aurora restaurant

York Regional Police have charged an 82-year-old Newmarket man in connection with a sexual assault in Aurora last week.

Charged is Mir Mirazai, who faces a sexual assault charge and a charge of Interference with a person under 16 years.

On Friday, York Regional Police asked for the public’s help in identifying the suspect.

“On June 16 at approximately 6.40 p.m., a 12-year-old female attended a restaurant located in the area of Earl Stewart Drive and Bayview Avenue,” said Constable Maniva Armstrong in a statement. “While at the restaurant, the victim entered a public washroom and was sexually assaulted by an unknown male suspect.”

Police released images of the suspect, along with the vehicle, and appealed for the public’s help in identifying him.

“Following a media release, officers received information from a citizen that the suspect was seen walking in the area of Woodland Hills Labyrinth Park in Newmarket on June 18, around 9.45 a.m.,” the Police announced Monday. “The suspect was located by police and has been charged.”

The charges have not been proven. Anyone with information is asked

to call the York Regional Police Special Victims Unit – Sexual Assault Section at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7071, or contact Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com.

“A sexual assault includes any non-consensual contact of a sexual nature. York Regional Police would like to encourage anyone who feels they may have been a victim of a sexual assault to come forward and report the incident to police. There is no statute of limitations for sexual offences and offenders can be prosecuted well after the date of the offence.”

- If you are the survivor of sexual assault, you can report the incident online if:
- You are not in danger
- The person who assaulted you is not present
- There is no evidence present that may be collected by police (blood, semen, saliva, etc.). Evidence can be collected for up to 12 days after the sexual assault has occurred
- You have access to a private email address, to which the suspect does not have access

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Environmental, density issues kill plans for 500+ unit apartment on Wellington Street

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Plans for a 500+ unit apartment building on the southwest corner of Wellington and Leslie Streets hit a significant roadblock at Council last week after lawmakers voted down the proposal.

Although proponents of the high-density apartment building, which would bring 519 units to the community, along with twelve townhouse blocks for a total of 59 units, can still appeal Council’s decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal, Council’s decision said they believed what was before them was an inappropriate use of the land.

Adena Meadows resident Alan Benlolo was one of several neighbours to speak against the proposal at last Tuesday’s Public Planning meeting. While he said he was glad to potentially see the end of an “ugly, unkempt field” on Wellington Street, what was up for Council’s decision could spell the “end” of Aurora as we know it.

“The need for housing grows... and over the years I have watched both sides of Wellington Street between Bayview Avenue and Leslie Street get developed – it’s going on as we speak at the corner of Wellington Street and Stronach Boulevard, which I am glad to see, he said. “Most importantly, they have been developed into single-detached homes and stacked towns, not apartment buildings.

“I moved to Aurora from Thornhill for a bigger piece of land in a less dense town. I have built my house on a two-acre parcel of land and like all of the homes in the Adena Meadows community just south of the proposal, are all on two acres of land – one house per two acres. My obvious concern is apartment buildings do not fit into this

part of Aurora, as well as the number of units per acre. Three to four units per acre, I believe... this current site is about 10 acres developable with approximately 650 units, so by my calculation I think 80 – 90 per hectare.

“If this proposal goes through and they’re able to build a seven-storey apartment building at Wellington and Leslie, Aurora is finished.”

From the perspective of environmental advocate Wendy Kenyon, should the proposal go ahead, it won’t only be Aurora that is “finished.”

“I am not against development; I am, however, against the loss of balance between development and the need to respect and protect our natural environment and its boundaries,” said Ms. Kenyon. “I am seeing what is now happening on the Shining Hill lands on St. John’s Sideroad West and believe that Aurora has already lost that critical balance. According to the applicant’s environmental report, the 1289 Wellington proposal includes direct loss of over 5,000 square metres... the removal of 33,000 square metres of cultural meadow where species at risk, monarch butterflies, are confirmed as present. A Municipal OP requires there will be no negative impacts to the natural heritage features or their ecological functions. Yet the environmental report is unable to demonstrate this, concluding ‘Overall, the proposed development is not expected to have a negative impact on the natural features or their ecological functions.’ In my opinion, that is simply not sufficient to comply with the explicit wording and intent of regulation.

“Pages and pages of environmental report are dedicated to mitigation measures, restoration and so on, and that is great, but there is an underlying premise that disturbance and removal

of natural features can be compensated. But the reality is you’re still taking away immediate habitat, removing trees that are already providing a service, pushing a development with all its inherent risks, very close to the watercourse. Despite efforts, ecosystems often don’t recover from this level of assault, particularly as the lands become further urbanized. The proposed development exists only on paper whereas the environmental features are already living and providing a service to this community. So, I am asking, can we not do more to preserve them? I believe we can and it all comes down to a question of balance.”

Other residents said it was “unconscionable” to put that amount of density in the location proposed, stating that the Yonge Street corridor, complete with transit, would make more sense, worries about noise pollution and traffic in an already busy corridor, and the loss of Aurora’s “small-town feel.”

Council members largely agreed, voting down the proposal due to its encroachment on environmental features, “inappropriate” density, impacts on species of concern, and the Regional conversion of this site from employment land to allow it to be developed as proposed.

“It’s just so densified,” said Councillor Sandra Humfries before Council voted down the plan while still considering sending the matter to a further public planning meeting. “There are a lot of areas for improvement for the next Public Planning meeting we hope to see coming forward.”

Councillor Michael Thompson said he did not support the density and was concerned with the proposed building’s massing and “overall height.”

“I would like to see some notable changes,” he said, specifically citing the need for a park within the plan’s area.

A win-win, Councillor Harold Kim mentioned, occurs when a community works with the developer to find a solution that works.

“There should have been some consultation [with the surrounding residents],” said Councillor Kim. “It would be great to have two parties have some communication.”

Added Mayor Mrakas: “What can we put in an area that benefits the community so we’re doing what is best for our community? That takes all parties working together. Those concerns are there, so let’s see if we can work on this and where we can go from there.”

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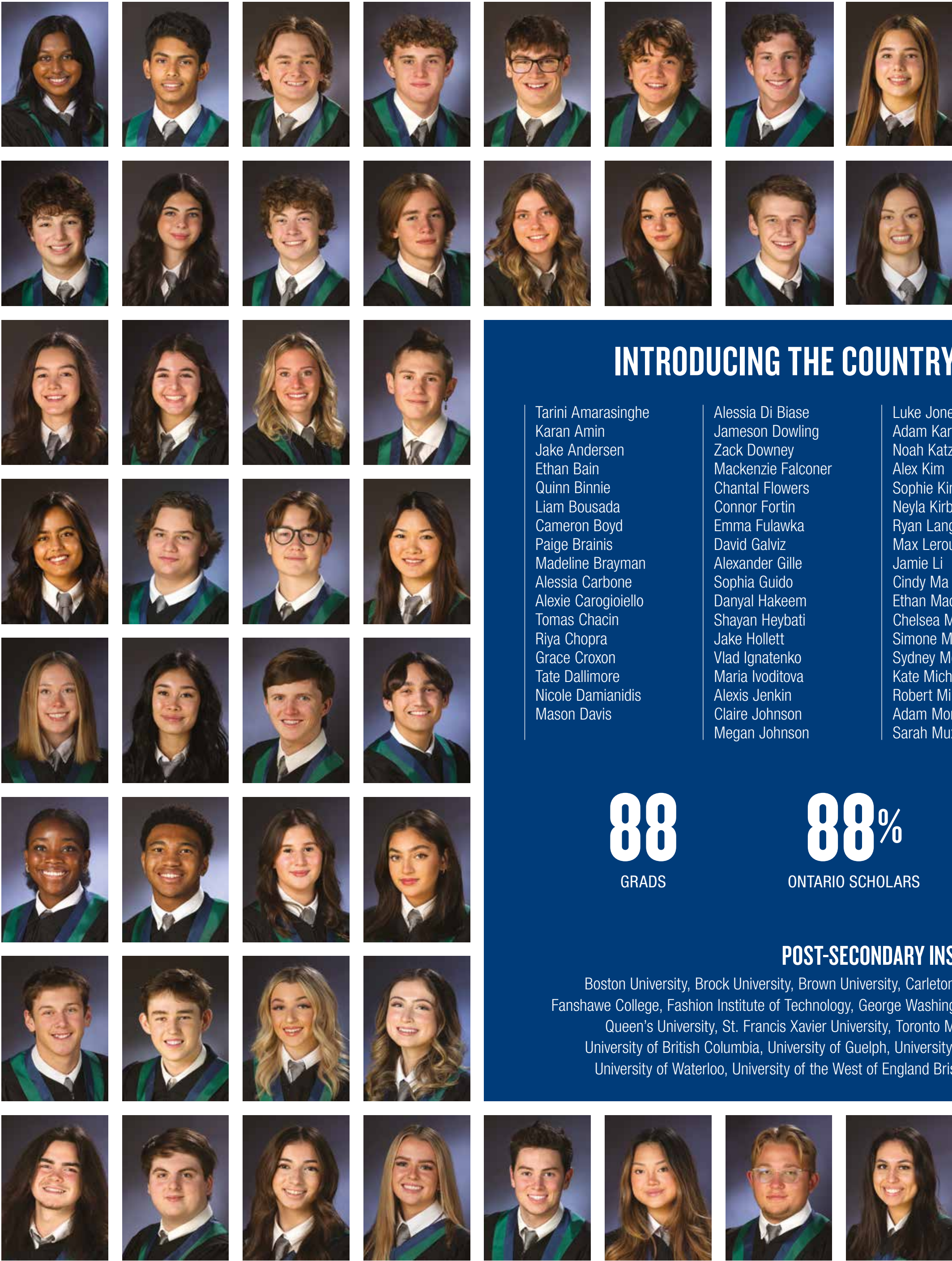
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Wellington’s Wellness Team takes health movement outdoors

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The global pandemic has had an impact on everyone’s wellbeing, including physical and mental health. Now that they’re able to interact face to face once again, the Wellness Team at Wellington Public School has mobilized their community to get back on track – and outdoors.

On Wednesday, the school’s Wellness Team, alongside the Grade 4 class of teacher Amanda Bonura, were at Elizabeth Hader Park on Timpson Drive to put their principles in action.

“Our Wellness Team has been incorporating many different initiatives this year, especially with COVID, just really focusing on student mental health and boosting morale around the school,” Ms. Bonura explained. “On Friday, we had a school-wide wellness day and after three years of not doing anything with the entire school all together, it was a nice, fresh revisit to the school dynamic in terms of working together, connecting with friends, connecting with nature, and all of the rotations really focused on student wellbeing, and getting mentally and physically active.”

One of the stations was making pinecone bird feeders using a few simple ingredients and, just a few days after the Wellness event, the team and the class were at the park, which the school “adopted” in 2018, to place the feeders on trees they planted the spring before the pandemic hit.

“Our student leaders used pinecones and birdseed and it was nice for them to work with their peers in a stress-free environment,” said Ms. Bonura. “We had some calming music playing and students were really able to connect with each other and with nature.”

“Spending time in nature helps your wellness a lot,” said student leader Nargol Azimi. “Taking time away from screens and giving time for yourself, your own thoughts, your own ideas, and really just reconnecting with yourself.”

Added fellow leader Stella Shel: “It’s also appreciating the world we’re in and [the fact that] not everything is about school and video games. It can really help you reflect.”

Over the last two-and-a-half years, this time for reflection has been very important for students.

The teacher says she has “definitely seen some negatives” in terms of the social impacts of COVID amongst students.

“They haven’t been able to play with their peers at recess because we’ve been cohorted and they haven’t had those same opportunities to connect with their peers the way they would have in the past with social distancing, not having groups, and doing more independent work. Now, as we’re starting to open up and we’re allowed to now get together and connect with one another, Wellness Day was a huge kick-off to that, to have the entire school together rotating through.

“It wasn’t a huge group, but they were still able to connect with peers they wouldn’t typically see and just build on those friendships and those social relationships, which is a huge, huge aspect in supporting mental health.”

Wednesday’s visit to Elizabeth Hader Park wasn’t just the culmination of their Wellness Day activities as the school year draws to a close, but it was also a chance to renew their school’s commitment to the green space.

They’re regularly on site to help clean up litter and to keep an eye out for any acts of vandalism, reporting things to who they should be reported to when needed.

“This has been a multi-year plan and commitment to Elizabeth Hader Park, which is why I thought it would be such a nice tie-in to revisit the trees we planted years ago, see how they’re doing, see how we can continue to preserve the environment, not just for ourselves but for the animals and habitat around us,” she said. “With our bird feeders, we’re giving ourselves more opportunities to connect with nature, being mindful, intentional, and I think it was really important to have students create something for students to make it even more meaningful.”



(Top) Viola Munits, Nargol Azimi, Mr. Jonathan Weisinger (Principal), Saba Nourbakhsh, Sarvin Garoosi, Mrs. Amanda Bonura (Well Being Lead Teacher), Ali Wang, Stella Shen, Lucy Evedzi, and Diana Di. (Above) Jonathan Dorrepaal, Sarvin Garoosi, Viola Munits, Amir Al-Soultani, Nargol Azimi, Ali Wang. (INSET) Mrs. Bonura’s Grade 4 class. Auroran photos by Brock Weir

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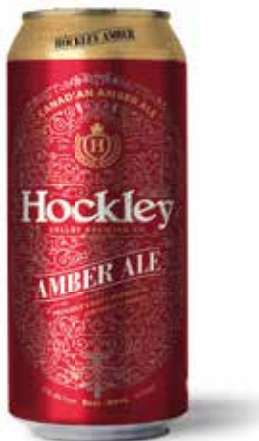
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Town and York University announce further collaborations for community

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

York University has expanded its outreach to Aurora through its Scholar’s Hub, a successful series of virtual programs hosted in conjunction with the Aurora Public Library – but this could be just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the university’s presence in the community.

On Monday, the Town and York University signed a Memorandum of Understanding to foster mutually-beneficial initiatives in the community.

Signed by Mayor Tom Mrakas and York University President & Vice Chancellor Rhonda L. Lenton in the Skylight Gallery at Town Hall, Mayor Mrakas says the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will look at “further enhancement of community technology, professional development opportunities for Council and staff, learning and employment options, such as experiential education, and learning opportunities in key areas of urban planning and legal services.”

“We have had a long-standing relationship with York University,” says Mayor Mrakas. “We have worked together on many things [such as] the scholar hub with the Library and we have always looked at how we can



York University President & Vice Chancellor Rhonda L. Lenton and Mayor Tom Mrakas signed the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the University in the Skylight Gallery at Town Hall on Monday afternoon.
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

improve and enhance the Aurora Community. The MOU formalizes our relationship with York University and how it can partner and work with things in the future.

“Ultimately this is a great opportunity for the Town as well as for York University. I think that is something that will help us continue to develop strategic goals to enhance the life of our residents, our employees, students of York University. Ultimately it is going to serve as a model for other communities

to follow. There are lots of exciting possibilities through the partnership and we’re going to be part of many things to come as far as that partnership with York University. I think we’re excited, I know York University is excited and I think ultimately the community will be excited with a lot of outcomes that develop through this partnership.”

Future opportunities could include “places where people can gather and learn, and opportunities in urban planning.”

“There are opportunities where possible you have internships and also where we work with students that are coming in and develop new types of plans, more geared towards pedestrian-friendly complete communities; those types of things where we can work with students where they get to put forward their expertise but we get to basically reap the benefits of their expertise and their learnings and get to implement them within the Town and the downtown core as we continue to revitalize,” says Mayor Mrakas.

“The MOU strengthens that partnership and an agreement that kind of bonds us together. We are going to have a strong partnership and we’re going to continue to work on things to continue to make sure that partnership benefits the Town and the university. Ultimately what it does is help our residents and anyone who is looking at furthering their education, possibly. Those are all the things we’re going to continue to work through as this partnership continues to grow and flourish.”

From the perspective of Ms. Lenton, this MOU is an extension of York’s commitment “to serving the wellbeing of communities.”

“We have so many bold aspirations for the university and see what we can do for students, for communities, but we need the collaboration,” she said at Monday’s signing. “When you think about experiential education and research collaboration, even space infrastructure, it is all now through partnership. In many ways this pandemic has really served to underscore that: the urgent need for cooperation and collective action to ensure we have the talent that is needed, that we’re feeding that talent pipeline, that we’re undertaking the research that is needed, driving the innovation, to really invest and build the socio-economic sustainability of the global communities we serve.

“At York and Aurora, we share the common goals of mobilizing new knowledge, innovation and learning experiences. The MOU we’re signing today will help York University and the Town of Aurora explore more opportunities for collaboration. For example, together we can create opportunities for smart communities, cities that are equipped with the skills, tools, expertise to apply digital and data technology, to optimise and improve how we live, work and interact with each other. The MOU will also foster opportunities in professional development, experiential education, work-integrated learning --- all key elements of delivering a 21st century education and training for the next generation.”

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Redevelopment plan for Bayview and Vandorf has residents worried

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A proposal to redevelop 14 residential lots near Bayview Avenue and Vandorf Sideroad into a new community of 145 single-detached homes has left some residents in Aurora’s southeast quadrant seeing red.

Several neighbours came together in Council Chambers last week to speak out against the proposal at Council’s June Public Planning meeting.

Up for consideration was a plan to redevelop 5 – 70 Archerhill Court, and replace the homes and street that are on-site with 145 detached homes, a new ring road, and open spaces.

Previously, as noted in the report before Council, residents have spoken out against the number of proposed homes, the increased traffic this might bring to the surrounding community, the preservation of existing trees, noise pollution, and the development’s overall impact on the environment.

The June 14 meeting was no exception with neighbours reiterating these concerns in person to their elected officials.

One of the residents speaking out against the proposal was former mayor Tim Jones who said not only was the density too high, but that the developments on the other three corners of the intersection should be given the same consideration as Aurora’s so-called Stable Neighbourhoods.

“It’s a rack’em pack ‘em proposal that just doesn’t fit in with the neighbourhood,” said Mr. Jones. “With respect to the homes to the north, the developers’ report states redevelopment represents a minor or modest increase within the area that has similar densities and built form. I suggest that [this] is not minor, nor is it modest. 145 homes is not a minor intensification on this site or

in comparison to the four corners. The whole site has just a few houses less than all the three corners combined. The developer indicates this development contains an adequate provision of full range of housing, including affordable housing. What’s affordable? \$1 million is not affordable. Show me a house that is not going to go there for less than \$1 million.”

Another resident voiced concerns over the traffic flow, including “one to two years of major disruption, noise, and inconvenience,” questioning how existing residents will be compensated.

“This is like trying to squeeze a quart into a pint pot,” added resident John Green. “With 145 houses, we’ll say a family usually has two cars, maybe three. Where are they all going to park? On the street? On the driveway? It is going to be a parking lot that’s the view. As has been said by many people, trying to exit or enter that subdivision, especially through one entrance, is going to be absolute chaos and is just an accident waiting to happen.”

Still others questioned the environmental impacts this development would have, including on water quality, ecology, and the Oak Ridges Moraine, which one delegate described as previously being seen as “the holy of holies.”

“I really do think we need to have a hard look at some of the things they have suggested: the traffic, the density, the natural trees, and come to a solution that is going to continue to make this such a wonderful place to live and that is a compromise, not just something that is imposed on the residents and the community at large,” said another resident.

While some delegates said they felt the proposal was a “done deal,” Mayor Tom Mrakas told residents that all public feedback is appreciated at Planning meetings.

“It’s not a done deal until this Council says it is a done deal,” he said. “We look at what is appropriate for our community and those are the decisions we make to ensure that whatever gets done is appropriate and it is what the community wants and what we deserve to have in our communities.”

Councillor Michael Thompson agreed, adding “the residents have done a great job in voicing their concerns” and he echoed them as well. Citing the redevelopment of the former Timberlane tennis club into a residential community, Councillor Thompson said it started with “general opposition” but the applicant worked with “a lot of the residents in the area...and in the end came up with a proposal that most, not all, but most supported.”

“I have always viewed that as a bit of a success story and I urge the applicant to sit down with the residents in the area to try and come to a compromise whereby they can be supportive of your application and we have a win-win situation.”

Stronger criticism came from Councillor Wendy Gartner who said, when put simply, the development proposal just was not compatible with the surrounding area.

“It’s no wonder the residents are upset and they’re upset for many reasons,” she said. “All the questions need to be answered, including the one about water. I find it so hard to believe this is actually before us. This is so outside of what we planned. This is giving us a lot of unnecessary trouble and frustration.”

Councillor John Gallo went one step further and questioned, given the timing of this year’s municipal election, whether the applicants will take their proposal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) for appeal.

“It is my understanding we will continue to work with residents,” said Angela Sciberras on behalf of the

applicant. The community information meeting, which was hosted by Treasure Hill was not required, so that was something that the owners had initiated for that specific reason to hear their comments. Without having spoken to my client, I would believe that they would like to continue working with residents.

“It is disappointing, obviously, that we would have to wait until 2023 but we certainly understand the circumstances with the elections.”

“I think we can all agree everyone who spoke [tonight was looking] for a middle ground,” replied Councillor Gallo.

The application will be subject to another report at a future Public Planning meeting.



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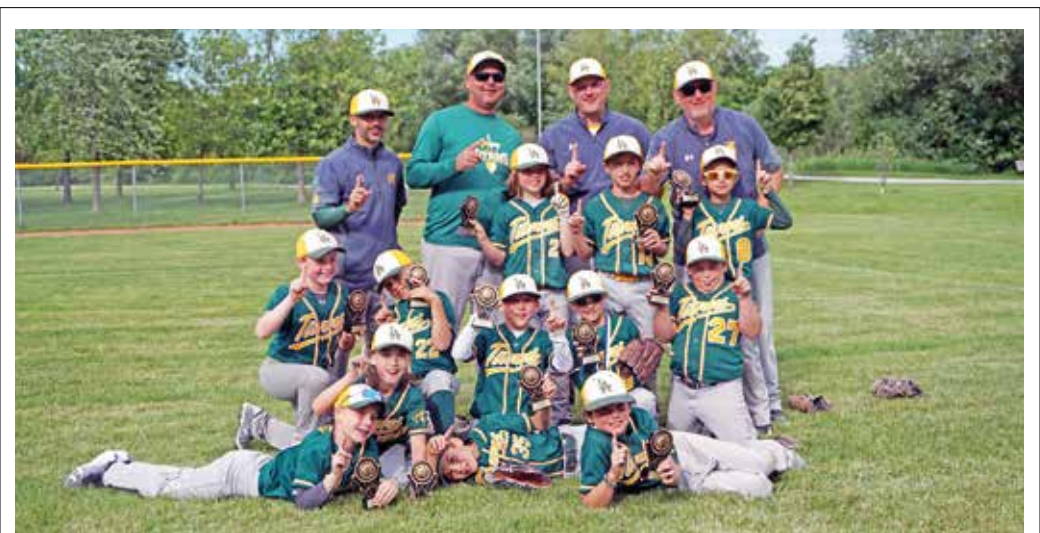
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The La Salle Titans celebrated their Father's Day tournament victory in Aurora this past weekend.
Contributed photo

AKBA held successful 9U Father's Day tournament

By Robert Belardi

It was a wonderful weekend in Aurora. The Aurora-King Baseball Association hosted a splendid 16-team tournament that featured some of the very best 9U teams from across the province.

All 34 games, which took place at Town Park and the Aurora Family Leisure Complex, were taken care of by a wonderful food truck thanks to the Aurora Optimist Club and Sport Aurora's Concierge Service, who contributed to ensuring the guest experience was more than satisfactory.

In a statement, Sport Aurora thanked all visiting teams, the Optimist Club, volunteers and expertise from St. Andrew's College for all of their efforts and support.

The tournament, which ran from Friday all the way to Sunday, saw the La Salle Titans defeat the Royal York Select Cardinals in a pulsating 11-10 victory.

"This was a highly competitive tournament, as the close scores all weekend demonstrated," said AKBA tournament director and 9U coach, Joel Malley in the release.

It is why this tournament is so valued across Ontario.

This kind of early competition is

important to teams looking to build team cohesion and test skills.

In pool D, the AKBA 9U had an outstanding start to the competition. In their first game on Friday, the Aurora-King Jays won a thrilling game against their cross-town rival the Newmarket Hawks 16-13.

On Saturday, in their second round-robin game, the Jays tied the Mississauga North Tigers 7-7 before thrashing the Hamilton Cardinals 28-11 in the afternoon.

Unfortunately, in the championship quarter finals in the evening, the Jays fell 19-4 to the Caledon Nationals.

Coach Malley was thrilled with his team's performance.

"These players were in it all weekend and while it was disappointing to not make the Finals in our own tournament, they learned a lot about competition. The parents were supportive and of course were proud of the players' efforts," Malley said in the press release.

AKBA and Sport Aurora can't wait to host another tournament soon.

The 10U tournament is set to take place from July 8-10.

Sport Aurora is also working with the Aurora Diggers to assist them in planning tournaments as well this summer.

Stay tuned!

CLASSICS AT KINGSWAY



The Thornhill Cruisers Car Club brought smiles to the faces of Kingsway Place residents on Saturday as the club filled the seniors' community parking lot with a rainbow of classic cars. It was a welcome return to normalcy for Kingsway Place and the resumption of a much-loved tradition.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger



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Social Planning Council, Public Library shine light on Housing in new podcast series

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Housing affordability was a hot-button issue in this spring’s Provincial Election campaign, but, now that the ballots have been counted, the Social Planning Council of York Region and the Aurora Public Library are teaming up to make sure the topic stays in the spotlight.

The organizations are now in the midst of recording a new four-episode season of the podcast Hidden Stories of York Region. While previous seasons have focused on youth and COVID recovery, this season will look at the ins and outs of housing across York Region and indeed the country.

“The perception is York Region is affluent, that there are no special issues, no economic strife – it’s all those picture-perfect ideas that people have and we know that is not the case for most of the folks that we work with,” says Yvonne Kelly of the Social Planning Council of York Region. “We want to interrupt that narrative – and not just interrupt it, but also make space for other stories, other experiences, diverse voices, and just really giving the fuller picture of what it is to live, work and play in York Region, and then inspire people to want to do more.”

Adds Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager of Community Collaboration for the Town of Aurora, “This is to give power to our community to do more. It is to excite them about possibilities and ownership of solutions to problems that we all face. For me, it was not just a matter of information, and that is why I love working with Yvonne; it is not just about information delivery, but

it is about the mobilization of community and that’s a huge, important piece.”

The collaboration between the Aurora Public Library (APL) and the Social Planning Council has deep roots, but this collaboration on the third season of Hidden Stories of York Region came out of an APL screening of the film Push, which sparked a panel discussion on housing.

“It touched on so many issues in our community from precarious housing to food banks, from women staying in abusive relationships because they had no place to go, and housing for seniors,” says Ms. Mandelcorn. “It was just too huge an issue to be dealt with in one panel discussion. Collaborating [on the podcast] was a hard yes [from us] and when we brainstormed we realized there were so many issues involved with housing that we would devote all four episodes of the season to it. Even at that we were only touching just a bit on it because it is such an important conversation.”

From Ms. Mandelcorn’s perspective, the podcast can serve as a “call to action” for the community – individuals, groups and leaders – to do more.

“The whole housing issue affects all of us,” she says. “It even affects people in the middle-income stream who can’t afford to buy a house, it affects people who can’t afford to rent. It is a homeless issue, it is a generational issue, it is an aging in place issue. We could go on and on and have [more than] four [episodes], except we do have other jobs!

“For too long, libraries have been seen as unbiased agents, that we serve people – but libraries should be agents of transformative social engagement and we

should be working together to better our communities. At APL, we call ourselves a community-led library, so I think we’re well positioned to cross party lines and work with community groups to tackle the challenges our community members face, to identify solutions and actions for change. For me, this represents libraries at its finest and I think this podcast series is one of the best things I have ever had the opportunity to collaborate on and I am so proud of the work.”



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MP'S REPORT

From page 5

experience for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. That is why the Government of Canada is acting swiftly to address the legal gap created by the Supreme Court of Canada’s (SCC) decisions in Brown and Sullivan and Chan on the defence of extreme intoxication.

This past Friday, the Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, supported by the Honourable Marci Ien, Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Youth, introduced proposed amendments to the Criminal Code to ensure that individuals who consume drugs and/or alcohol in a criminally negligent manner are held criminally responsible if they harm others while extremely intoxicated. The legislation promotes public safety and accountability while upholding Charter rights. This Bill is currently at Second Reading.

Canada Day

On July 1, 1867, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Province of Canada were proclaimed the Dominion of Canada. With this proclamation, the Province of Canada became Quebec and Ontario, although it would be

many years before all provinces and territories joined Canada – the last being Newfoundland.

Our road to nationhood was a long one, and not without its challenges and tragedies. And although our past with the people native to this country has been troubled, our nation is awakening to the power of a renewed relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

Canada is the country my parents left Netherlands for after World War II, and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity Canada provided to my family. As we approach Canada Day, let’s reflect on our values, our past and our future as a society. Let’s reconnect with our loved ones and community, and talk about what this day means to us. Let’s celebrate the cultural diversity that enriches us all, and reaffirm our commitment to equity, inclusion, and mutual respect. Canada Day is an opportunity to strengthen the ties that bind us as we continue along the path to reconciliation and a better future.

If you are seeking information or require assistance with Federal programs and services, please reach out to my team by e-mail at Tony.VanBynen@parl.gc.ca or by calling 905-953-7515.

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over limit pay 6.29 ea



whole seedless watermelon

product of Mexico or U.S.A., no. 1 grade

11 lb average

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LIMIT 4

3⁹⁹ ea

over limit pay 6.99 ea



Tropicana or Simply juice or drinks or Gold Peak or Pure Leaf iced tea

selected varieties refrigerated

6x236 mL, 1.54/1.75 L

21086068_EA

21209836_EA

LIMIT 4

2⁹⁴ ea

over limit pay 4.28 ea



bone-in skinless chicken breast

fresh

20790468_KG

CLUB SIZE

2⁹⁹ lb

6.59/kg



Coca-Cola or Canada Dry soft drinks 24x355 mL or Nestea iced tea 20x341 mL

selected varieties

20308197001_C24/21021553_C20

LIMIT 6

8⁹⁹ ea

over limit pay 10.49 ea



Nestlé Pure Life water

24x500 mL

20060696_C24

LIMIT 4

1⁹⁹ ea

over limit pay 3.29 ea



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A. Yu



B. Zhang



L. Zhou

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D. Aniskin



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E. Cameron



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A. Gal



A. Graham



K. Gupta



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K. Houle



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FREE Week of June 23, 2022



SAC breaks school record for most participants in CFC prospect game

By Robert Belardi

It's never a bad time to rewrite the history books.

For the first time since its inception, St. Andrew's College saw four members of their football team appear in the second edition of the Canada Football Chat Prospect Game on May 27.

"In 2019, we had one, but, what was quite an accomplishment was these kids were represented right across the country right," said head coach of the St. Andrew's senior football team Marcello Lio.

"There were 70 boys chosen... So, you would imagine with all of the high schools across the country, you're lucky to have one. We had four representing St. Andrew's. Out of all the high schools in the country, there was only one other high school that had more than four."

The event, which was held at TD Place in Ottawa, was recorded and aired to all Canadians thanks to TSN.

In its first year in 2019, 13 players went on to sign NCAA scholarships.

All four participants from St. Andrew's College were exceptional in this game. Here they are:

Nathan Pahanich

Hometown: Guelph, ON

6'5/ 255lbs

Age: 16

Offensive Tackle

Soccer was actually Nathan Pahanich's first love. But between the ages of nine and 10, he enrolled in football and immediately slotted in as an offensive lineman.

With the Cambridge Lions, he quickly realized that he was the better player on the field. He began taking training more seriously. He needed to go somewhere that would maximize his potential and that's when he found SAC.

Through the Saints' excellent football program came the opportunity of a lifetime. When Pahanich received the email he would be participating in the CFC Prospect Game, he said the feeling was surreal.

"It was pretty surreal, seeing myself on TSN. That's where you see your heroes watching the CFL and stuff. It's crazy I had the opportunity," Pahanich said.

"You really only had two days of practice to go through everything. The mental challenge was the biggest thing. Everyone there can play football, we knew that. But it was adjusting to schemes, to coaching styles, and knowing what they expected of us and wanted from us. Then going through it and playing on TV."

Pahanich was named the best offensive lineman throughout the game.

It was a moment he won't forget.

Whether it's a Canadian or American school, Pahanich wants to go to the school that will also provide him a high-level education.

Last week, Pahanich received his first Div. 1 FCS full scholarship offer from the University of Carnate Word in San Antonio, TX.

Ioanni Micholas

Hometown: Halifax, NS

6'2/305lbs

Age: 15

Offensive Guard

Football has been a part of Ioanni Micholas' life. He began playing the sport in the second grade while living in Halifax, NS.

As he continued to play over the years, he received a message on Twitter from Marcello Lio.

Micholas was always curious about enrolling in a prep football team. When he learned more about SAC, he didn't need to visit Aurora. He immediately said yes.

It has been a tough transition for Micholas. Without his family, he said there were a lot of learning curves since arriving two years ago.

"I had never even been to a sleepover before, so it was my first, five-month sleepover," Micholas said.

He arrived as a defensive tackle, but transitioned into a guard during his time at SAC. So, when he received the message he had made it to the CFC Prospect Game at such a young age, it was an incredible feeling.

"I saw the email and I just called my dad. I was so happy. I was at a friend's house for the long weekend. I was ecstatic, I couldn't wait," Micholas said.

And after taking part in the game, Micholas compared the experience to the Pro Bowl.

"It's what I would imagine, what the Pro Bowl is like. You have all of these great players trying to showcase themselves... I think the environment was also cool. I got to know the people on the other team and my team," Micholas said.

Micholas, much like Pahanich, wants football to take him to a good school. He plans on going into medical school and he needs a good biology program.

Ashton Watson

Hometown: Newmarket, ON

6'1/165 lbs.

Age: 17

Running Back/Wide Receiver

Ashton's Watson's father used to play for the Toronto Argonauts farm team. He comes from quite the football family, with his older brother currently playing for Wilfrid Laurier University.

Instilled into his blood from a young age, Watson has been playing football when he was six years old with the Newmarket Bucks. Then he began playing with coach Lio, for the Metro Toronto Wildcats and then transferred over to the Durham Dolphins.

In 2019, Watson stopped playing summer football and made the move to St. Andrew's College.

Formally known as a running back, Watson switched over to wide receiver this past year. He feels with his weight, he would make a better wideout and feels this move will give him the best chance to go pro.

When Watson first got to Ottawa



Ioanni Micholas (far left), Ashton Watson (left-middle), Anthony Lio (middle-right) and Nathan Pahanich (far-right) pictured here ahead of the CFC Prospect Game in late-May. **Contributed photo**

and stepped out on to the field, he had immediately felt like he was part of the CFL.

"It was a great atmosphere to be in. I felt like I was in the CFL for a second. Playing in a stadium like that with great competition it gave me the chills for sure. I went into game mode right when I stepped foot. I was in the zone," Watson said.

"It was a great feeling and I hope to feel that feeling once again."

In the game, Watson scored a touchdown but, unfortunately, fractured the bottom of his foot in the middle of a punt return. He is now recovering at home.

Watson is currently planning on graduating at SAC. He is not sure what he is going to do next, but he said, he will figure it out soon.

Anthony Lio

Hometown: Aurora, ON

5'10/190lbs.

Age:

Quarterback

Anthony Lio has always been the all-round athlete. He played soccer growing up and even basketball at St. Andrew's. But when he began playing football between the ages of six and seven, he loved it from the get-go and immediately began playing quarterback.

His father, a former quarterback himself, taught Lio everything he had

needed to know about the position. When his father got the job at SAC in 2019, Lio applied and was accepted in the same year.

Fast-forwarding to Grade 11, Lio made the move to head down south to play football at Woodberry Forest School, in Madison, VA.

"One of the biggest things I learned down there is staying in the pocket and keeping pocket presence in when pressure arises," Lio said.

When he received the email to participate in the CFC Prospect Game, Lio was grateful for the opportunity and he was happy all of his preparation and work had paid off.

Lio went into the Prospect Game and threw two touchdown passes along with one rushing touchdown in just two quarters of play.

"Even during the game after I came off after the first quarter and I came in the third, I was having a lot of fun here," Lio said.

"I kept riding it off of my successes. The offensive coordinator I had was very good. He was very good at putting me in a position to make a play and have a good opportunity. It was Tom Flaxman, the offensive coordinator at Queens," Lio said.

Lio currently has offers from the University of Waterloo and Queen's University.

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HUNDREDS CELEBRATE PRIDE IN YORK REGION



Main Street Newmarket was awash in rainbows on Saturday as York Pride hosted its first in-person Pride Parade since the start of the global pandemic. Among the participating residents were Jack and Rebecca; Charlotte, Jess and Erin; Dan and his son; drag queens; and even free mom hugs!

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger





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ELECTED OFFICIALS GET INTO THE PRIDE SPIRIT



All levels of government were well represented in Sunday's York Pride Parade. (Top) Premier Doug Ford stopped for photos at the end of the parade route. Mayor Tom Mrakas represented the Town of Aurora alongside Councillors Wendy Gaertner, Rachel Gilliland, and former councillor Allison Collins-Mrakas among others. (Second Row) Newly-minted Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy, Newmarket-Aurora MP Tony Van Bynen with community-builder Jackie Playter. Denis Heng, who served as the Newmarket-Aurora candidate for the Ontario NDP in the recent Provincial Election. (Third Row) The Every Child Matters Flag was unfurled. Colourful floats kept the crowds entertained. (Fourth Row) Southlake Regional Health Centre was well-represented.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

The logo for Dynamic Detailing, featuring the word "Dynamic" in a large, bold, red serif font, with the word "DETAILING" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font inside a grey rectangular box below it.

Driven by the Details

A large image of a white sports car, likely a Chevrolet Camaro, driving on a road. The background is blurred with a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The car is shown from a front-three-quarter view, moving towards the left.

Helping vehicle owners maintain a clean ride and prolong the life of their vehicle.

Mobile Car Detailing

Dynamic Detailing is an auto detailing service, created with the mission of helping vehicle owners maintain a clean ride, and prolong the life of their vehicle!

A smaller inset image showing a person wearing a grey hoodie and a black beanie, using a yellow spray bottle to clean the interior of a white car. The car's door is open, and the person is leaning into the vehicle.

Contact Us

 FaceBook: @dynamic1detailing  Instagram: @dynamic.detailing11

www.dynamicdetailing.ca

The garden in your backyard, your balcony, your kitchen window is a place to gather your thoughts and feel replenished at the same time. The healing aspects of having an outdoor sanctuary is a beautiful retreat especially when you need a respite.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett published *The Secret Garden* in 1911 all because of the love of a garden. It is the story of redemption of two miserable children who are nurtured by Mother Nature. As the children bring back to life an abandoned and overgrown garden hidden behind stone walls, its revival becomes an inspiring metaphor for their own restoration.

As you sit in the warm sun in your own little secret garden, it's a perfect time to weed out any anger and frustrations and what has happened in the past or even what is to come. Don't let this stifle you and keep you back from doing something you want to do. Allow your hands to get dirty and let the earth fill your senses.

To those who don't have a secret garden but would have welcomed one, then make a visit to your local nursery

or grocery store. While there, pick up a plant or two or even flowers that give you pleasure of just seeing blossoms blooming in your dwelling place.

Living with flowers is an exquisite little pleasure. You will notice that during the winter, it is a costly vice to bring fresh roses home from the supermarket but allowing yourself to bring those beautiful petals home now is such an inspiration and awakening to the soul. Just simply looking at flowers helps all of us feel better. The perfection of each little petal and stem blooming so simply brings splendor to our soul.

While the weather is co-operating, please don't be afraid to open a window and allow the fresh air to circulate. Do this especially after a spring or summer shower. If you have animals, use baking soda carpet freshener every time you



Senior Scape

Christina Doyle

Within your heart,
keep one still,
secret spot where
dreams may go

Louise Driscoll

vacuum to eliminate undesirable odors. We become accustomed to the smell of our pets, but it can be overpowering to unsuspecting visitors.

A fragrant home is just a simple pleasure, and it makes your home smell heavenly by adding a few little touches. There is much to be said about a fragrant home and bringing the delight

of a garden to where you live. It is the time that in the silence of growing plants your mind wanders and reflects, and it calms the hurried mind.

Remember being a child when playing in the dirt and making those mud pies...I hope I am not the only one who found great delight in sinking my fingers into the wet dirt! Time just passed ever so gently whilst dreams of making a cake or

a cookie with just soil and water.

Dear readers, it's time to play, it's okay if you are a late bloomer!

During the 30s and 40s because of the Depression people were desperately hungry. Magazines at that time encouraged women to grow kitchen gardens for reasons of thrift. I can recall my own mom in our first home; she had in the back a room called the "summer kitchen". This would have delighted the best of chefs: jars of canned fruit, vegetables and hanging spices such as basil, peppers etc. If you have ever tasted a homegrown tomato, you just cannot compare it to the store bought one.

Even the smallest of dwelling places can have a beautiful garden where cherry tomatoes, leaf lettuce, celery and mint, basil and chives can be easily grown. Food is not grown for economy but for delight.

Be brave, take a step into your own little garden and savor the flavors that only a natural garden can deliver.

Happy Planting!

Food Pantry seeing shifting dynamic as affordability crisis continues

FROM PAGE 1

pantry before and are feeling really badly that they're needing to turn to a food pantry now. We remind them that that is why we're here; we want to be able to help, but they are people who just didn't anticipate having this as part of their life experience."

What the Aurora Food Pantry has been trying to do is "normalize the shopping experience" for these clients – "as much as it can be normal when you're having to make an appointment going grocery shopping," Stuart notes – including encouraging clients to take what they need, choose items that are most important to them, and, in some cases, pick out the foods that are most familiar with them from their country of origin.

"We're trying to help them through that resistance, that very understandable resistance to having to turn to others for help," says Ms. Stuart. "It is humbling for us as volunteers to see the range of people who are coming. There are lots of single-parent families, lots of singles, people who are needing on a more consistent basis food hampers delivered to their homes."

But as much as demand increases, it is increasing now at a time when community support for food banks tends to dip.

Donations typically ebb during the summer months because residents who are in a position to give are often away or are less engaged, and this extends to a lack of schools and community groups holding food drives over July and August. As such, local food banks like the Aurora Food Pantry have joined forces for the Give Where You Live campaign.

The Give Where You Live initiative includes the food banks of Aurora, Newmarket, Georgina, Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan, and encourages local residents, businesses, schools, churches and community groups to donate urgently-needed food items to their closest food bank.

"The timing for a collective food drive across multiple communities is opportune as we approach our slower summer months," said Adrian Bain, Executive Director of the Newmarket Food Pantry, in a statement. "With rising food and gas prices, combined with a housing crisis, more and more of our neighbours are turning to food banks. This joint venture among the local community food banks will help shine the spotlight on food insecurity, raise awareness, and bring in much-needed food and monetary donations for those who need a little bit of extra help right now."

Added Lee Reynolds, General Manager for the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank: "We have seen a significant increase in food bank use in Richmond Hill these past few months. We served 1,828 clients in the month of May alone, which is a 10 per cent increase over our April numbers. Simply put, more food is urgently needed in the coming months to help the growing number of families in need."

As far as Aurora is concerned, clients of the Food Pantry are looking for the same kinds of things as everyone else, but are especially appreciative of fresh or frozen fruits, vegetables and meats.

"They are so expensive," says Ms. Stuart. "If we can sort of soften that blow, that is really helpful to the clients and they really enjoy the fresh produce. Each of us when we're thinking of donating foods, we look to what we're used to and what we're trying to do with the pantry is expand our range of groceries that we have so that we can appeal to people with different backgrounds, different favourite foods from growing up and that sort of thing, but all the basic items: vegetable oil, sugar, spices, these really back to the fundamentals are very popular with the clients."

For further information on the Aurora Food Pantry, including its current list of needs, visit aurorafoodpantry.ca





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GIVE where you live

THIS WEEK

Items needed: Juice, juice boxes, rice (1 kg bags), canned fruit and canned vegetables.

APPRECIATION

All the agencies in York Region that partner with us to help community members challenged by difficult times.

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers to pick up bread donations on a Friday evening and drop them off at the Pantry on Saturday morning (this is a great family project).

THANK YOU

To the Optimist Club for donating to our supplementary summer food kits for kids, and for helping us put them together!


CLIENT PICKUP HOURS
Tues: 9:00 am – 11:30 am
Thurs: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Sat: 9:00 am – 11:30 am
(Except the 1st Thurs. of the month)
Call or visit our website for appointments.

ADDRESS
350 Industrial Parkway South
Aurora, Ontario L4G 3V7
Please use the rear parking lot and the back entrance of the building. We are wheelchair accessible; please call us for details.

DONATION DROP OFF HOURS
Tues: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wed: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thurs: 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Sat: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Closed on Sunday, Monday and Friday
You can also drop off non-perishable donations anytime at local fire stations or grocery stores.

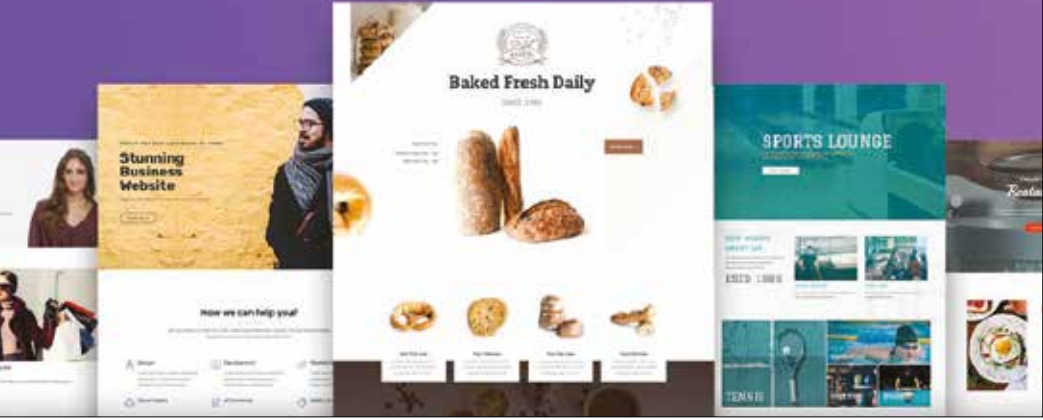
The Aurora Food Pantry provides food assistance to individuals and families in need, thanks to donations from local organizations, schools, businesses and individuals, and the dedicated volunteers who serve our clients. Together, we can ensure no one in Aurora and Oak Ridges goes hungry.

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THINGS you Ought To Know

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Aurora Historical Society Virtual Speaker Series – 7 p.m. Members \$8.50/person, Non-Members \$10.50/ person. Canadian pianist, Dr. Penny Johnson treats audiences to humorous and poignant stories from the great pianists of the past. The program draws upon unique material from a variety of historic piano texts, memoirs, interviews and articles. Accompanied by pictures, the program offers a friendly and engaging glimpse behind the scenes of such figures as Franz Liszt, Benno Moiseiwitsch, Artur Schnabel, Constance Keene and even the pet dog of Richard Wagner. This program is suitable for piano-enthusiasts of all ages. Tickets for the virtual talk can be secured at aurorahs.com.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Aurora Historical Society Golf Tournament – 1 p.m. Enjoy a round of golf at Aurora’s historic Westview Golf Course in support of Hillary House National Historic Site and know that your support dollars will be doubled! Register as an individual, or in sets of four. \$99 /per player. Registration price includes: one round of golf on the tournament day; refreshments; cart. This event will be a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Play games and bid on auction items. Sponsorships available too! All participants must follow the COVID-19 safety and health regulations in place at the golf course. Visit the AHS to register aurorahs.com/golf-tournament-0.

JUNE 25 – 26

I.D.E.A. | Your Voice, Our Community – A Symposium for Visual and Performing Artists & Facilitators exploring Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility. The Aurora Cultural Centre welcomes artists, facilitators and members of the arts community for a vibrant weekend of inspiring keynotes, incredible performances and workshops. Special guest speakers and facilitators include Lakehead University 1st Indigenous Chair for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, ABC President Phiona Durrant, performing artists Taylor James McKinnon, Mimi O’Bonsawin, Lucas Tensen – and so many more. Offered at no charge, with meals provided in the beautiful event setting of CFWI The Armoury. Advance registration is required as spaces are limited. For info and to register, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca/idea/

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

Constellations Music Festival in Aurora Town Park. Celebrating a night of Afro-Cuban, Brazilian and Haitian music from 7 – 9:45 p.m. Free. Featuring three great bands. Okan – Juno Award-winning Afro-Cuban roots; Tio Chorinho with Flávia Nascimento in a six-piece ensemble playing Brazilian choro music, and Montreal-based Haitian musician Wesli with his seven-piece band. You’ll be on your feet all evening long! A presentation of the Aurora Cultural Centre, offered at no charge thanks to support from Heritage Canada and Ontario Presents. Bring your picnics, lawn chairs and the family! No registration required. For info, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Garden Aurora returns with their Annual Tour of Gardens. Tour seven beautiful, local gardens created and hosted by the gardeners themselves. This rain or shine event is a fundraiser for our not-for-profit community organization and tickets are \$15. New Roots Garden Centre and Wild Birds Unlimited are joining us with discounts and special promotions. Details including ticket sales locations can be found on our website. This is a wonderful way to spend and afternoon, so join us. www.gardenaaurora.ca.

ON NOW

Backstories: The Researching Artist as Traveller & Interviewer, a solo exhibition by Andrew Cheddie Sookrah and presented by the Aurora Cultural Centre, exhibits paintings, drawings, and sculptures taken from Sookrah’s life as both traveller and artist. Recognized for his bright and expressive technique, Sookrah takes us on a journey through Haida Gwaii, Gros Morne, and many other places – including the intimate solitaires of his studio during a time of limited movement. To book your free appointment to our Gallery on the 2nd floor of Aurora Town Hall, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca

CONTINUING

Partagez le Français: Ce groupe accueille les ADULTES / 18+ (des francophones aux débutants capables de converser) - qui cherchent à mettre en pratique leurs compétences Conversationnelle en français. Over Zoom with

a nominal fee of \$2.50. RSVP by visiting meetup.com/Partagez-le-francais. For more information, email partagez.york@outlook.com.

Support AbuseHurts’ Delivering Hope Full Circle Program textile recycling and donation program. In the current COVID climate, a greater number of people are wanting to donate or get rid of unwanted items, increasing the need for more outlets being available to receive the items. This program will provide a convenient way for people to donate or get rid of used/unwanted clothing, blankets, linens and furniture and will help lessen the amount of items ending up in landfills. Materials that were previously perceived as waste will now be seen as a valuable resource further encouraging redistribution. The items will be recycled in the following ways: To be given to individuals who are survivors of violence and are transitioning from shelters into new homes; To be sold in our store; To be sold to a textile recycler, which makes for an ongoing source of funding for Abuse Hurts enabling them to provide their services to the thousands of people that require them each year. When and Where: Monday and Wednesday, every week, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., with 30-minute time slots – only 1 drop off per time slot. If you do not have an appointment, we cannot accept your donation. The Abuse Hurts Warehouse is located at 1208 Gorham St, Unit 4, Newmarket - rear unloading dock. Visit AbuseHurts.ca to select your drop off time slot.



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