

INSIDE AURORA: Aurora Quiz - Part 2

By Scott Johnston

It's once again time to find out how well you know the Town in which you live with our second Aurora Quiz.

As usual, the questions are a bit challenging, but to make it easier, all of the answers provide a 50% chance of being correct.

1. Has Aurora had at least 25 different mayors?
2. The Town's budget was \$74M in 2015. Of that, which portion was larger, the Operating Budget which covered programs and services, or the Capital Budget, which funded repairs, maintenance and construction of infrastructure?
3. How many different species of birds have been observed in Aurora's proposed Wildlife Park - more or less than 100?
4. As we know from the signs on our borders, Aurora is twinned with Leksand, Sweden. Which town has the larger population?
5. While living in Aurora in the 1920s, Anne Elizabeth Wilson became the founding editor of which Canadian Magazine: Chatelaine or Maclean's?
6. The oldest tree in Town is said to be about 200 years old, which makes it much older than the Town itself. Is this aged tree a Red Maple or a Burr Oak?
7. True or false; in the U.S. alone there are at least 23 different towns or municipalities named Aurora?
8. In 1874 the Aurora Armoury was the site of a famous speech by which Federal politician: Edward Blake or Alexander Mackenzie?
9. Aurora is about 600 kms inland from the nearest ocean, but is it more or less than half a kilometre (500 metres) above sea level?
10. At one point they intersect, but which came first: St John's Sideroad or the McKenzie Marsh?
11. Which was higher in 2015, the total amount of funding raised during Hoedown, or the combined total of all nine Council members' salaries?
12. True or false; Lions Parkette, the smallest park in Aurora's park system, covers an area less than that of a tennis court?
13. The Town's Latin motto, sol meus testis translates to: "the sun is my witness", or "the dawn heralds prosperity"?
14. When the cell tower was built in King City near Bathurst, there were concerns expressed about radio emissions. But in the unlikely event it actually fell over to the east, is it tall enough to reach our Town's border?
15. True or false; the largest animal known to be buried in the Aurora Pet Cemetery is a camel named Humphrey that was part of a travelling animal show that passed through Town in the 1930s?
16. Which local sports group is older: the Aurora Master Ducks Swimmers or the Aurora Tigers hockey team?
17. Which famous person has their name misspelled on the Larter Mural at Yonge and Wellington: Armand Bombardier or John A. Macdonald?
18. Would you be able to seat more people in Theatre Aurora, or in two Viva Blue buses?
19. True or false; Petch House was originally a hotel?
20. The large underground bunker in the north end of Town was originally built: to house politicians during a potential nuclear threat during the Cold War, or as a future weather event refuge for area residents following the severe damage to local buildings caused by Hurricane Hazel?

Answers:

1. Yes, there have been 29 since 1888
2. Operating was larger, at \$56M, compared to \$18M for Capital
3. More - about 150 species
4. Aurora, by a wide margin; roughly 55,000 to 5,900 for Leksand.
5. Chatelaine
6. Burr Oak
7. True
8. Edward Blake

9. Less - it ranges from about 260 to 310 metres above sea level
10. St. John's Sideroad ? the marsh was created relatively recently
11. Hoedown's \$464,000 could have (but mercifully didn't have to) easily covered all of council's combined salaries of \$287,000
12. False. The parkette is about 500 square metres, about twice the size of a tennis court
13. The sun is my witness
14. Yes, at 60 metres tall, the top would just land on our side of Bathurst, but it wouldn't reach any private properties
15. False
16. The Tigers, by about 30 years
17. John A. Macdonald - incorrect upper case "d"
18. Theatre Aurora (154 seats) ? together two buses would accommodate 144 seated passengers
19. False
20. It was built for the politicians in the event of a nuclear attack

Scoring:

- 0 - 5 You're not from around here, are you?
- 6 -10 Not bad - you're obviously a local
- 11 -18 Well done - you've been reading The Auroran
- 19 -20 Congratulations, you must have been a Citizen of the Year