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King's Community Newspaper

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## Firefighters hold car wash

The Schomberg Firefighters Association hosted their charity carwash at the Trisan Centre in Schomberg, for the 3rd year in a row since re-opening public fundraising after the pandemic. Raising just under \$2,000 over the course of the Saturday, funds to go support MS and restoring the original Schomberg fire truck purchased in 1929. Car wash-goers enjoyed a good wash provided with care from the volunteer firefighters of station 36, and the thrill of getting their car rinsed by the large nozzle at the tip of the ladder from the stations aerial fire truck 366.

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## Staff waiting for direction on Nobleton Hall

By Mark Pavilons  
Editor

The future of the Nobleton Community Hall is still up in the air.

Chris Fasciano, Director of Community Services, recent noted that currently, staff do not have direction on future plans, uses or improvements for the facility from council. However, staff are in the process of developing options and intend to present them to council for direction in the future.

He noted there are several ongoing initiatives that need to be contemplated prior to making a decision on the NCH. At minimum, the following needs to be completed prior to any staff presenting recommendation(s) to council:

Asset Management Plan for non-linear assets; Energy Management Plan Update; Facility Services Master Plan Update, and Neighbourhood Plans Exercise.

In light of the above, staff are only performing re-

quired preventive maintenance and continue to make the facility available for rentals where inquires are received. Since February 2024, the NCH has been rented three times.

“Given the role that pending studies have on future planning for the NCH, staff are not currently exploring options for grant funding. In addition, it is not anticipated that there will be 2025 budget requests associated with the NCH, unless otherwise directed by council,” Fasciano noted.

In a letter by resident Nancy Hopkinson, she pointed out remedial work on the hall should be undertaken as soon as possible.

She noted the eavestrough has finally been fixed but the parching of the sides and the concrete steps and platform are still looking terrible.

“There should be no need to wait for further reports before the outside of the building is repaired and before accessibility is achieved,” she said.



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INSIDE	<b>REGULAR FEATURES</b>		
	Editorial Page 4 Business Page 8 Sports Page 14 Classifieds Page 16		Traffic calming measures in King.  See Page 3
			Rec. Centre progressing well; plenty of features.  See Page 14



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## Upcoming Meetings



### COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Tuesday, September 3**  
6 p.m. - Public Planning Meeting

### COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

**Thursday, September 5**  
6 p.m. - Heritage Advisory Committee

Hybrid meeting (in-person/virtual participation, live-streamed).  
Visit: [king.ca/cofameetings](http://king.ca/cofameetings) for more information.

View full Council and Committee agendas at [king.ca/meetings](http://king.ca/meetings)



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Learn more at [king.ca/WaterBilling](http://king.ca/WaterBilling)



## Property Tax Due Date: July 24



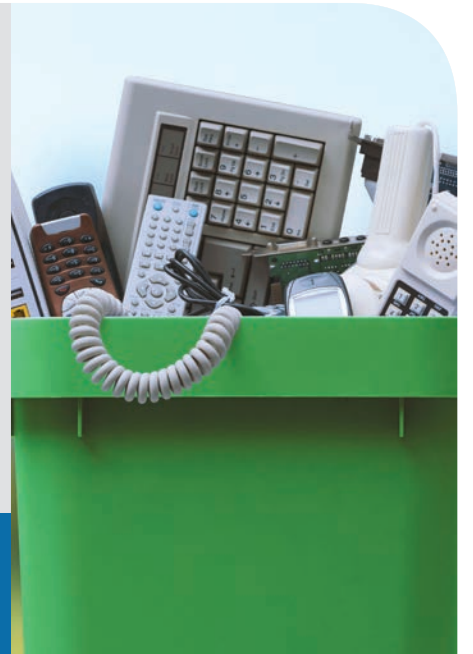
[king.ca/PropertyTaxes](http://king.ca/PropertyTaxes)

## Community Electronic Recycling Event at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre

Saturday, July 27 at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Do you have old electronics collecting dust at home?** Properly dispose of your e-waste for FREE. Bring your unwanted electronics (e.g., TVs, computers, cameras) to ensure they are disposed of safely, recycled and kept out of landfill.

For more information, visit [king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents](http://king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents)



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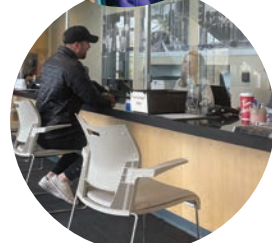


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# KING

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# Mackenzie Health continues to grow to meet demand

By Mark Pavilons  
Editor

Mackenzie Health and its array of services are “in a good place,” and they continue to grow, despite pressures and limitations.

An update was provided to King council by Mackenzie’s CEO Altaf Stationwala.

He noted things are stable, operations are functioning well and the organization is financially sound.

The hospitals are busy and have exceeded projections. They tend to be full, he noted, and beds are often in short supply. Wait times have increased with a whopping 600 to 700 patients per day. Emergency department visits hit

20,158 this past May.

Stationwala said they are being quite creative and putting patients in “unconventional spaces” in order to meet the demand. They are constantly repurposing spaces and rooms to accommodate patients.

He did admit, however, that some 50 patients per day are waiting for beds.

They are working with the government to add beds to the Cortellucci-Vaughan facility.

One factor in the rise of visits is that 20 to 25% of patients are “unattached,” meaning they don’t have a primary health provider or family doctor.

They are hiring staff and there are currently more than 5,500 employees at the facilities.

Despite these ongoing challenges, the organization is growing and evolving. The Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital is expanding and they are partners with York University’s new School of Medicine.

This will see a large-scale expansion of the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct, which includes Courtellucci Vaughan Hospital, accessory buildings, York University and the long-term care

facility. This site is located at Major MacKenzie Drive and Jane.

Mackenzie Health has also enhanced patient care through technology, including the recent IV infusion development.

The Mackenzie Health Foundation, he said, is updating its strategic plan and actively raising funds and securing donors. They are also “building a strong culture of philanthropy.”



## King traffic calming measures

As part of traffic calming efforts in King Township, flexible bollards – which serve as a visual reminder to slow down and a physical device to slow motor vehicle speeds as they pass the sign – have been installed along the centre of the following roadways:

Kettleby Road; Church Street at 17th Sideroad (between Keele Street & Jane Street); 17th Sideroad (west of Dufferin Street), and 19th Sideroad.

The bollards will remain in place until winter when they will be removed for winter maintenance activities, such as snow plowing. The bollards are designed to flex upon impact to prevent damage to vehicles and so that they will not slow down emergency vehicles.

Learn more about the Township’s commitment to traffic safety at [king.ca/trafficcalming](http://king.ca/trafficcalming)

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## York Region achieves highest 2023 diversion rate in Ontario

York Region achieved 94% diversion from landfill in 2023, exceeding Regional Council’s goal of 90% waste diversion from landfill for the 7th consecutive year. The Region’s diversion rate includes all waste collection through local municipal curbside programs, waste depot diversion programs and energy-from-waste.

The 2023 Annual Waste Management Report summarizes York Region’s diversion and waste reduction initiatives and highlights progress made on implementing the Integrated Waste Management Master Plan (SM4RT Living Plan). This includes:

Successfully navigating legislative changes, including preparing for the Blue Box Program transition to full producer responsibility and finding alternatives to single-use items.

Using resources and infrastructure more strategically to achieve SM4RT Living, including contracting the construction and operation of a state-of-the-art biofuel facility to manage organics and produce renewable natural gas.

Inspiring people across York Region to embrace SM4RT Living and advance the circular economy through the Circular Economy Initiatives Fund and helping businesses reduce reliance on single-use items.

York Region monitors progress towards waste reduction targets set in the SM4RT Living Plan by tracking amounts of waste households put out at the curb. Learn more about York Region’s programs to help reduce waste at [york.ca/Waste](http://york.ca/Waste).

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# Editorial, Letters & Opinion

*"A newspaper is the center of a community, it's one of the tent poles of the community, and that's not going to be replaced by websites and blogs."*

- Michael Connelly

## Checking things off my personal bucket list

I never really thought of "bucket list" ideas until recently.

I loved the 2007 movie of the same name starring Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman.

Some say that's where the term got its popularity and it's tough to actually track down the origins of this saying.

Simply put, it's a list of the things that a person would like to do or achieve before they die.

American author Sark advises us to "fill your life with tiny and large adventurous moments."

And Eleanor Roosevelt said: "The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."

People have come up with thousands of normal, adventurous and outlandish things to do before the bucket is empty. But really, any new experience is bucket list worthy. It may not be earth-shattering, but if it's important to you, that's all that matters.

I'm lucky in many ways, and could scratch off maybe two dozen items on a typical person's list:

Flying in a plane and helicopter, visiting the Caribbean, Europe and various Canadian and American cities. I flew over the Hoover Dam; attempted skiing and skating. I'm not really a winter sport person and much prefer the warmer climes.

I swam in lakes, rivers and oceans. I have driven many cars, eaten in fancy restaurants and even owned a pair of leather pants!

I once got an eagle in golf and scored a few goals in the limited sports I played.

Some of these aren't really bucket list worthy, however.

It's funny because statistics say that most of us in North America don't venture too far from home. It's estimated the average Canadian lives (and dies) within 300 kilometres of where they were born.



Mark Pavilons

But we do love to travel and Canadians are welcome around the world. I've been to the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Mexico, The Bahamas, and St. Maarten. Each has its unique flavour and draw.

I remember my mom telling me in my mid-20s that travel is a must - I had to make every effort to get away and see for myself the lure of the tropics.

She was right of course. Moms usually are.

Kim and I really soaked up the fun in the sun and our tans spoke for themselves. We saw sunrises and sunsets, and were knocked silly by several waves.

We tried, as often as we could, to engage the locals and find out about their lives and culture. We hated the term "tourist" for its negative innuendo, and much preferred "visitor" or "guest."

Each adventure was different and some even presented some inherent dangers. Oh, the wreckless naivete.

We brought back some nice jewellery from St. Maarten, where my wife

treated me to a wedding gift. Jewellery shops there (at least at the time) invited you in, gave you a beer and let you sit and chat. If they didn't have what you were looking for, they'd literally run down the street to another shop to grab that special item. Very reasonable, especially considering today's sky-high gold prices. I wouldn't even consider buying gold today.

I've been to casinos in Atlantic City and Vegas, enjoying sights and sounds of these sinful places that never sleep.

I've been to the horse races at Woodbine and enjoyed a lucrative Father's Day triactor win with my dad. One of the best days ever for both him and I.

I have been to the theatre and was mesmerized by The Phantom of the Opera during its Toronto run. I've tried to take the kids to as many of these as I could over the years, to expand their horizons and give them an appreciation of the arts. Both of my girls loved each and every one.

I actually owned a 1970 Camaro RS. Picked it up in my teens for under \$1,000. Loved that car. Today, a totally refurbished one sells for upwards of \$50,000. Oh, the short-sightedness of youth.

Variety definitely is the spice of life.

I feel bad for those who live somewhat sheltered, off-the-map lives in some back woods region of any country. They never get to explore the world and truly appreciate what we've been

given.

Heck, I've read that some places in the southern U.S. still don't have plumbing or electricity. This is also true of several developing nations around the globe, where poverty reigns and human lives come and go with nary a glance.

So sad.

Another way to truly appreciate our brethren is to volunteer abroad, or take on a challenge of giving back. I highly recommend it.

I've been blessed, thanks to my oldest daughter Lexie, who encouraged me to join her on one of her humanitarian missions to the DR, helping to improve the plight of migrant Haitian sugar cane workers. Eye-opening to say the least. Humbling, too.

Despite the poverty, I was uplifted by the human spirit, the resilience and faith these people showed. Their hope for advancement was severely limited and most were happy to just enjoy each day as it came, making it to the next.

I'm reminded by Mother Teresa's words: "If you can't feed a hundred people, feed just one."

Imagine if we in North America, added that to our bucket list?

Maybe our bucket list isn't a list, or a bucket at all. Perhaps it's a culmination of the experiences that make up who we are. It's about the basic human emotions.

And those are things I really hope we take with us into the next world.

### Economy

## Ontario adds thousands of jobs in June

Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, noted Ontario added 9,800 jobs in June, including 8,600 jobs in the manufacturing sector.

"For the sixth consecutive month, employment in Ontario has increased, demonstrating that our plan to rebuild the economy is working," he said.

"Since the beginning of this year, more than 140,000 jobs have been added to our economy as our government continues to work hard to attract new investments and create jobs in every part of the province.

"In June, we led a delegation to Europe and set-up shop at the Collision Conference in Toronto, promoting Ontario's business competitiveness, strong supply chains and highly skilled workforce to international companies.

"As part of our Regional Development Program, which provides financial support and advisory services to local businesses looking to expand, we welcomed \$93 million in new investments last month from four manufacturing companies in Oxford County. These investments will create 187 new, good-paying jobs in southwestern Ontario.

"Our government is also laser-focused on strengthening relationships with our neighbours to the south. Cross-border trade is crucial to the region, generating billions of dollars in economic activity and supporting millions of jobs. That's why, over the past year, our government has signed agreements with Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Nevada to boost trade, attract investment and foster ongoing collaboration across our manufacturing, tech and life sciences sectors.

"As we navigate ongoing global uncertainty, we will continue to work with workers, business groups and governments on both sides of the border to create better jobs and bigger pay cheques for more Ontario workers."



### Quote of the Week

*"Canadians apologize so much because we know we're the greatest. Sorry!"*

- Dan Aykroyd

### Trivia Tidbits

**Canada has more donut shops per capita than any other country in the world.**

**KingWeeklySentinel WEBPOLL**  
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Results from last week's poll:

**Are you travelling or staying close to home this summer?**

a) Travelling  **50%**

b) Staying home  **50%**

The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**

Have you lost someone close to you from cancer?

a) Yes  
b) No

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# The shift to cleaner energy is unstoppable

By David Suzuki

## Environment

The renewable energy transformation is accelerating — no matter how hard the fossil fuel industry and its supporters push back. It's about time. I'm just one of many who've spent decades warning about the consequences of burning massive amounts of dirty fuels.

Of course, we must do much more if we want to avoid worsening the climate change impacts we're already seeing: heat domes and other extreme weather events, floods, droughts, wildfires, migrant crises, species extinctions, water shortages, rising sea levels and more — not to mention pollution-related health problems.

The good news is that the transition is well underway. The International Energy Agency expects global investment in renewable energy technology and infrastructure to reach US\$2 trillion this year, double the amount going into gas, oil and coal. Last year also saw a significant increase. According to Reuters, "Combined investment in renewable power and grids overtook the amount spent on fossil fuels for the first time in 2023."

A report by London-based energy think tank Ember found that "renewables generated a record 30% of global electricity in 2023, driven by growth in solar and wind." Solar generation grew by 23 per cent, wind by 10 per cent and fossil fuels by just 0.8 per cent. "The report analyses electricity data from 215 countries, including the latest 2023 data for 80 countries representing 92% of global electricity demand."

The renewable energy contribution might have been higher, but drought conditions caused a reduction in hydropower, some of which was replaced by coal power in China, India, Vietnam and Mexico — the main reason behind the slight growth in fossil fuel generation.

According to the report, "the latest forecasts give confidence that 2024 will begin a new era of falling fossil generation, marking 2023 as the likely peak of power sector emissions."

"There's an unprecedented opportunity for countries that choose to be at the forefront of the clean energy future," Ember's Global Insights program director Dave Jones said. "Expanding clean electricity not only helps to decar-

bonise the power sector. It also provides the step up in supply needed to electrify the whole economy; and that's the real game-changer for the climate."

Contrary to fossil fuel interest claims, Ember also found that fossil gas isn't replacing coal power. "There's going to be a bit of a rude awakening on gas," Jones said. "The gas industry before were really looking forward to coal collapsing because that was going to create a new market for them but actually ... wind and solar is replacing coal and it's replacing gas."

David Suzuki Foundation research confirms that increased fracking for liquefied natural gas in British Columbia and Alberta isn't good for the climate or economy — let alone drought-stricken water supplies.

Another sign of the fossil fuel era's demise is the number of countries producing power from renewable sources. According to the International Energy Agency and International Renewable Energy Agency, seven countries — Albania, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Iceland, Nepal, Paraguay and the Democratic Republic of Congo — now generate 99.7 per cent of their electricity from geothermal, hydro, solar and/or wind power.

"Another 40 countries got at least half of their electricity from renewables in 2021 and 2022 including 11 in Europe," EuroNews reports. "Others, like Germany or Portugal, are capable of running on 100 per cent wind, water and solar for short amounts of time."

An earlier David Suzuki Foundation report found that Canada can achieve reliable, affordable, 100 per cent emissions-free electricity by 2035 "without relying on expensive and sometimes unproven and dangerous technologies like nuclear or fossil gas with carbon capture and storage."

Growing electrification of the global economy means increased demand, so energy conservation is also important. We must use and waste less.

The latest research clearly shows the world is well on its way to quitting fossil fuels — but we need to move even faster to avoid increasing weather chaos and catastrophe. We've already locked in enormous amounts of greenhouse gases that will remain in the atmosphere

for decades, so impacts will continue, but we can slow and eventually reverse the trend.

The accelerating shift is good for the economy, climate, human health and air, land and water. A cleaner, better world is in sight, but we must leave fos-

sil fuels in the ground and in the past.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington. Learn more at [david Suzuki.org](http://david Suzuki.org).

## Province moves up alcohol sales in stores

As the next step in the government's plan to give people in Ontario more choice and convenience, licensed grocery stores will be able to order ready-to-drink beverages and large beer pack sizes starting Thursday (July 18) and begin selling them immediately upon arrival.

This new timeline accelerates the first phase of the government's plan to expand alcohol sales to grocery, convenience and big-box stores by allowing the 450 grocery stores that are currently licensed to sell beer, cider or wine to sell them once they arrive in store, rather than Aug. 1.

"Our government is keeping our promise to give people in Ontario choice and convenience while supporting Ontario-made beverage producers across the province, including the Ontario businesses that produce more than 80 per cent of the ready-to-drink beverages sold here in our province," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance. "This is an important milestone for grocery retailers and consumers alike as we continue our work modernizing Ontario's alcohol marketplace."

By the end of October, as part of the government's plan to expand alcohol sales that was originally announced in May 2024, every convenience, grocery and big-box store in Ontario will be able to sell beer, cider, wine and ready-to-drink alcoholic beverages if they choose to do so. Over time, this new, more open marketplace will introduce up to an estimated 8,500 new stores where these products can be sold, the largest expansion of consumer choice and convenience since the end of prohibition almost 100 years ago. As the province implements its plan, the government will continue to constantly evaluate how it can deliver choice and convenience.

In addition to beginning the sale of ready-to-drink beverages and large pack-sizes of beer in the existing licensed grocery stores later this month, the government is also creating temporary flexibility to allow licensed grocery stores to display alcohol in multiple areas of a store, with some limits. To help bars and restaurants manage inventory and to help ensure consistent supply of products, the government is also temporarily allowing the transfer of wine and spirits between locations with the same owner and/or affiliated licensees.

To help consumers connect with local retailers and producers close to home, the province has also launched a new searchable and interactive map of retailers that remain open and ready to serve. These retailers include more than 1,000 local Ontario breweries, wineries, wine shops and distilleries, in addition to other retailers such as LCBO Convenience Outlets, The Beer Store and licensed grocery stores that sell a range of Ontario-made and imported products. As new retailers are licensed to sell alcoholic beverages, they will be added to the map.

There are thousands of alcohol retailers open across Ontario, including more than 1,000 local wineries and winery retail stores, distillery retail stores, breweries, approximately 1,200 grocery stores, LCBO Convenience Outlets and The Beer Store locations, and many bars and restaurants that sell takeaway alcohol.

The government is working closely with the LCBO, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) and The Beer Store, while consulting and meeting with industry partners, local beverage alcohol producers and other stakeholders as it prepares to launch this new marketplace.

## NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REPORT

### Proposed York Energy Centre Upgrades Project

Capital Power Corporation (Capital Power), through its affiliate York Energy Centre L.P., is proposing equipment upgrades at the existing York Energy Centre (YEC), located at 18781 Dufferin Street, Township of King.

The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties that Capital Power has completed an environmental review to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed equipment upgrades (the Project).

The proposed Project is contracted with Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and would provide approximately 30 megawatts (MW) of additional electricity generating capacity, which is reflective of an approximate 7% increase in generating capacity. The proposed modifications of the YEC include:

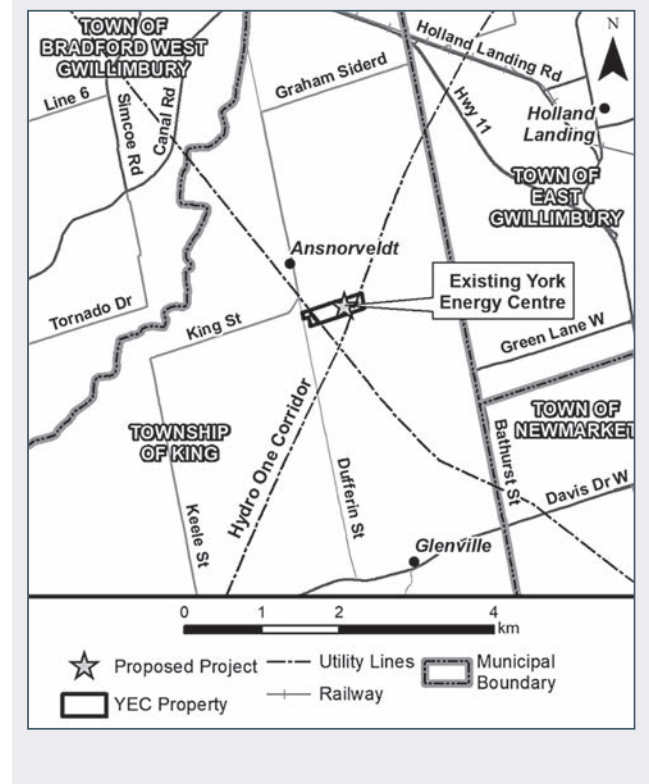
- installation of a turbine upgrade package that will increase operational performance and reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx);
- installation of an inlet fogging system;
- installation of larger transformer cooling fans; and
- adjustments to control logic.

The Project will result in improved efficiency, increased generation capacity and reduced NOx emissions at the YEC. The upgrades would be completed during regularly scheduled maintenance outages in 2025.

### Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects

The Project is subject to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' (MECP's) Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects (ESP), in accordance with Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 50/24 under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and as described in the *Guide to Environmental Assessment Requirements for Electricity Projects* (2024). At the time of Project commencement in May 2023, O. Reg. 116/01 was in effect but has since been revoked by the Government of Ontario, and the Project is now subject to O. Reg. 50/24.

The ESP has two tiers of assessment: Screening Stage and Environmental Review Stage. Capital Power has voluntarily completed the Environmental Review Stage and has prepared an Environmental Review Report (ERR) to document the assessment of potential environmental effects of the Project, which are limited to minor changes in air and noise emissions during operation. Capital Power intends to proceed with the Project subject to the receipt of other approvals.



### Invitation to Provide Comments

The ERR is now available for public review and comment for 30-calendar days from **July 18, 2024 to August 19, 2024**.

The ERR can be viewed on the project website at: [www.capitalpower.com/operations/york-energy-centre-upgrade](http://www.capitalpower.com/operations/york-energy-centre-upgrade)

A hard copy of the ERR can also be viewed during regular business hours at the Newmarket Public Library (Customer Service Desk) at 438 Park Avenue, Newmarket.



### Questions or comments on the ERR should be directed to:

Lawrence Nasen  
Senior Specialist, Environment

Capital Power  
18781 Dufferin Street  
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4V9  
Email: [info@capitalpower.com](mailto:info@capitalpower.com)

If environmental concerns about the Project cannot be resolved in discussion with Capital Power, a written request to elevate the project to a Comprehensive Environmental Assessment can be made to the MECP before the end of the 30-day review period (August 19, 2024). Elevation requests must be submitted to the Minister, copying the Director of the Environmental Assessment Branch and Capital Power:

Minister  
Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks  
777 Bay St., 5th Floor,  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Email: [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch  
Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks  
135 St. Clair Ave. W., 1st Floor,  
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5  
Email: [EABDirector@ontario.ca](mailto:EABDirector@ontario.ca)

Elevation requests must be made in accordance with the provisions set out in the Environmental Screening Process for Electricity Projects. For more information on elevation requests, refer to Section B.4.1.1 here: [www.ontario.ca/page/guide-environmental-assessment-requirements-electricity-projects](http://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-environmental-assessment-requirements-electricity-projects)

[capitalpower.com](http://capitalpower.com)

Comments and personal information submitted as part of this Project are being collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of meeting environmental assessment requirements. For more information, please contact MECP's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator. This notice first published: July 18, 2024

**Capital Power**

# Trump is neither unique nor irreplaceable

By Gwynne Dyer

Politics

Almost everybody who feels obliged to comment about the attempted assassination of Donald Trump is currently insisting that 'violence has no place in American politics', but of course it has. Four US presidents have been assassinated while in office, and three others (now including Trump) have been injured in assassination attempts.

Seven presidents out of forty-five have been killed or wounded by a would-be assassin's bullet. That's a

higher casualty rate than American soldiers suffered in any war of the past century. Violence plays a considerably larger role in American politics than it does in other developed countries, but it's not clear why.

It can't just be that the murder rate is much higher in America than in other fully developed countries (six times higher than Germany or Britain). The U.S. murder rate is similar to the mur-

der rate in semi-developed countries like Paraguay, Thailand or Russia, but none of those countries has a similar rate of political assassinations.

So we're left with the default answer. All those American presidents were shot by guns, which are universally available in the United States but rare elsewhere. The U.S. has at least the same share of fanatics and nut-cases as other countries, so what did you expect?

The more interesting question is whether assassinations really change the course of history all that much. Intuition says yes, but historical experience says probably not.

Intuition says that the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in 1865, just after his victory in the American Civil War, delayed the genuine emancipation of American blacks by at least a century.

Realism says the 'reconstruction' of race-based attitudes and institutions, especially in the South, was bound to take three or four generations no matter who was president. Indeed, the job is still not finished.

Intuition says that the Second World War would not have happened if any of the nine alleged assassination plots against Adolf Hitler during the 1930s (mostly by Germans) had succeeded.

Realism says the extreme character of the peace treaty imposed on the losing powers after the First World War made the Second World War inevitable. If not Hitler, then Himmler or Goebbels or Goering. If not the Nazis, then some other far-right German group seeking revenge for the 'unfairness' of history.

Intuition says the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy in 1968, just when he was looking likely to win the Democratic presidential nomination, was a tragedy that prolonged the Vietnam war and opened the road to power for the criminal Richard Nixon.

Realism says that Kennedy might not have won the nomination, that if he did he might not have won the election - and if he had become president it would probably have taken him just as long to find a face-saving way out of the Vietnam mess as it actually took Nixon.

True, there would have been no Watergate scandal, but so what?

And what if Saturday's bullet had hit Donald Trump about two fingers' width to the right? Half the U.S. population would be enraged and the other half would be secretly relieved, but how much would really be changed?

The Republican Party in the U.S. would still be much further to the right than it was 10 years ago, and it's sheer nonsense to believe that Donald Trump was the sole cause for that slide into crude nationalism and populism.

Boris Johnson in Britain, Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil, Marine Le Pen in France, Narendra Modi in India and half a dozen other populist leaders have been peddling similar falsehoods to similar demographic groups in deniable partnership with the same neo-liberal financial interests for years: Donald Trump is not unique, nor is he irreplaceable.

We are at what may be peak neo-liberalism right now. It began its rise with the elections of Margaret Thatcher in the United Kingdom in 1979 and Ronald Reagan in the United States in 1980, and for the next four-and-a-half decades the gulf between the very rich and the rest grew steadily wider almost everywhere.

There was nobody to put the brakes on before this process triggered a big political backlash, because the global rich are not that well organized. The victims were always free to vote against it, but mostly did not until the damage became too obvious to ignore. That is starting to happen now.

At this late stage in the cycle, the tactics of subtle misdirection must give way to the cruder distractions of nationalism and populism, and the Trumps and Johnsons of the world get their time on the stage. But they are stereotypes filling roles, not original thinkers with real plans.

As a number of people have pointed out, the graveyards are full of indispensable men.

Gwynne Dyer is an author, historian and independent journalist.



Bakery supports King Proud

Thanks were extended to Josie and Dorio's Bakery for helping to raise awareness for King Proud and the King Chamber. Next time your in Kettleby stop into the bakery, the sweet treats are great. King Proud is a merchandise line that supports the Morning Youth Grant for young entrepreneurs in King. For more, visit [king-chamber.ca/king-proud](http://king-chamber.ca/king-proud)

## YRP releases 2023 annual report

York Regional Police is pleased to share with the community the 2023 Annual Report, now exclusively in digital format.

The digital format is accessible and meets AODA standards. It is also mobile-optimized to view on your handheld device and features a responsive design, with photos populating as you move over them.

The content of the 2023 Annual Report highlights our law enforcement and crime prevention efforts across the four main objectives of the 2023-2025 Business Plan: Safety and Well-Being, Inclusion and Belonging, Recruitment and Retention and Continuous Innovation and Improvement. The report also highlights the efforts from each of our five districts.

In addition to these themes, an underlying focus for York Regional Police has been, and continues to be, supporting victims of crime. Members of York Regional Police often find ourselves caring for victims of crime. Treating them with compassion and respect is an intrinsic duty shared by all our members.

The stories on this site detail our rescue of 64 victims of labour trafficking, who were subject to deplorable living and working conditions. Our community partners supported us, offering medical attention, food and shelter to assist these victims. YRP investigators


also solved the 51-year-old cold case of the murder of Yvonne Leroux through technological advances in DNA, bringing justice to the victim's family.

In 2023, YRP officers also concentrated their efforts to dismantle the increasing number of organized criminal groups responsible for auto thefts, guns and gangs and violent crime like carjackings. The report highlights the multiple operations launched by YRP to combat this rise in violent crime using data-driven, specially-trained investigative teams.

"We continue to leverage advances in technology that contribute to the modernization of our police service, including a new state-of-the art helicopter acquired in 2023 and the re-design of our cruisers to a simpler, navy-and-white, two-tone design," they noted.

"Last year, we continued to build towards an equitable workplace through anti-racism training for all members and the creation of several Internal Support Networks that celebrate our members' varied cultural histories. We are also proud to share the details of our fundraising efforts like Holiday Heroes and Police Appreciation Night, benefiting Victim Services of York Region, the Salvation Army and the York Region Centre for Community Safety."

Visit their Community Safety Data Portal for complete stats.




# King

## 7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, July 18 to Wednesday, July 24

THURS 18TH	FRI 19TH	SAT 20TH	SUN 21ST	MON 22ND	TUES 23RD	WED 24TH
Mainly Sunny High 20C° Low 12C° Wind NW 21k	Mainly Sunny High 24C° Low 14C° Wind W 8k	Mainly Sunny High 26C° Low 15C° Wind W 8k	Chance of Shower High 25C° Low 15C° <1mm Wind N 7k	Sun/Clouds High 27C° Low 16C° Wind N 6k	Sun/Clouds High 25C° Low 17C° Wind E 10k	A Few Showers High 25C° Low 18C° ~5mm Wind S 8k



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# Local woman needs kidney transplant to live a long life

By Mark Pavilons  
Editor

A local woman is struggling with a medical condition that could cut her life short.

But Schomberg's Jodie Wilson, who works at Tru Country, retains a positive outlook.

Those who know her attest to her friendly and helpful nature, hiding the fact she suffers from a rare kidney disease known as Focal Segmental Glomerular Sclerosis (FSGS).

This rare disease causes scarring of the kidneys leading to kidney failure and death. FSGS can only be treated with dialysis or kidney transplant.

Doctors told her she wouldn't make it to 30 but Jodie is 31 this year. She is in urgent need of a live donor to extend her longevity.

The community has rallied around her with social media posts about her and her condition.

Jodie explained that currently, she doesn't have much limitation – "I just do what I gotta do to keep on going."

She pointed out she was born with renal failure but it wasn't until she was 16 when she went for a kidney biopsy and discovered she had FSGS.

"It's been alright living with this disease; I have my up and downs."

She hasn't reached the stage where she's heading for dialysis and so the live donor option is one of the best.

She retains hope, and was grateful to have found someone who's willing to go through the process.

But it's a considerable one.

According to the University Health Network (UHN), a kidney transplant is the treatment of choice for individ-

uals experiencing kidney failure. Many patients currently on the waitlist for a deceased donor kidney have a long and difficult road ahead. Living donation offers a shorter pathway to transplantation.

They have the largest kidney transplant program in Canada and the UHN team is dedicated to helping patients through every stage of a successful transplant, offering transplant services to patients with even the most complex medical conditions.

They are also home to Canada's largest kidney living donor program, providing exceptional patient care and achieving excellent results for recipients and donors.

They've done more than 5,000 kidney transplants since the program started over 50 years ago, and more than 1,600 living donor transplants since 1966.

To become a Living Kidney Donor, you first have to apply, and complete a form. After it's submitted, the donor assessment office will review your health history and then ask you to attend an educational session. It moves on from there.

For more, visit [https://www.uhn.ca/Transplant/Living\\_Donor\\_Program/Pages/living\\_kidney\\_donor.aspx](https://www.uhn.ca/Transplant/Living_Donor_Program/Pages/living_kidney_donor.aspx)

Sadly, Jodie doesn't have support from her parents. Both died when she was younger and she's pretty much on her own.

The Angus native attended Banting in Alliston through Grade 11 when her dad became ill and passed away in August of 2010.

"Between all of this I had to go to the kidney doctors and I had a kidney biopsy and found out I had FSGA at that time. It was a new kidney disease no one really knew about its impact on

kidney filters.

Weeks later, her mom was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and she passed away in 2014.

"The last 2 years of my high school I went to school and had to take care of my mom. I was at stage 2 and as the years went on my kidneys kept declining."

Fast-forward to last year and Jodie and her boyfriend were in a serious car accident outside of Tottenham.

Her kidneys kept failing and as of December 2023, they were at 14%.

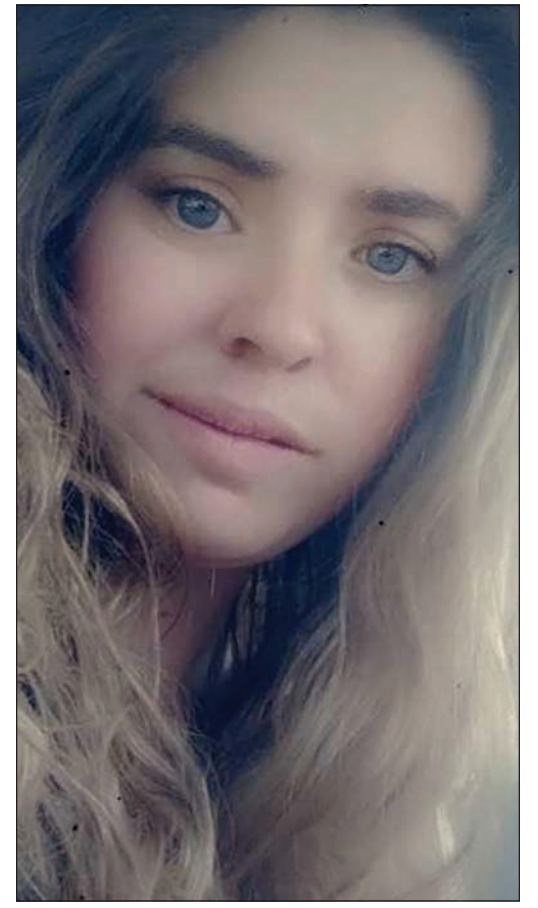
Physicians felt she was a perfect candidate for a transplant and the process began in January of this year.

She is o-positive and her kidney output rose a few percentage points.

Now it's a bit of a waiting game to see if there's a willing donor and a match for her.

Local friends launched the social media post and customers keep coming in to check on her progress.

Check out the UHN Living Donor site and for more, email Jodie at [jodiew219@gmail.com](mailto:jodiew219@gmail.com)



## Minister supports workers

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan and Minister of Energy and Electrification, spoke at the annual HydroOne Grid Games in Vaughan, attended by 2,000 energy workers and their families.

"My worlds collided as hundreds of energy workers came to Vaughan for the 'Grid Games' – HydroOne's annual family appreciation day," said Lecce. "I thanked this hard-working team for keeping the lights on 24/7, and reaffirmed our government's commitment to generate more clean, reliable, and affordable energy for families and seniors. I also promised workers that our government will continue to oppose the carbon tax on Ontario families."

## SCHOMBERG TRU COUNTRY & GARDEN

Sale Prices in effect July 18 to July 24, 2024

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">WILSON MOUSE OUT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RAT &amp; MOUSE KILLER PELLETS 360gr (6x60gr)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>Reg. \$16.99 <b>SALE</b> <b>\$12.99</b></p> </div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">ARMSTRONG ULTRA SONGBIRD BLEND</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>15 kg Reg. \$45.99 <b>SALE</b> <b>\$41.99</b></p> </div> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">MIRACLE GRO POTTING MIX</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>0.18-0.09-0.14 8.8L Reg. \$7.99 <b>SALE</b> <b>\$6.49</b></p> </div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">ANT B GON MAX</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p>1L SPRAY Reg. \$11.99 <b>SALE</b> <b>\$10.49</b></p> </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">WINDSOR CLEAN &amp; PROTECT 4 IN 1 WATER SOFTENER SALT</p> <p>Reg. \$8.79 <b>SALE</b> <b>\$8.29</b></p> </div> </div>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">ALL FLY MASKS</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: right;"> <p><b>20% OFF</b></p> </div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: yellow;">ALL SUMMER SMILES POOL CHEMICALS 10% OFF</p>

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# STEPHEN LECCE

## MPP for King-Vaughan

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## Celebrate Sidewalkable Saturday in Schomberg July 20

Schomberg Main Street businesses are taking their stores to the sidewalk on Saturday, July 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the "Sidewalkable Saturday" event, featuring deals from participating specialty shops and eateries. Music fans can also catch a live show in The Lions Park, where The Wave Riders will take the stage.

A popular tourist destination, Main Street, located just south of Highway 9 and west of Highway 27, is bursting with charm and historic character. Shoppers can look forward to bargains on a wide range of products, from home décor, jewellery, and designer clothing to vintage finds, antiques and luxury gifts. Participating shops include: Vintage Peony, Conscious Find, De Rose Designs & Floral Boutique, Cottage and Crown, Schomberg Quality Meats, 66 Nails Spa, Surge Activewear and Schomberg Dental, to name a few.

After exploring the unique offerings of Main Street shops, visitors can savor a variety of culinary delights ranging from fine dining to pub food – both indoors and al fresco on outdoor patios. Participating establishments include: Historia Cantina, Chilaquiles Box Mexican Food, Leonardo's Smokehouse and Pizzeria, The Schomberg Pub & Patio, Craft Kitchen & Beer Bar, The Grackle Coffee Company, Hollywood Pizza, Port

*Shop, dine and explore 'the heart of the village'*

Soiree and more.

Main Street will remain open for local traffic throughout the event. For a full list of shopping and dining options in Schomberg, visit [schombergmainstreet.ca](http://schombergmainstreet.ca).

Stop by the Schomberg Community Hall to celebrate King Township's designation as a Bee City. Residents and visitors of all ages can partake in a commemorative community art installation, piece by piece, painting and assembling a large bee puzzle. If you can't make it to the Community Hall, you can also drop by the King Heritage and Cultural Centre from Tuesday to Saturday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) all July and August to design and paint your piece of the bee puzzle.

Once all 250 puzzle pieces are painted, it will be assembled to create a giant bee and installed in a public space in King.

Experience Schomberg's history firsthand with a self-guided tour courtesy of the King Heritage and Cultural Centre and On This Spot. The tour, starting at the fairgrounds, home to the Schomberg Agricultural Fair since the 19th century, includes free parking. Learn about the Schomberg & Aurora

Railway, the Schomberg Feed Mill, the newly renovated Schomberg Community Hall and other historic landmarks as you stroll down Main Street. For more details and to start the tour, visit [schombergmainstreet.ca/on-this-spot](http://schombergmainstreet.ca/on-this-spot).

historical-walking-tour/.

For regular updates on Township programs and events, follow the official corporate social media channels on X, Facebook and Instagram or visit [king.ca](http://king.ca).

## Ensuring financial sustainability in York Region's drinking water systems

York Regional Council approved the Water Financial Plan for York Region's drinking water systems as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002. The plan details long-term financial sustainability commitments and funding sources over the next four years and projections to 2030.

The plan confirms York Region's drinking water systems' financial sustainability. The rate study and associated Water and Wastewater Financial Sustainability Plan found full cost recovery could be achieved and maintained from 2022 to 2027 with annual rate increases of 3.3%.

York Region's supporting Long-Term Water Conservation Strategy emphasizes balancing conservation with infrastructure rehabilitation, resulting in financial and environmental benefits like reduced energy consumption and costs.

York Region and local cities and towns work together to ensure we all continue to enjoy clean, safe drinking water at a fair price now and into the future. Spending \$1 on water can buy you one plastic bottle of water or 590 bottles of tap water. Learn more at [york.ca/DrinkingWater](http://york.ca/DrinkingWater)



### MP meets businesses

King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts and Senator Common sense Leo Housakos met with the executive team of the King Chamber of Commerce and other prominent business leaders at Trisan Construction in Schomberg. "Their message was clear; axe Trudeau's taxes and cap his spending to bring down inflation and bring home powerful pay cheques," she said.



### Chamber prize winner

The King Chamber of Commerce held a draw at the recent King Beer & Drink Fest. Amanda was the winner, taking home products and prizes donated by Chilly Moose, No Frills, Holland Marsh Wineries, Locale, Historia Cantina, Blue Marble, Revival, Sherwood Farm, Schomberg Aesthetics and Tim Hortons.

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# York Region continues to take action amid housing crisis

York Regional Council received several updates on initiatives under way to combat the current housing crisis and support residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

This includes the newly approved 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan, the 2023 Housing Solutions: A place for everyone progress report and the 2024 Housing Supply and Affordability Update.

York Region is working with partners and all levels of government to address issues arising from the housing crisis. Work is underway to provide a full range of housing options to meet resident needs of all ages, abilities, income levels and stages of life.

“Homelessness and housing affordability are complex and growing issues across York Region,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. “As part of York Regional Council’s commitment to building strong, safe and caring communities, there are several immediate and long-term actions identified to improve housing stability and affordability. We look forward to collaborating with our partners as we continue to work toward innovative solutions to housing affordability.”

Updates received at Regional Council include:

The 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan.

More people are at risk of or experiencing homelessness in York Region due to a combination of factors, including limited affordable housing options and rising costs of living. The number of people experiencing homelessness increased from 1,395 in 2019 to 1,784 in 2023 and emergency beds and transitional housing are consistently at or near capacity due to increased demand.

The Homelessness Service System Plan seeks to help address immediate and long-term needs for residents experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The plan outlines goals and priority areas to improve, enhance and align homelessness services and supports, including homelessness prevention, intervention, housing stability and strengthening a coordinated system response with community partners.

Rapid deployment actions beginning in 2024 will support individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness, including:

Adding 139 new beds in existing

emergency and transitional housing, hotel and seasonal shelters.

Adding staff to Community Paramedicine and Outreach Response Team.

Adding outreach workers to support clients living unsheltered or in encampments.

Helping people experiencing chronic homelessness.

Further details about the 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan are available online.

Housing Solutions: A Place for Everyone 2023 Progress Report:

York Region has continued to make significant progress towards goals and objectives set in the 2023 Housing Solutions: A place for everyone, including:

Transitioned 1,294 people successfully from emergency housing to long-term housing and 671 people diverted from entering emergency housing to alternative housing options between 2019 to 2023.

Opened a new transitional housing site in both the Town of Georgina and Town of East Gwillimbury, adding 28 new units to the emergency and transitional housing system.

Built almost 460 new community housing units since 2019, including Unionville Commons which opened in 2023, providing 265 market and subsidized rental homes for seniors in the City of Markham; 497 more units are in planning and development stages.

Housed 2,800 households from the subsidized housing wait list since 2019 through community housing, rent supplement and portable housing benefits.

Further details about this progress report are available online.

2024 Housing Supply and Affordability Update:

Annual monitoring on the ever-changing housing affordability landscape is crucial to understanding where York Region stands and where improvement is needed.

Key findings from the 2023 Measuring and Monitoring report and the 2024 Housing Supply Update include:

As of March 2024, York Region has an approved housing supply of approximately 46,000 units, with 16,000 more under construction.

Only 15% of total new housing units were considered affordable and all were purpose-built rental units.

There were no new affordable ownership units for moderate-income house-

holds in 2023, a decrease from the 1% ownership units deemed affordable in 2022 and well below Regional targets.

A significant increase in new rental supply in 2023, with 1,271 new rental units, of which 265 were community housing units delivered by Housing York Inc.

Affordability pressures in York Region continue despite supply. Actively

monitoring housing supply data is one of many steps York Region is taking to continuously prioritize housing affordability and inform the Affordable Private Market Housing Implementation Plan.

Visit [york.ca/HousingAffordability](http://york.ca/HousingAffordability) for more details on monitoring housing supply and other housing affordability initiatives.



## Officials announce funding

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, joined Premier Doug Ford, Minister Piccini, and MPP Laura Smith to announce the province’s investment of more than \$6 million into the Skills Development Fund to train over 1,000 carpenters in Ontario.

“This significant investment will help us secure the skilled workers we need to build the energy, homes, and infrastructure that families in King and Vaughan deserve,” said Lecce. “We will continue to invest in growing the skilled workforce to build our province, as we work to support young people pursuing a path from apprenticeship training into good-paying jobs across our economy.”



Final Release

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# Church's Food Le\$\$ food drive was a success

By Evelyn McLachlan

For the fifth year Nobleton United Church has supported the King Township Food Bank by having a Food Le\$\$ Food Drive. We began this during COVID as a way of supporting them and having it on Canada Day was a way to share how blessed we are in this country.

This year we were also accepting food donations as well and two very generous families, stopped by with lots of food. We are so thankful for their willingness to support the food bank. As we waved at cars and pointed to our sign, vehicles would be waiting for the traffic lights to change and one cou-

ple waved me over and gave us \$50! If that was you, thank you! A young man walked by and then returned with his two young children who made a donation as a way of celebrating what it means to be a Canadian. You folk made our day!

We also had a book table which a few people perused and found some new novels to read. Between the book table and generous individuals, we were able to raise \$1,400 plus groceries for the King Township Food Bank! Thank you to all those who stopped by and made donations and thank you to those who volunteered their time. We live in a great township! Blessings to you all!



Stephen Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan, participated in the Nobleton United Church's annual Food Le\$\$ Food Drive. MPP Lecce presented a congratulatory certificate on behalf of the province to recognize the 5-year anniversary of this initiative. "I made sure to stop by the Nobleton United Church to thank Rev. McLachlan and the entire team at the church for giving back to our community," he said. "Thank you for embracing the best of Canada and for looking out for our neighbours by supporting the King Food Bank."

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## Food Bank report notes use growing steadily

Food Banks Canada's reported that food banks usage in Canada saw a 32 per cent increase in March 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. It is the seventh consecutive year that food bank use has increased in Ontario, and the largest single-year increase ever recorded by the Ontario food bank network.

The Food Bank of York Region's (FBYR) newly released annual report also highlights the historic annual growth rate of food bank usage. (To read the full report, visit <https://fbyr.ca/annual-reports/>)

"In 2023, the Food Bank of York Region's network of 83 community partners served 31,000+ individuals," stated Alex Bilotta, FBYR's founder and CEO. "The demand for food assistance in York Region continues to rise at a distressing rate. Food banks are stretched to their limit and cannot sustain the current operations without more food and monetary donations."

The report states that Statistics Canada found that families most vulnerable to food insecurity were those relying on some form of social assistance as their major income source. FBYR's recent report recommends addressing these issues by strengthening social assistance programs. FBYR stated that it supports the recommendations from PROOF Institute, Food Banks Canada, and Feed Ontario. Also, for the province of Ontario to take steps to improve Ontario's social safety net system.

The report also highlights the need

to address the growing disparity between income and the cost of living. FBYR states that minimum wage has not kept pace with the cost of living, nor does it ensure food security for low-wage, short-term, or contract workers. Over 75 per cent of Ontario food bank survey respondents reported having less than \$100 left each month after housing costs, and 22 per cent had housing costs that exceeded their monthly income.

FBYR recommends addressing these issues by increasing the minimum wage. Also, by building affordable housing units and to work towards making the existing market more affordable.

Moreover, FBYR highlights the need to strengthen social assistance programs. In 2023, food bank use increased in Ontario by 38 per cent – the highest single-year increase on record. FBYR recommends local and provincial governments step up to provide support to the charitable food sector. Furthermore, that all levels of government better support existing programs to prevent avoidable food waste.

The Food Bank of York Region (FBYR) serves as the regional food collection and distribution hub for York Region, serving a network of 80+/- food pantries, schools, shelters, and non-profit community organizations. FBYR supports food programs in the nine municipalities of York Region, serving 30,000+ individuals in nearly 8,500 households. For more information, visit [www.fbyr.ca](http://www.fbyr.ca).



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# Mackenzie Health appoints new chairs to their board

Mackenzie Health and Mackenzie Health Foundation are pleased to announce the appointment of Stephanie Zee and Mario Paura as the new board chairs for Mackenzie Health and Mackenzie Health Foundation, respectively. Stephanie Zee was appointed Chair of the Mackenzie Health Board of Directors at its Annual General Meeting on June 13 while Mario Paura was appointed at the Mackenzie Health Foundation's Annual General Meeting on June 19. Both had previously served as Vice-Chairs on their respective Boards.

Stephanie Zee, a resident of Richmond Hill and Vice President of Financial Services at a major banking institution, takes over the post from Fay Lim-Lambie, Senior Vice President, Academic with the International Learning Academy (ILAC) Education Group.

Stephanie has more than 20 years of experience in the financial sector and a history of giving back to her community through her volunteer work on a number of boards and associations, including the Canadian Bankers Association and Youth In Motion. Stephanie has been a member of the Mackenzie

Health Board of Directors since 2016 and has helped guide Mackenzie Health through some of the most challenging and unprecedented periods for a hospital organization, including opening the first net new hospital in 30 years while managing the impact of a global pandemic. In 2021, she was elected Vice-Chair and served as Chair of the Finance and Audit and Governance committees.

Mario Paura, a Kleinburg resident and Head of Real Estate in the Toronto office at Stikeman Elliott LLP, succeeds former Chair Moris Pilla, who recently retired from KPMG.

Mario is a lawyer who brings more than 25 years of experience specializing in commercial real estate, financing, mergers and acquisitions, and commercial leasing. He is known for his strong commitment to community service, having served as President and CEO of the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association (CIBPA) and as a Director of the CIBPA Education Foundation. Mario has also been actively involved serving on the committee for Ride for Mackenzie Health

since 2022. He has been a member of the Mackenzie Health Foundation Board of Directors since 2020 and was a member and former chair of the Ultimate Campaign Cabinet. Mario played a significant role in raising funds to build and equip Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital and to enhance care at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital.

Mackenzie Health and Mackenzie Health Foundation express their gratitude to outgoing Chairs Fay Lim-Lambie and Moris Pilla for their vision, leadership and unwavering support. They also extend a warm welcome to the new Vice-Chairs to the Boards. Ruby Philip-Katyal and Joby McKenzie have been appointed Vice-Chairs to the Mackenzie Health Board of Directors and Doug Williamson now serves as Vice-Chair of the Mackenzie Health Foundation Board of Directors.

"I am excited to take on this new role as Chair of the Mackenzie Health Board of Directors, and I look forward to continuing to work with this exemplary group of community leaders. As we look towards the future, we have a lot of important work ahead of us to en-

sure that Mackenzie Health continues to be able to meet the health care needs of our rapidly aging and growing community across Richmond Hill, Vaughan and King and I'm eager to take on the challenge," said Zee.

"I am thrilled to welcome Stephanie in her new role on Mackenzie Health's Board of Directors. The leadership and governance experience she brings, along with her dedication and commitment to our community, will serve Mackenzie Health well into the future. I'm confident that under Stephanie's leadership we'll be well-positioned to continue to provide residents across western York Region and beyond with the care they need and deserve," noted Altaf Stationwala, President and CEO, Mackenzie Health.

"I'm thrilled to step into the role of Chair of the Mackenzie Health Foundation Board of Directors. I look forward to continuing to inspire our community's generosity to help us equip our hospitals and our health care workers with the tools they need to deliver the best care possible to residents in the communities we serve," Paura said.

## Mackenzie Health opens new stroke rehab clinic for York residents

Mackenzie Health today announced the opening of a new stroke rehab clinic for residents of York Region, bringing much-needed services closer to home. With the opening of the new clinic, a first for York Region, residents now have access to vital rehab service within days or weeks of leaving hospital when the greatest cognitive and physical improvements are often seen in stroke patients.

"Mackenzie Health is thrilled to be able to provide timely stroke rehab services to our residents," says Mary-Agnes Wilson, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Executive at Mackenzie Health. "This has been a longstanding need for our community who were often forced to wait weeks and months for access to outpatient rehab services in the GTA."

Stroke is a leading cause of disability in Canada, with one stroke occurring every five minutes, according to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. Research supported by the National Institutes of Health shows that stroke

patients see the best outcomes when rehab is provided within 60 to 90 days after a stroke.

Mackenzie Health's new Community Stroke Rehab Clinic, located at 955 Major Mackenzie Dr., is open to patients discharged from Mackenzie Health and Oak Valley Health. The program, which includes an occupational therapist, physiotherapist, social worker, nurse and speech-language pathologist, runs eight to 12 weeks and includes virtual, onsite and in-home therapy options. It also includes community-based therapy to help patients with daily tasks like preparing food, shopping and banking that are all essential to reintegration into the community.

"Our rehabilitation program takes an individualized approach to care, focusing on meeting the goals of our patients," said Teresa Sitlani, Program Director of Reactivation Care Centre, Continuing Care, and Stroke and Rehabilitation Programs at Mackenzie Health. "We also work hard to accommodate our patients by staying open into the early evening and helping to

organize transportation services."

For Walter Cimini, one of the first patients to be referred to the clinic from Mackenzie Health's Sorbara Integrated Stroke Unit, this accessible, individualized approach to care has been vital to his recovery.

"The fear of the unknown was tremendous," says Walter. "The first day, I couldn't touch my hand to my face. It was the scariest feeling."

But being able to lean on his loved ones and the experts at Mackenzie Health has made all the difference.

"I couldn't do it without my support system, including my family and the team at the rehabilitation clinic," he said. "They challenge me while making sure I feel supported —always reminding me to stay focused when I don't succeed right away."

The clinic, funded by the Ministry of Health, has seen more than 40 patients to date and is expected to be able to serve over 200 patients annually in York Region.

"We are extremely grateful to the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health

for recognizing the need in our community and for supporting the program," added Wilson. "This expanded access to stroke rehab for our community will be a necessity in the years to come to support our rapidly-aging population."

### E-waste event July 27

Do you have old electronics collecting dust at home? Properly dispose of your e-waste for FREE at the Community Electronic Recycling event, held at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre (parking lot) on Saturday, July 27 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring your unwanted electronics (e.g., TVs, computers, cameras) to ensure they are disposed of safely, recycled and kept out of landfill. For details, visit [king.ca/electronicrecycling](http://king.ca/electronicrecycling).

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Film selections for Dufferin Film Festival announced

By Sam Odrowski

Lights. Camera. Action!  
After much anticipation, the Dufferin Film Festival has announced tickets are now on sale and film selections have been made for this year's event.

Taking place Aug. 9 and 10, the festival promises an extraordinary lineup of films from talented filmmakers.

"Join us in celebrating the art of Canadian cinema and the vibrant community of Dufferin County," said a press release from the Dufferin Film Festival.

The festival showcases the vibrant arts and culture hub in Dufferin through the screening of films in the historical Orangeville Opera House.

The venue boasts a seating capacity of 267 and additional events, all within walking distance, will run concurrently.

This year's festival features an eclectic mix of genres and stories from across Canada, selected for their unique perspective and creative excellence.

The films range from compelling dramas to thought-provoking documentaries and innovative comedies.

"Our critics are currently reviewing the films and the final awards will be announced at the VIP Cocktail Awards Event at Greystones Restaurant on August 10th," said the press release from Dufferin Film Festival.

Here's a sneak peek at the official selections:

**Beyond the Reins:** A documentary about Lucy, a girl with an intellectual disability who finds belonging and acceptance through her relationship with a horse. Directed by Magill Moyes, Mississauga, Ontario.

**Charlie:** A drama based on a true sto-

ry about a young man's rental scam unravelling. Directed by Matthew Horvat, Toronto, Ontario.

**Cinching Saddles:** A comedic mockumentary about Calvinder, a South Asian man pretending to be a cowboy. Directed by Kevin Sengara and Aman Pannu, Vancouver, BC.

**For Roy:** A drama about an imaginative girl folding a thousand cranes for her dying father. Directed by Vivian Cheung, Vancouver, BC.

**Good Girl:** A drama about a mother fighting against her community's traditional practices. Directed by Sunita Miya Muganza, Scarborough, Ontario.

**Heap:** A dark comedy/thriller about a woman discovering a utopian society next door. Directed by Kyle Marchen, Toronto, Ontario.

**Kofi:** A drama about a man confronting an old friend's demands. Directed by Marianna Phung, Ajax, Ontario.

**On the Windowsill:** A student short drama about a woman in an abusive relationship. Directed by Emma Kutlesa-Jagodica, Oakville, Ontario.

**Prism:** An experimental drama/comedy about a woman embracing her queer identity. Directed by Gina Hara, Montreal, Quebec.

**Red String of Fate:** A sci-fi/romance about reviving a fallen lover. Directed by Lovina Yavari and Lance Fernandes, Toronto, Ontario.

**The Two of Us:** A coming-of-age drama about a boy learning about his parents' open relationship. Directed by Conor Struan Forrest, North York, Ontario.

**Triage:** A drama/romance set during the pandemic, focusing on a couple's strained relationship. Directed by David Rendall, Picton, Ontario.

**Waterman's Ballad:** A mystery/drama about a man grieving at a lakeside cabin. Directed by Jamie Knox, Toronto, Ontario.

The festival will also premiere two Dufferin Film Festival screenwriting contest winners' films, "Handsy" and "Lakeweed."

**Lakeweed** is about a lonely teenage girl who fights the fear of losing her best friend to a budding romance alongside fears of a sinister lake that drags children under.

**Handsy** is about a young boy who goes into a haunted house in search of his dog, only to be greeted by a monster from hell.

"Don't miss out on this cultural highlight in Dufferin County. Secure your tickets today and be part of an unforgettable celebration of Canadian film," said the Dufferin Film Festival's press release.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.dufferinfilmmfest.com](http://www.dufferinfilmmfest.com).



### Studio Tour gift winner

Meet Mary Bachlow, the Schomberg resident who was the lucky winner of this year's Arts Society King's Studio Tour King \$150 gift voucher. She is seen here with STK Committee Chair, Kathleen Rodgers. Mary used her \$150 gift voucher to purchase this beautiful "Bowl with Branch" by ASK artist Veronica Meloche at this year's Spring Blooms Pop-Up Art Show & Sale on May 11 in Schomberg. You may remember Veronica Meloche was the featured cover artist for this year's Spring MOSAiC cover. Mary was thrilled with her purchase. For more information on Veronica Meloche please visit the Arts Society King website [www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca/meet-the-artists/](http://www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca/meet-the-artists/)

### Film on Aurora pet cemetery receives international award

A documentary film about the restoration efforts at the historic pet cemetery in Aurora, produced in conjunction with the Aurora Museum & Archives, has won a prestigious Telly Award, which honours excellence in video and television. Annually, the Telly Awards receives more than 12,000 entries globally in its various categories.

The film, *Happy Woodland Pet Cemetery: Uncovering History*, won Gold in the Museums & Galleries – NonBroadcast category and was directed and produced by Tracey and Tom Strnad of The Blue Mountains based Mountain Goat Film Company. Michelle Johnson and Jeremy Hood, Aurora Museum & Archives staff members, feature prominently in the film and collaborated on the vision and script.

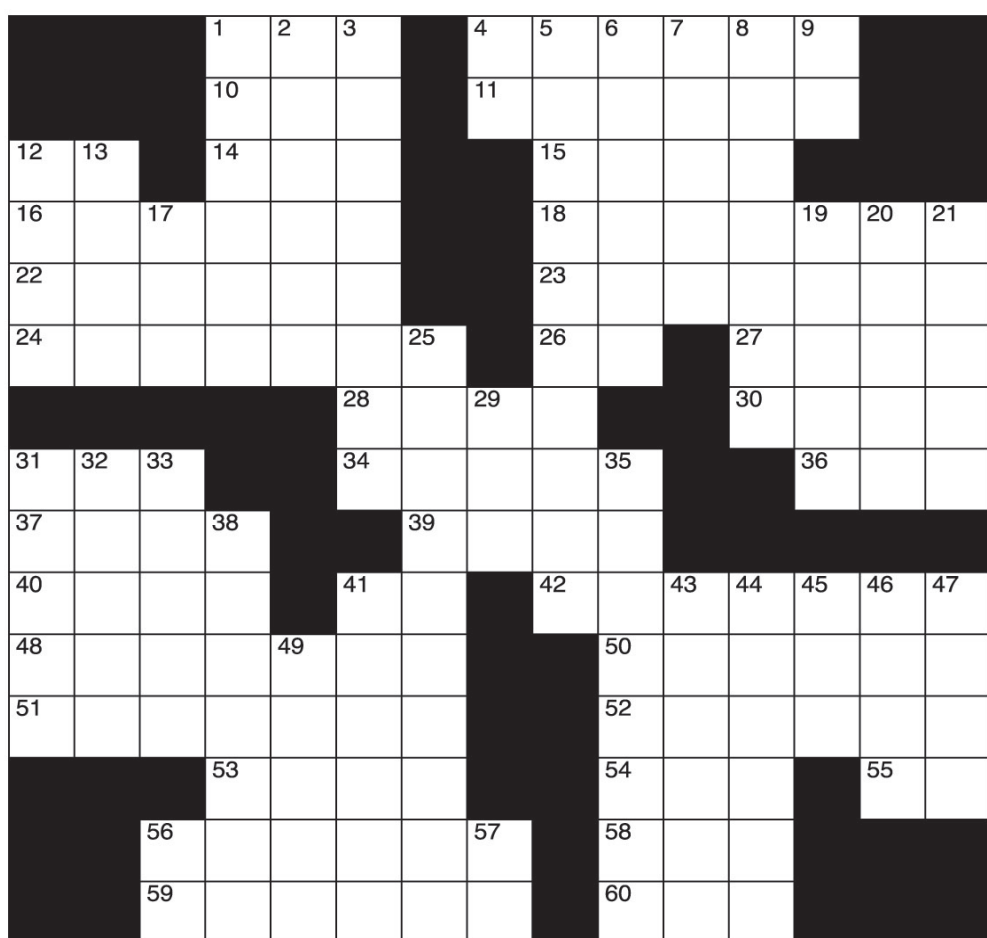
"I'm absolutely thrilled that this documentary has received recognition on the global stage," said Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas. "The pet cemetery here in Aurora is truly one of the most unique parts of our history, and we've long been working on a way to preserve and showcase its fascinating story. This film beautifully captures some of the really creative work that our team at the Museum and Archives is undertaking to make that a reality."

The Happy Woodland Pet Cemetery, believed to be the first pet cemetery in Canada, was originally operated by Victor Blochin and Anne Wilson who purchased the property on Yonge Street in the late 1920s. In 1934, an official dedication ceremony was held with more than 100 people in attendance. It soon became a popular destination for people to honour their deceased pets, with pet owners from across Canada sending the remains of their animals to be buried there.

Much of this painstaking and detailed work is captured in the film, including cataloguing the burial sites of more than 800 named pets on the property, unearthing headstones that were displaced from their original locations, and using archival footage and photos, as well as ground-penetrating radar, to determine the original boundary of the cemetery. Informing all of this work is building upon the cemetery's current designation under the Ontario Heritage Act to potentially be designated as a national historic site.

## CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 247310 • Solution in Classifieds



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Letter of the Greek alphabet
4. Cause to become entangled
10. Swiss river
11. Conversation
12. "Magnum" was one
14. Small integer
15. Christmas
16. Of a specific mountain region
18. Burrowing bugs
22. Of a symbol worthy of veneration
23. A type of syndrome
24. Cephalopod mollusks
26. Metric ton
27. Ornamental box
28. As quickly as can be done
30. "Hoop Dreams" subject Arthur
31. Old TV part

34. Extinct flightless birds
36. Former CIA
37. Successor
39. Archaic form of you
40. Within
41. Danny Hurley's alma mater
42. Not sacred or biblical
48. Written law
50. Popular hairstyle
51. Congressman
52. Type of font
53. A predetermined period in office
54. Pouch
55. Hormone that stimulates ovulation
- (abbr.)
56. One from a particular Asian region
58. One's sense of self-esteem

59. Headgear used to control a horse
  60. The habitat of wild animals
- ### CLUES DOWN
1. A right conferred through legal means
  2. American island state
  3. Inflexibly entrenched
  4. "Pollock" actor Harris
  5. Foolish person
  6. Follows a particular Chairman
  7. Choose
  8. Sunrooms
  9. One hundred grams (abbr.)
  12. A symptom of some physical hurt or disorder
  13. South American hummingbird
  17. "Girl Chopping"

- Onions" painter
19. Wild dog
20. Units of land
21. Footwear
25. Possessing a constant temperature
29. Hormone that promotes water retention (abbr.)
31. Popular game
32. Pension (German)
33. Giant of industry
35. Inferred
38. One who revolves
41. Kept possession of
43. Loss of electricity
44. Stopped bottle
45. Everything
46. First to walk on the moon
47. Engrave
49. Female organs
56. Equal to 1,024 bytes (abbr.)
57. Northeast

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

## Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Finally, a mostly rain-free weekend, there was that little blip on Sunday night, but it didn't last long. I know that previous three weekends were rainy and although my gardens both here and up north look spectacular. I'd love more time in the sun, and I think the plants would as well.

Speaking of gardens, you can get free mulch at Cold Creek Conservation while supplies last, check the web site coldcreek.ca before heading out to see if there is any left.

If you missed the chance to dispose of your old electronics at Trisan, you can pop down to King Heritage and Cultural Centre on Saturday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., bring all your unwanted electronics to be disposed of safely.

If you have pets, please make sure they are always leashed. Vaughan An-

imal Services is patrolling King Township parks this summer handing out tickets for \$360 if your pet is not leashed and \$200 if you don't pick up after your pet. Let's keep our parks clean and safe for all.

I was told that a Schomberg Mug Run has been planned for Sept. 21, and it sounds great. It includes live bands, vendors and apparently lots of beer. Registration is now open at schombergmugrun.com. More details to follow, so stay tuned.

### Anglican Parish of Lloydtown

July Combined Services at Christ Church continue next Sunday at 10:30. Last Sunday was a said service as the Organist enjoys a well-deserved break. The congregation was treated to a surprise Picnic Continental Breakfast of fruit, yogurts, croissant and of course bagels and cream cheese. Although it was enjoyed inside, it was picnic-style, using paper plates and bamboo cutlery.

July 21 is the day to celebrate Saint Mary Magdalene at her namesake

2315) know if you are interested in attending. Space is limited. If you prefer, the meal can be delivered. Although the meal and entertainment are free, we do appreciate any donations you are able to make to offset some of our costs.

On Sunday, Aug. 25 (time will likely be 10 or 10:30 a.m. - TBD) at the Dufferin Marsh, there will be an outdoor ecumenical service with various denominations taking part.

Messy Church starts again on Tuesday, Sept. 18. Please note that Messy Church is changing to the third Tuesday of most months. Please contact me at 416-316-5064 or (nancykhopkinson@gmail.com) to be put on the reminder list.

On Wednesday mornings, we have a Zoom Coffee chat (10 to 11 a.m.). The quilters join us! We talk on a huge variety of topics, mainly current events. You are welcome to join us. Just send me a message nancykhopkinson@gmail.com to request the link.

Schomberg United Church meets at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. It is accessible. Nobleton United Church meets 6076 King Rd., Nobleton. It has a wheelchair ramp and a chair lift to go up the 7 steps to the Sanctuary. The phone number for Rev. Richard and for our secretary Sharon is 905-859-3976.

church in Schomberg with a special service commemorating this remarkable woman and followed by light refreshments that will include the wonderful tiny French cookies called madeleines. They are unique, using a classic recipe and a special madeleine pan that give them their iconic shape.

For August, combined services are held at St. Mary Magdalene in Schomberg.

September 28 brings Schomberg Country Run for its 14th consecutive year. Over the years, tens of thousands of dollars have been raised to support projects that bring and maintain clean water to Indigenous communities. The dedicated committee and fundraising volunteers want to ensure that clean water is a basic service available to all in Canada. Mark your calendar to walk, run, scooter, skateboard, wheelchair, stilt walk, or even pogo stick the beautiful 5 km route out to the 10th and back. Details on sponsoring a participant or simply donating to come early in September when registration on Eventbrite opens.

### Schomberg Euchre Club

The Euchre group meets on Thursday nights at the Trisan, 7 to 9. The cost is \$10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. All welcome, all ages, men, ladies, you just need to know how to play

(no beginners please), how to laugh, enjoy an excellent group of people and not take the game or yourself too seriously.

### Schomberg 55+

We're presently working on the fall line up, to keep you informed and entertained, but always open to any suggestions. The first meeting back is Monday, Sept. 9, so make sure you mark that in your calendar, we'll have entertainment, and the meeting will take place at 10 a.m. at the Schomberg Community Centre.

Tuesday afternoon bridge in Schomberg is cancelled for the summer. Summer bridge is taking place in the Curling Lounge of the Trisan Centre from 7 to 9 p.m. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Kim at klfartin58@gmail.com.

Annual fee is \$15 for individuals/\$20 per couple or two people living at the same address for King residents. It's \$20 and \$30 respectively for non-residents. To keep up to date with events, please check online at king.ca/seniors.

Again, if you find a lost dog or cat, please secure it and call Vaughan Animal Control at 905-832-2281, they are responsible for this area.

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here sporter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.

## Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

We are back to our normal Wednesday hymn sings and pot lucks at Nobleton United (6076 King Rd., Nobleton) for Wednesday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m., then Schomberg United (116 Church St., Schomberg) for July 31, etc. The last one is on Sept. 4. Regular Sunday services will resume on Sept. 8.

The Foodless Food Drive at the front of Nobleton United Church was a great success on Canada Day, with \$2,400 collected. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who stopped by to contribute funds to the King Township Food Bank.

The next Seniors' Luncheon is Tuesday, July 16 at 11:30 a.m. Please be at St. Mary Magdalene by 11:15 a.m. The guest speaker is Elaine Charal, who is a handwriting analyst, an exceptional speaker, a seasoned entertainer, an accomplished comedienne, and a good mind-reader. The menu is hamburgers and chips, broccoli slaw with bacon and cranberries. The dessert is Eton Mess (strawberry, meringue, and whipped cream). Please let Sheila Kelly (905-939-

## From the Archives



East side of Schomberg Main Street, just north of Grackle Coffee Company, circa 1950s?



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# King Weekly Sentinel

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## Zancor Centre sparks to life as \$100-million carbon-neutral recreation complex nears completion

By Jim Stewart

Fireworks from welders' torches in the field house, teams of tilers preparing surfaces in the aquatics centre, and a range of experts tending to two NHL-sized rinks were featured in a recent afternoon tour of King Township's newest sports and recreation facility.

Our intrepid quartet—after navigating the muck and mire of the unfinished parking lot – gathered at the west entrance for a sneak preview of the 124,000-square-foot recreation complex taking shape at 15th Sideroad and Dufferin.

Brennen Filice, King's Manager of Capital Services, guided the touring team of Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Councillor David Boyd, and yours truly – bedecked similarly in white safety helmets, neon green vests, and safety shoes to see first-hand this much-anticipated public works project.

Mayor Pellegrini expressed his satisfaction at seeing how the complex has developed since his last visit: "I'm extremely pleased and frankly astonished by the progress. One month ago, there were no ceilings or tiles. It looks really close to opening and now you can see every amenity."

Councillor Boyd, an avid recreational hockey player looking forward to skating on the new ice pads, commented favourably on the craftsmanship on display inside the Zancor Centre as well as the scope of the project: "The magnitude of the facility – the overall space and grounds are so impressive. The work and effort and the pride of the workers is evident in what we're seeing today. It's a wicked addition to the community."

We witnessed dozens of on-task workers plying their trades and prepping the facility's two 200' x 85' hockey rinks, including the installation of a \$130,000 score clock that will be the four-sided centerpiece of Rink One, recently renamed the JTF Homes Arena. The glittering, 400-seat arena will be the new home of the transplanted Brantford 99ers who were rechristened as the King Rebellion following the OJHL's 2023-24 season. The Junior A squad will start the home portion of its schedule on Sunday, September 22 in a tilt featuring their local rivals: the Aurora Tigers.

Rink Two, renamed the Country Day School Arena, is at a similar stage of preparation with the boards and plexiglass laid out on a white surface ready

for assembly and installation. Its end zone score clock is in place and the five airy dressing rooms look ready to host the Township's hockey players. Electricians, pipefitters, and engineering inspectors were putting the finishing touches on the state-of-the-art boiler rooms and ice-making plant-prepping massive machines and plumbing for the Zancor Centre's vital functions.

Also nearing completion is the aquatic centre which includes a 6-lane, 25-metre pool with its depth ranging from 4-10 feet. Mobile starting blocks have arrived for the races to be held in the main pool. The finishing touches on the walls, floors, pools, and in the gender-neutral change rooms, which feature fully-private change areas and individual stalls for privacy, helped define this open and glassy sub-complex.

As our quartet meandered east through the well-appointed referee and player dressing rooms, we were taken by the height of the facility's 13-metre ceilings in the arenas and fieldhouse – an appropriate height for the pucks, soccer balls, volleyballs, footballs, basketballs, and lacrosse balls that will be jettisoned by the user groups. The expansive fieldhouse – with its 78-yard turf field defined by an oval track – was a beehive of activity with a team of welders and carpenters fusing and constructing vital components. The 94' x 50' NBA-regulation basketball court is in an advanced state of completion with a midcourt score clock installed and the two plexiglass backboards (including rims and shot clocks already assembled) suspended from the rafters. 19-metre high nets are in the process of installation to separate the field and its track from the sports court that will be home to basketball, volleyball, and pickleball.

As impressive as the facilities will be for the athletes using them, the recreation complex also features a court yard that is its final stages of completion. Adjacent to the airy multipurpose meeting room including kitchen facilities, the court yard's leafy appearance gives the indoor event space a comforting arboreal look through its anti-bird-strike glazed windows. Over a dozen birch saplings have been planted to thrive in one of the high water zones of the building and three boulders have been placed to accent the deciduous trees. The rocky knoll gives this section of the complex a pleasant and peaceful vibe away from the sports action.

To assist the transition from the de-



Councillor David Boyd, Mayor Steve Pellegrini and Brennen Filice provided a tour and update on King's Zancor Centre.

commissioned Lions Arena and respect the great service club traditions inherent in the venerable arena at Keele and King Sideroad, there is a Lions Room and a Gord Orr Room approaching completion. Contractors were busy installing recessed lighting and ceiling panels when we arrived in these spaces.

Adjacent to the events room is an area to be designated for the much-discussed and often-proposed King Sports Hall of Fame. A trophy case is in its preliminary stages of completion and memorabilia from the Lions Arena will be relocated in the new facility's east entrance. Also featured in the lobby that joins the east and west entrances is a library kiosk with a vending machine for books, a food services area, and a stroller parking zone, all in various stages of completion.

Amid all these sparkling recreational and cultural amenities is King's commitment to make the Zancor Centre a carbon-neutral facility.

Evidence of this commitment manifests itself in the boiler room where CO<sub>2</sub> will be used instead of ammonia. Filice explained its benefits: "CO<sub>2</sub> is a naturally-occurring refrigerant, usually used in industrial applications. We chose to pursue this system because it produces high-grade waste heat, which can then be cycled through the building's thermal network, effectively providing free heat energy."

The choice of ice-cleaning equipment for the two rinks also reflects this commitment to environmental stewardship as ENGO GMBH Electric

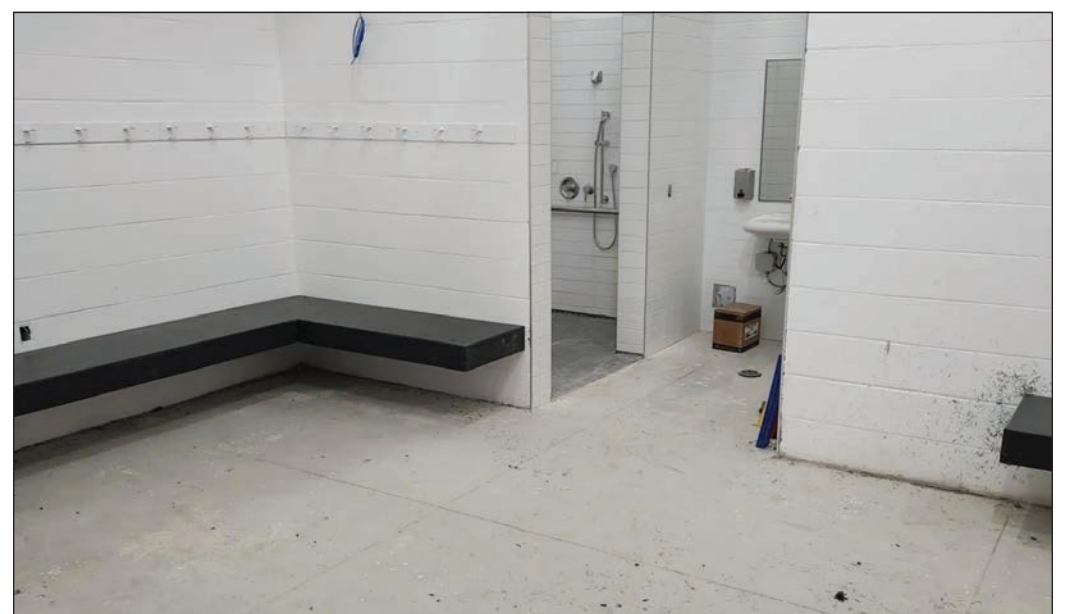
Ice Cleaners have been purchased to do the resurfacing. Filice explained: "The building uses almost no gas-fired equipment, which means greenhouse gas emissions have been effectively eliminated."

Filice also outlined the complex's environmentally-friendly heating system: "All the building systems, including rooftop ventilation, dehumidification, boilers, arena heat rejection, and air source heat pumps, connect to an integrated thermal energy network. Every possible effort is made to recover waste heat. This means there's less heat energy being rejected into the atmosphere, greater operational efficiency, and less energy required to run the facility."

We exited the \$100M complex confident that Township residents will have a comfortable "home away from home" to recreate and compete for years to come – starting as soon as September.

Filice expressed both satisfaction and relief with the megaproject's opening in sight: "It's been my primary focus since 2021. It's gratifying to see it coming to life after three years."

Mayor Pellegrini echoed his colleague's insights, reflected on the long journey that has involved multiple levels of governmental cooperation, and delineated the benefits of the Zancor Centre: "We've been working to make this happen for 10 years. For every dollar that's been invested, the community benefits many times over socially, environmentally, economically, not to mention improvements to physical fitness."



# King's Corners

**King City United**  
By Sheryl Sinka

Worship on Sunday mornings is suspended at King City through the month of July. Rotating worship will resume in August with the location moving among York Pines United, New Hope United and King City United Churches. Our first worship will be on Aug. 4 at 10 a.m. at York Pines United Church. We will be back at King City United on Aug. 11 at 10 a.m.

Rev Andrew is back from holidays and is available for visiting in the month of July. Please contact the office or Rev Andrew to schedule a visit.

Please consider making some extra donations to the King Township Food bank this summer. The Food Bank held a drive on July 21-23 as the need at the Food Bank is up and the donations are needed in greater quantities than ever before. The community can make a significant difference if it works together to support the Food Bank and the families that access this much needed service.

## King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for our Sunday Worship service. Pastor Mark Nowell will be bringing us the message on The Kingdom Of God. We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School registration is open! Kids aged 6-13 can come and enjoy a week of games, snacks, Bible stories, crafts and science experiments. Join us the week of Aug. 12-16 from 9 a.m to 12:30 p.m. You can register through our website!

Please visit our website for links and further information: [www.kingbiblechurch.com](http://www.kingbiblechurch.com)

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue ([lisa@kingbiblechurch.com](mailto:lisa@kingbiblechurch.com)).

## King City Seniors (55+)

  
By Carolyn Kanitz

We encourage you to join us, in air-conditioned comfort, for coffee and a snack while gaining insight into eye care and the dangers of radon as outlined below. Please RSVP.

Friday, July 19 – 10 a.m. – Do you know, the first 30 minutes after an eye emergency are crucial for minimizing vision damage? Immediate action can significantly improve the chances of preserving vision. Protect your vision and learn life-saving information that could make the difference between sight and blindness by attending this presentation by Dr. Wendy Ng. RSVP at 905-833-6565.

Friday, August 9 – 10 a.m. – What is radon and what is all the fuss about? Join us for a presentation by Bob Woodward to learn about health issues associated with radon in our homes and how to deal with it. RSVP at 905-833-6565.

Saturday, Sept. 7 is the date for our annual corn roast and BBQ sponsored by the King City Lions. An extra feature this year will be square dancing and line dancing for your enjoyment as either a participant or a spectator after dinner. Tickets are \$10/pp and will soon be available at the King City Seniors' Centre office. 905 833-6565.

Thursday, Sept. 12 – Join us on the Kingston 1000 Islands Cruise. The coach will depart the KC arena parking lot at 8am. Cost is \$150pp. Contact Alicia or Emma at the KCSC office – 905-833-6565. More details to follow.

We are pleased to announce that all activities at the King City Seniors' Centre will continue throughout July and August. If you see something that is of interest, please come out and join the group. All are welcome.

Monday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters. Monday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Music and Movement/Cribbage; 2 p.m. – Knitting/Crochet.

Tuesday mornings: 10 a.m. – Line Dancing. Tuesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bid Euchre.

Wednesday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters. Wednesday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Bridge.

Thursday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion (similar to Tai Chi). Thursday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling.

Friday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Art Class (2nd & 4th Friday of the month unless otherwise noted). Friday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Progressive Euchre.

You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565 or [kingcity.seniors@gmail.com](mailto:kingcity.seniors@gmail.com)

## York Pines

Services at York Pines resume on August 4th. After the service, we will be

holding a BBQ with activities for young people. Hamburgers will be served. A free will offering will be collected for Cold Noodle Day, a joint service at King City United Church on August 11.

## Schomberg AA meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held weekly at Suburban North at 116 Church St. They're held every Monday and Thursday in-peron at 7:30 p.m.

## Sacred Heart Church

Another warm welcome to Rev. Paul L. O'Brien, O.S.A., (our former Pastor) for coming over from Ireland to celebrate daily masses and other Liturgies with us while Fr. John is away.

Pope Francis has called for the 2025 to be a Jubilee Year, themed "Pilgrims of Hope." On January 21, 2024, Pope Francis inaugurated a Year of Prayer ahead of the 2025 Jubilee, to prepare ourselves through fervent prayer, to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God. This Year of Prayer is dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world."

Plans are beginning to develop as the 2nd Annual Carnival & BBQ Picnic Sunday, Sept. 15.

The Organizing Committee is busy preparing for an anticipated large participation. For a minimal fee, we plan again on a BBQ lunch and more family activities. We would be most grateful for donations of any amount and volunteers. Please contact Jeremy Paulus [4jeremypulus@gmail.com](mailto:4jeremypulus@gmail.com) or Mary Cazetta at [cazzetta@rogers.com](mailto:cazzetta@rogers.com).

During July and August, The Rectory/Office will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You may leave a message on the answering machine 905-833-1161, and we will return your call as soon as we are able to. For any emergencies, kindly contact Joanne Bozzo, 416-258-0199.

Website: [sacredheartki.archtoronto.org](http://sacredheartki.archtoronto.org). Email: [sacredheartki@archtoronto.org](mailto:sacredheartki@archtoronto.org). Facebook & Instagram: Sacred Heart Parish King City. Contact Rectory office at 905-833-1161.

## St. Andrew's

  
By Kathy Patterson

Welcome to St. Andrew's! Our Sun-

day morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m. and join us for coffee-time following the service.

While Alison Agnew is taking a summer break for a few weeks, we had our Interim Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Jeff Loach who is also the minister at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Nobleton, last Sunday. While others led us in worship, the sermon was in video form. His text was Acts 16;1-19. Don't you love technology!

Next Sunday, we welcome Erik deRoos, who will bring us the sermon and his dad, Dirk will lead us in worship and music.

If you missed our services, they are recorded: go to [standrews-kingcity.ca](http://standrews-kingcity.ca) and click on the YouTube link.

Our July Fellowship Meal will be a Summer BBQ at the manse! Alison invites you to her place on July 31 at 6 p.m. We hope you can come and please let us know by calling the church office: 905-833-2325.

In our anxious times, one of our favourite Bible passages is: "Be not anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6,7.

We encourage all to continue to donate to the King Township Food Bank throughout the summer. The lime green collection bin is in the east hall. Go to [kffb.ca](http://kffb.ca) to find out what is most needed! Contact the church office for more information.

We are thrilled to share with you that Alison Agnew accepted the call to be our half-time minister of Word and Sacrament. We are looking forward to her Ordination at St. Andrew's on Sunday, Sept. 8, at 3 p.m. More information will be available later in August.

If you are looking for free church pews, we are trying to replace a number of them with chairs. Please call the church office and leave a message for us.

If you need pastoral care, call St. Andrew's, King City at 905-833-2325 to speak with Alison Agnew, or phone one of the Elders. Our Interim Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Jeff Loach can be contacted at St. Paul's, Nobleton at 905-859-0843.

*More on Page 19*



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# Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church  
By Linda Blydorp

Our annual Bible Fun Camp is beginning this Monday, July 22, and will continue every day this week from 9 a.m. to noon. We are excited to invite all kids ages 4-12. The theme will be "Kids and the King." An online fillable Registration Form is posted on our website. As in past years, there is no fee for this event.

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m. Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will be leading the service with a message entitled, "Saved!" from John 3:1-21. If you have ever wondered what it means to be "saved," this message is for you.

We offer children's ministry and nursery during the service. If you can't make it in person, our live-streamed broadcasts are available directly on [stpaulsnobleton.ca](http://stpaulsnobleton.ca) or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand at [youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton](http://youtube.com/stpaulschurchnobleton).

Our Junction Ministries serve our children's and families each Sunday. FirstLink is our staffed ministry time with our youngest attendees, and Junction is an age appropriate time of teaching with our elementary aged children.

Is there something we could pray about for you? Our "Drive-Thru" prayer event is up and running again. Just drive on in and you will be directed to someone whose privilege it would be to pray for you. You don't even have to get out of your car for this one. Our next "Drive-Thru" prayer event will take place Wednesday, July 31 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

If you know young people who need volunteer hours for school, we would be pleased to have them volunteer to run our audio-visual booth on some Sundays throughout the year. Training is provided. Interested individuals can reach out to our Pastor through the connection card at [stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect](http://stpaulsnobleton.ca/connect).

## St. Mary's Church

July 24 - Family Movie Night - 7 p.m., St. Mary's Parish Hall.

July 27/28 - Mission Co-op Fr. Jose Manjakunnel.

All Holy Mass celebrations at St. Patrick's and St. Mary's.

July 28 - Emma Pilieci's Retirement Social/St. Mary's & St. Patrick's KofC Family BBQ/Picnic, 12:30 p.m., Heralds of the Gospel Retreat Centre.

Browse our websites:  
St. Patrick's Parish:  
<https://stpatrikssc.archtoronto.org/>

St. Mary's Mission: <https://stmarys-no.archtoronto.org/>

If there is anything we can do to support you, please call the parish office on 905-859-5522 or email us at: [stpatandstmarysc@archtoronto.org](mailto:stpatandstmarysc@archtoronto.org)

The Parish Office will remain open from Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Nobleton Seniors (55+) By Joanne Bailey

As a reminder, our Thursday Educational Sessions will not be running in July and August but will start again on Thursday, Sept. 12. Stay tuned for our upcoming events in early August.

We are running Mobility Matters classes in July and August, from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Nobleton Arena, (upstairs) at 15 Old King Rd. Nobleton.

We are currently seeking more volunteers for our Nobleton group. If interested please contact Joanne Bailey at 416.706.9375 or email Erin Burford, Coordinator of Recreation Programs at: [eburford@king.ca](mailto:eburford@king.ca)

Be sure to visit the website- [king.ca/seniors](http://king.ca/seniors) for more information on all our programs & workshops.

Have a great summer!

## Nobleton Lions

Our next event is the Annual Community Fundraising Draw with the winners being declared at the Library Gazebo on October 26. First prize is \$4,000, 2nd is \$750, 3rd is \$250. Tickets cost \$20 each or 3 for \$50 and are available now from any Lion as well as in some businesses around town like KARS and Nobleton Dental Clinic.

Proceeds will go to supporting organizations such as the Nobleton Girl Guides who have been a constant fixture in the community and surrounding area. Girls ranging in ages from 5 to 14 years old gather at weekly meetings, Tuesdays from September to June. They offer programming that supports girls empowering girls.

More on Page 17

# Classifieds

Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626  
or email [admin@caledoncitizen.com](mailto:admin@caledoncitizen.com)

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The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non-insertions of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. All advertisers are asked to check their advertisements after first insertion. We accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion unless notified immediately after publication. Errors which do not lessen the value of the advertisement are not eligible for corrections by a make-good advertisement. There shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, revise, classify or reject any advertisement.

### DEADLINES

Unfortunately deadlines do not allow us to take ads after 5:00 p.m. on Monday. When there is a holiday Monday, the deadlines will be Friday at 5:00 p.m. All ads must be paid in advance by deadline or the ad will not run. WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS PAYMENTS OVER THE PHONE

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### 612 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

**LIVE AUCTION SALE**  
for **Debbie Nelson & the Estate of Murray Nelson**  
**Saturday July 27th, at 9:30am**  
**4566 9th Line, Bond Head**

(Google maps) on Hwy 27 from Schomberg come north 12.4km to 9th Line, then west 1km to sale on north side of road. OR on Hwy 89 from Cookstown come south 8.5km to 9th Line, then west 1km to sale. **\*\*PARKING ON SITE\*\***

**Tractors:** Case IH 7220 4WD tractor, 172hp, good cond, 8181hrs; Deutz-Allis 7120 4WD tractor, ALO loader; 540 & 1000PTOs, 7692hrs; MF 165 tractor, 2940hrs. **Truck, SUV & Trailers** (all selling as is): 2013 GMC 1500 271 Sierra 4x4 pickup, Leer work cap, A/C, 243Kkm(cert Mar/24); 2010 GMC Terrain, Black, 4 dr, plus winter tires, leather, 186Kkm, recent maint (Mar-24:drive belt & tensioner, R&L front lower ball joints, Apr-24: muffler, Jun-24: LOF & 4 wheel alignment), needs tire sensor; 2020 Canada Pro CDTR610 hydr/elec dump trailer, 2 axle, 6'x10' box (cert Mar/24); 2009 Corn Pro 16ft stock trailer; 8'x12' Nich homemade utility trailer; 2 axles 16ft steel cattle trailer, older, sold as is. **Mach & Equip:** Bauman 5710 hay tedder; HLA 4000 12ft snowblade-like new; pallet forks; 8' manure bucket; 8' material bucket; Deutz KS150 rotary hay rake; Befco 5 wheel swath turner; Claas Disco 3050C mower; Kuhn GA300GM rotary rake; hay forks; 8ft Geo Wt snowblower, 2 auger, hyd chute; 24ft Benj Martin steel round bale wagon; 24' steel round bale wagon, Horst undercarriage; 7ft 3pth scraper blade; MF 9ft 3pth disc; & much more! **Farm Rel/Shop/Misc:** Red Rock 40ton gas log splitter; NH 800 manure spreader; qty steel gates - var lengths; (2)cattle sorting tubs-1 with palp cage; (2)rect bale feeders; (2)round hay savers; hopper bottom feed bin with auger; (2) Parmak fencers; asst lumber; elec fencing items; (2)mineral feeders; single Ritchie water bowl; cattle chute & head catch; calf squeeze & head catch; (2)cattle oilers; part rolls page wire fence; 8ft steel feed trough; calf creep; Martin cattle chute & head catch; Toter wedge water trough; Agro-Trend 6ft bushog; Hesston 720 forage harvester & hay head-old; excavator bucket; excavator grapple; qty 4x4 & 6x6 posts; qty scrap metal; 8'x20' sea can; Canox C-250 AC/DC hypertherm welder; Teco master table saw; Gorilla drill press; elec cement mixer; qty plastic buckets; Kodiak 430 3000psi power washer; Honda generator; qty welding steel; ext cords; air hoses; alum ladders; Spectra-Physics tripod level; Stihl chainsaws (MS390, MS441, MS250); qty 5gal pails hyd, gear & engine oils; cutting torches; qty welding rods; qty metal shelving; wood clamps; chainsaw sharpener; Powerfist elec jack hammer; asst elec fencing supplies; Dewalt cordless tools (grease gun, impact wrench, framing nailer); DeWalt booster pack; DeWalt sawzall; qty boxes nails; qty hand tools & power tools; qty hardware; Red Snapper 100mi fence; asst filters; work light; chain; rope; safety light bar; excavator bucket teeth; Yarkworks pole saw/chainsaw combo-NIB; plus much more! **Antiques/Household (A)Antique.**

**Lunch Booth & Washroom Available** **Preview: Friday July 26, 1-6pm**  
**Order of Sale:** Household, Wagonload; Shop/Farm Rel; Mach & Tractors  
**Start: 9:30am, Tractors at 1:00pm**

**Terms & Conditions:** Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner and/or Auctioneer will not be held responsible for accident or loss on day of sale. All items are sold "As Is". All verbal announcements on day of sale take precedence over written ads.

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[www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur](http://www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur) - full listing & photos



# Nobleton Notes

From Page 16

They provide the opportunity to try new experiences, challenge themselves and build their confidence, all within a safe environment. Volunteers help deliver a unique program that encourages girls to build life skills in outdoor adventure, financial literacy, mental health, advocacy and more. Together, they're building a better world, by girls. All of this couldn't be possible without support from the community. The Nobleton Lions Club has been a consistent financial supporter of this local unit for many years. It allows the Girl Guides to offer subsidized fees for camping and uniforms, and the funds needed to purchase materials to run meetings. For more information about Girl Guides visit [www.girlguides.ca](http://www.girlguides.ca) or email [1stnobletonmembers@gmail.com](mailto:1stnobletonmembers@gmail.com)

The Lions continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest when regular meetings resume in September by contacting Lion Jerry MacBain at [nobletonlionjerry@outlook.com](mailto:nobletonlionjerry@outlook.com)

We meet at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from September to the end of May at the Old Community Hall, just north of the arena.

## Horticulture By John Arnott

And then I found out what I was doing wrong! You see I have been trying to grow beardtongue, more commonly known by its botanical name, penstemon (from the Greek penta stemon for 5 stamens).

I had planted 2 penstemons of a newer cultivar called "Dark Towers" covered in pinkish blooms on sturdy stems that get a little over 60 cm./2 ft. tall and rise from a whorl of ground level burgundy coloured lance shaped leaves. The plant on one side of the flower bed grew well and is right now blooming beautifully but the one on the other side of the same bed was doing poorly – why?

Well, it was back to the books and after a bit of a search and having a second look at the poor performer I realized that I'd planted its roots too deeply – penstemons are unforgiving about that! Now I've corrected this error I'm hopeful for better results.



Kyla from the Nobleton Pathfinder unit (right) was awarded the Canada Cord Certificate recently for her accomplishments. Mayor Steve Pellegrini was in attendance to present this special award. The Canada Cord is the highest honour a Pathfinder can receive upon completion of a three year program and hard work on badges in leadership & camping skills, community service, first aid training, and citizenship among other activities. The group thanks Mayor Pellegrini for coming out to our year end Advancement ceremony to celebrate all the Girl Guides achievements. To register your daughter for the fall, or become a leader yourself, visit [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca). Email [1stnobletonmembers@gmail.com](mailto:1stnobletonmembers@gmail.com)



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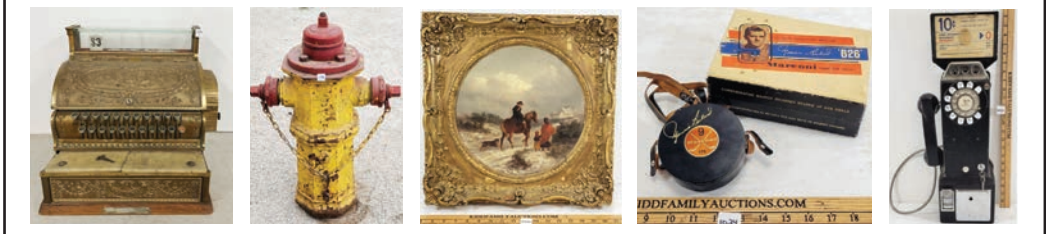
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## 701 COMING EVENTS

### Annual Pork BBQ

Trinity Centennial United Church  
Highway 89 east of Rosemont  
**Saturday, July 20, 2024**  
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Delicious smoked pork chop, baked potato, salads, buns, with homemade pie.  
**\$25.00 each.** Take outs available.

## 708 OBITUARIES

### Golda Dell Brydon

(née Aitchison)

Passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, at Simcoe Manor, Beeton, on Monday, July 8, 2024, Golda Dell Brydon, in her 88th year, beloved wife of the late Jack Brydon. Loving mother of Lea (Rick) Steenhoek and Kyle (Carolyn) Brydon. Cherished Grandma of Elise (Chad) Oakley and Nadine (Christopher) Brant; Kaitlin, and Lillian Brydon. Loving Great-Grandma (GoGo) of Jack Oakley, and Rilea Brant. Dear sister of Dawson (Shirley) Aitchison. A special thank you to the staff at Simcoe Manor for their care and compassion. Funeral service will be held in St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, 116 Church Street, Schomberg on Saturday morning, July 20 at 11 o'clock. Interment Lloydtown Anglican Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements by Egan Funeral Home, Bolton (905) 857-2213. Condolences for the family may be offered at [www.EganFuneralHome.com](http://www.EganFuneralHome.com)

## 709 IN MEMORIAM

### DUERMAYER Ann Alberta, (Robins)

January 11, 1943 - July 22, 2014

In loving memory of my precious wife Ann Alberta, mother, and Oma. It has been 10 years since you were interrupted and left us during your 72nd journey around the Sun. We love and miss you every minute of every day and are thankful for the wonderful memories of our years together. We could have celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary this August 10, 2024.

Forever loved and cherished - Your loving Husband Derk, Chris, Marc, Robina, John, Chloe, Taryn, the Robins and Duermeyer families, Sisters, Brothers, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren, Nieces, Nephews, many Friends, and DND Colleagues at Cefws Borden, NDMC, and NDHQ.

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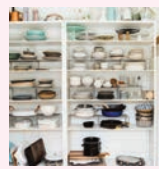
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# King's Corners

All Saints Anglican Church  
By Patrick Gossage

From Page 15

A prayer for peace: Dear God, Our world is torn with war and violence. I pray that you provide this world with a peace that is only found in you. I pray for those who are suffering from the results of war and violence. I pray you provide them with both physical and mental healing.

Telling Stories – Sermon by Rev. Erin Martin on Mark 6 – John's beheading.

"This story is horrible. The writers of Matthew shortened it quite a bit and Luke just left it out altogether. The reason it was included was to be a parable throwing the reign of God that Jesus was proclaiming into sharp contrast with the current reign of the World.

"Mark's Gospel is centered on the Reign of God in Jesus. It tells us the story of how Jesus came and, in compassion for the world's need, responded to all those who needed help, and ultimately redeemed us all.

"When Mark tried to compare life in the kingdom of God with life in the world as it is, he described the world as 'a life devoid of either judgment or mercy that fell painfully short of God's intentions for all God's people.'

"Without judgment there's often no concern for justice and so power becomes the only factor in deciding various courses of action which inevitably leads to 'might makes right.' Herod beheaded John to save face rather than admit that he made a foolish promise.

"This story offers us a contrast between the world that God dreams for us, and the world as it is and I think it's important for us to keep that contrast of the beheading of John the Baptist seems brutal. But think about it, are Herod's actions really all that far off from some of the callous manipulations of power that we see today, where dictators are praised for the sake of appearing strong, where world leaders have emboldened blatant racism and prejudice and children are torn from their parents in the name of law and order?"

"This is our world, and perhaps we've become so numbingly accustomed to

seeing it play out daily in the headlines.

"I think we need to hear the story of Jesus alongside the story of the world. We need to compare the story of love to the story of the drive for power. We should become determined that instead of being emboldened by brokers of power, we will be emboldened by the giver of life.

"After Jesus found out about John's death, he spent some time processing his grief with his disciples. Then the very next thing they did was feed people. The story of the feeding of the five thousand is directly after the story of John's death and it's such a Jesus way

to confront grief and pain with hope and healing and nourishment.

"I pray that we who follow Jesus will choose this way as well. To name the realities of the world, to grieve when we need to, but then move the story from despair to hope, from sickness to health and from death to life. The story of Herod and John is the narrative of our world. The story of Jesus is the narrative of God and we're inspired by it to love those around us and to strive for both justice and mercy knowing that no gift offered in love is ever lost. And we will live in hope that God will provide a good ending to all our stories."

## Curbside giveaway day happening on July 27

Saturday, July 27 is a Curbside Giveaway Day. King Township residents are invited to place unwanted items, labelled free, at the curb for other residents and community members to browse and take for their own use, free of charge.

Starting at 7 a.m. take any unwanted items to the curb, for others to pick up and take to a good home. Remove all leftover items by 5 p.m. on that day, to help keep King Township clean.

For more information, visit [king.ca/curbsidegiveaway](http://king.ca/curbsidegiveaway).

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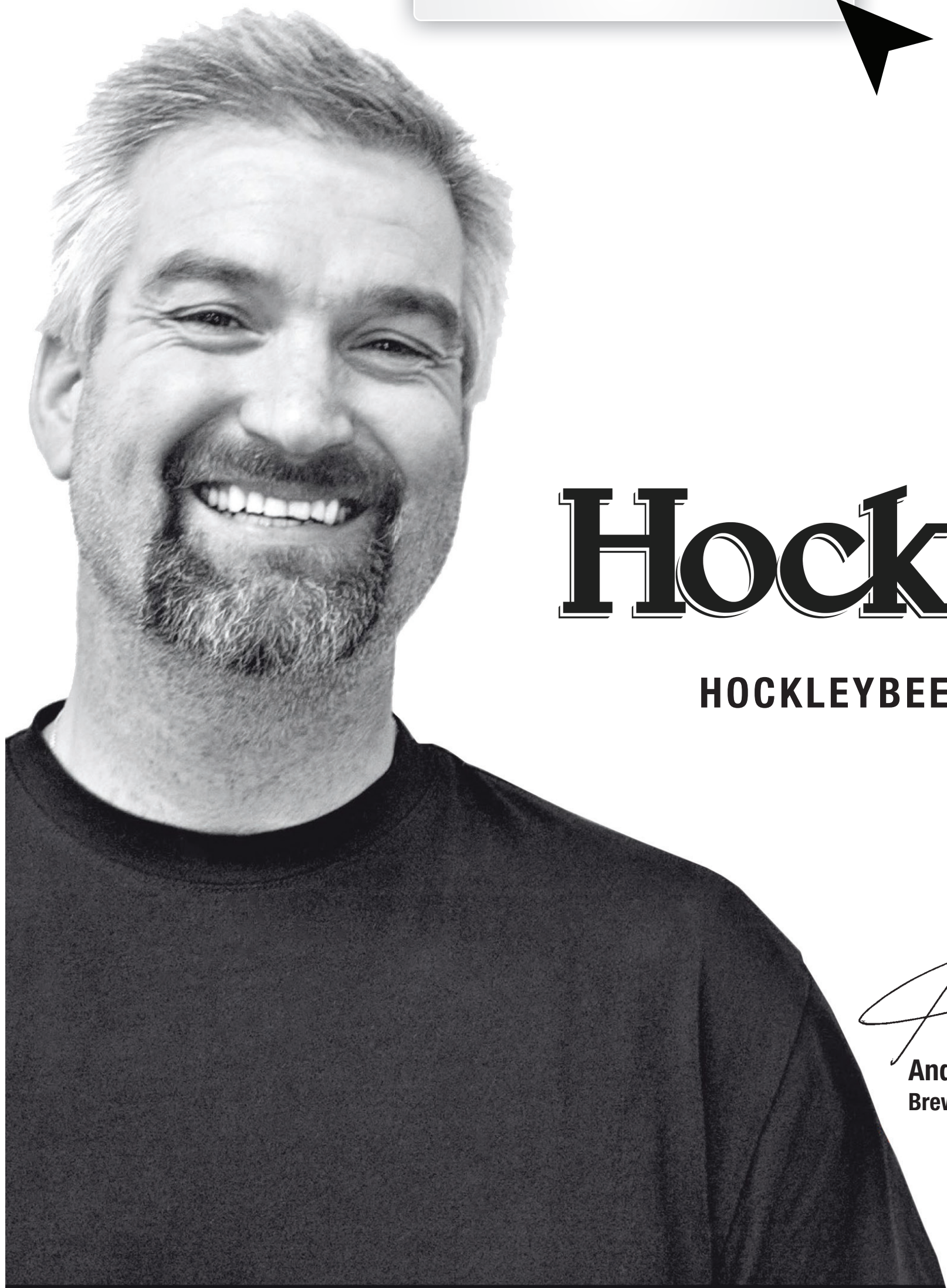
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A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Andrew Kohlen'.

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# CINZIA CANINI

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"Treat people the way you want people to treat you," is how Realtor Cinzia Canini, sums up her philosophy when dealing with clients. A Realtor with Royal LePage RCR, Cinzia brings a lot of knowledge, experience, and expertise into every real estate transaction she is involved with.

Prior to entering the world of real estate, Cinzia had professions that gave her related experience and provided insight into the inner workings of the industry.

She began her working career in banking and finance after immigrating to Canada from Italy when she was 20 years old. Her time in a bank gave her an opportunity to learn how financing works and all the details that are behind a transaction.

From there, Cinzia entered the legal world as manager of a law firm. This provided new opportunities to learn how the legal system affects real estate transactions.

When deciding on a career, Cinzia wanted to pursue one of three professions – law, veterinary medicine, or real estate. She decided, after coming to Canada, that real estate would be her passion to follow.

"Experience from working with the bank helps me with financing, understanding how the banks think, and how they move forward," Cinzia explained.

Cinzia has always had an interest in architecture and homes and enjoys finding unique properties.

"The reason I love real estate, is because ever since I was little, in Italy, I would ride around on my bicycle, and see these beautiful properties, the gardens, the stone walls, and the architecture of the house, and I would ask, 'would you buy this house?' Cinzia explained. "And I would think, 'what changes would you make? Or just leave it as is?' And I do that to this day. When I see a property I wonder, would you buy it? They have to be beautiful. It doesn't have to be brand new or renovated, it could be a house that's falling to pieces, but it's still beautiful. That's why I got into real estate."

Cinzia brings this passion for real estate to her profession when dealing with clients.

"I can give value to my clients with proper advice, relying on my knowledge and education and experience," Cinzia said.

After obtaining her real estate license, she followed up by taking courses and studying negotiation. This gives Cinzia the edge when working out a deal as she knows what is realistic when it comes to buying or selling a property.

As a professional full-time realtor, Cinzia has the knowledge of the areas she works in to guide to you the property you are looking for.

She knows the neighbourhoods and the amenities that are nearby.

Many clients have specific needs and wants when it comes to a location. Cinzia can advise you about things like schools, recreation facilities, clubs, sports groups, and the stores and services that are nearby. She is knowledgeable of how to properly price a home based to achieve a sale that is beneficial to both buyer and seller.

The real estate industry is more than just buying and selling property. There are a lot of other services that factor into the business.

Cinzia supports the community in many ways.

"When my clients need staging or cleaning, or fixing the property before we sell, I give those opportunities to the local trades," Cinzia explained. "I want to provide the best deal for my clients."

Because she is aware of the work performed by local tradespeople, she can recommend service providers she knows that will deliver reliable and quality services.

Staging a home and getting it ready to make the best impression on potential buyers is an important part of the marketing process.

Cinzia has gained a reputation as a professional realtor who has a passion for real estate and always works to achieve the best results for her clients.

Many of her clients come from repeat business and referrals from people who have worked with her and appreciate her experience, knowledge, and passion.

Cinzia helps her clients achieve their goals when selling a property by being honest and evaluating a property to achieve a realistic selling price that is equitable and fair to both parties.

"My clients trust me," Cinzia explained. "I wouldn't tell a client you can sell your property for an amount that is impossible. I would advise you on how you should determine a price, the marketing needed, and the amount of money you can expect. You have to look after the best interests of your client. I work very hard for my clients. I want to show and prove my value. I go beyond regular customer service."

Cinzia serves the region including Vaughan, King Township, and Simcoe County. She also works on an international level with clients in Italy and a few other countries such as Barbados.

During the course of her career in real estate, Cinzia has earned a reputation as an experienced, knowledgeable, and professional realtor who always works in the best interest of her clients.

Cinzia can be reached via the Royal LePage RCR Realty office by telephone at 905-857-0651 or directly at 416-879-7606.

Written by Brian Lockhart



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# PURCHASING PIECE OF MIND: Understanding Title Insurance

In the realm of real estate transactions, few aspects are as crucial yet often misunderstood as title insurance.

**TITLE INSURANCE** is a cornerstone of real estate transactions, offering essential protection against unforeseen issues related to property ownership. Let's take a dive into how title insurance shields both buyers, sellers and lenders alike from potential financial liabilities.

**WHAT IS TITLE INSURANCE?**

Title insurance is a specialized type of insurance that protects the insured party (typically the buyer or the lender) against financial loss due to defects in the title of a property. These defects could include errors or omissions in deeds, undisclosed heirs claiming ownership, liens, encumbrances, or even forgery in the chain of title. Unlike traditional insurance that covers future events, title insurance covers issues that have occurred in the past but surface during the ownership transfer process.

**WHY IS TITLE INSURANCE IMPORTANT?**

Title insurance provides peace of mind to both buyers and lenders. It ensures that the property's title is clear and marketable, meaning the buyer can legally take ownership without the risk of inher-

iting undisclosed debts or legal disputes. For lenders, it mitigates the risk of lending money on a property with unclear ownership rights.

Imagine a scenario where a buyer purchases a property only to discover later that there is an outstanding lien on the property due to unpaid taxes by a previous owner. Without title insurance, the new owner could be held responsible for paying off that debt. In such cases, title insurance would cover the cost of resolving the issue, protecting the buyer's investment.

**HOW DOES TITLE INSURANCE WORK?**

Before a property sale closes, a title search is conducted to uncover any existing issues with the title. This search examines public records to verify the property's legal ownership status and identify any outstanding liens or other encumbrances. Based on the findings, the title insurance company assesses the level of risk and issues a policy.

**SCENARIOS WHERE TITLE INSURANCE PROTECTS BUYERS AND SELLERS:**

**1 UNDISCLOSED LIENS AND ENCUMBRANCES:** Suppose a previous owner failed to pay taxes or neglected to settle a contractor's bill. Without title insurance, the new buyer could inherit these debts, potentially leading to legal disputes or financial burdens. Title insurance ensures that any existing liens or encumbrances are identified and resolved before the property changes hands.

**2 ERRORS IN PUBLIC RECORDS OR TITLE DOCUMENTS:** Occasionally, clerical errors or mistakes in public records can cloud a property's title. For instance, an incorrect survey or an inaccurate legal description could lead to boundary disputes or affect ownership rights. Title insurance ensures that such discrepancies are corrected without financial loss to the buyer.

**3 FORGERIES AND FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY:** In rare cases, fraudulent activity or forged signatures in the chain of title could challenge the property's ownership legitimacy. Title insurance protects against financial losses resulting from such fraudulent acts, safeguarding the buyer's investment.

**4 MISSING HEIRS OR UNDISCLOSED INTERESTS:** A property's title history may reveal unresolved claims from missing heirs or undisclosed parties with legal interests in the property. Title insurance ensures that all rightful ownership interests are identified and addressed, protecting the buyer from future legal challenges.

Title insurance serves as a critical safeguard in real estate transactions, shielding both buyers and sellers from a wide range of unforeseen risks and financial liabilities. Should these situations arise, title insurance provides the necessary coverage to address these issues swiftly, facilitating a smooth closing process. Always work with a realtor that knows the ins & outs of real estate transactions. We, at the Michele Denniston Real Estate Group are committed to providing you

with expert, reputable and top-tier real estate service. Visit us at 50 Doctor Kay Dr. Unit C-22 in Schomberg, or contact Michele directly at (416) 433-8316 or michele@micheledenniston.com



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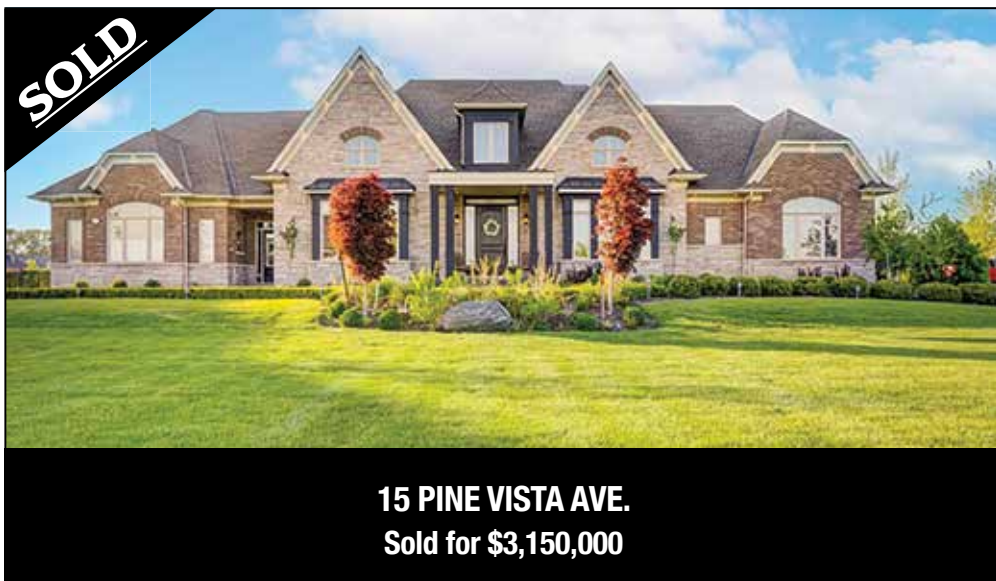


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# BUYING RURAL OR URBAN?

*Know the differences*

The decision to move is a very personal choice that is typically reached after considering a number of variables.

**C**areer opportunities, a better climate, superior schools, or a desire to be closer to family compel millions of people to move each year, and those factors underscore how unique each individual move can be.

Steinway Moving & Storage contends that the average American moves 11.7 times, while the Canadian Association of Movers says Canadians move an average of five to six times. No move is a small undertaking, and when such a move involves relocating to an entirely new setting, there are some things buyers should know. Here are some differences between purchasing a home in a rural or urban location.

**URBAN**

A vibrant lifestyle and proximity to employment draws many people to urban living. Home prices tend to be higher in cities than in other areas, and the cost of living in urban areas tends to be more expen-

sive due to the conveniences associated with city life. Buyers may expect to pay more for contractors, food and transportation. Property taxes are another consideration for urban buyers. Taxes tend to be higher in urban neighbourhoods than rural locales.

Proximity to nightlife and restaurants attracts many people to live in cities. Urban buyers need to expect more congestion in cities than in rural areas. Having a car in the city may be a luxury instead of a necessity. In fact, many urban dwellers opt for public transportation rather than paying for parking or trying to find spots.

Noise may be another thing to think about. More people living closer together brings more noise and artificial light. Nature lovers may have to sacrifice proximity to wildlife and access to star-filled skies if they choose to live in cities.

**RURAL**

Being able to spread out and enjoy private property is a major advantage of living in the country. Rural living comes with much larger home footprints at more affordable prices.

The Real Estate Council of Ontario says that potential buyers will need to account for distance to jobs and stores when opting to live in rural areas. Commute

times can eat into fuel budgets. Those who work from home may need to investigate if there is reliable internet service where a home is located, as some rural locales still have spotty mobile service and internet coverage.

Additional things to think about involve the maintenance on the home and utilities. Some rural homes are not connected to municipal water systems. That requires usage of well water and having to do one's own water testing. It's also key to have a septic system tested to ensure it is in good working order. Rural residents may need to grow accustomed to slower repair times should electricity go out, so a backup generator might be necessary. Also, snow removal may fall on the homeowner, so buyers should look closely at driveway size and road access before buying.

Nature and vast starry skies draw some to live in rural areas. Sitting outdoors enjoying the sounds and smells of nature can be intoxicating. But homeowners must consider that insects and animals may be frequent companions in these areas. Those accustomed to urban living may be unacquainted with animals living so close to their homes.

Both rural and urban areas can be great places to live. Individuals should consider the pros and cons of each before buying a new home.

## How sellers can get top dollar for their homes

The process of buying and selling a home includes many movable parts. North America has experienced historic trends in the housing market in recent years. Most notably, record-high prices have dominated the real estate market over the last several years.

This is good news for sellers currently looking to make an excellent profit on their properties. Sellers who don't want to rely on the market alone to earn more for their homes can take various steps to get top dollar.

**STAGE YOUR HOME**

According to the 2023 Profile of Home Staging conducted by the National Association of Realtors®, 81 percent of buyers' agents said staging a home made it easier for the buyer to visualize the property as a future home. Focus your attention on the living room, owner's suite and kitchen. Hiring a staging professional can be an investment that turns a sizeable profit.

**KNOW YOUR LOCAL MARKET**

A good way to price your home and gauge if it will sell quickly is to look at the average "days on the market" for similar homes nearby. If homes are selling faster than the average DOM, that suggests high demand, which can work in your favour.

**MAKE ADDED-VALUE IMPROVEMENTS**

Focus renovation dollars on the types of projects that will reap the highest return on investment. Remodelling magazine annually reports the projects that offer the best ROI. In 2023, the project that reaped the highest ROI was an HVAC Conversion/Electrification, which involved converting a fossil-fuel-burning furnace into an electric heat pump. The cost recouped was 103.5 percent.

**SELL AT THE RIGHT TIME**

Fewer people are shopping for homes in the dead of winter or during the middle of the school year, so putting your home on the market in spring typically brings out the largest number of interested parties, according to Opendoor. But this isn't the only time-related factor to consider. To sell for the most money, you want to list your home when you have enough equity to pay off your current mortgage, the costs of selling, and the costs of moving, says Bankrate.

**GIVE CURB APPEAL A BOOST**

Make sure that buyers see your home in a positive light from the first moment they pull up for a walk-through showing. According to Home & Garden, improving the landscaping can result in a value increase of up to 12 percent. Additional projects can include investing in a new front door and garage doors. Be sure that hedges are trimmed, there are fresh flowers growing, and that walkways and the driveway are clean and tidy.



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\$2,899,000



14 WETHERSFIELD COURT, AURORA  
\$2,200,000



5 SUNDEW LANE, RICHMOND HILL  
\$1,788,000



118 BARNWOOD DRIVE, RICHMOND HILL  
\$1,598,000



22 CLOSS SQUARE, AURORA  
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# Renovations that help sell homes

The adage “there’s a lid for every pot” suggests that, even in relation to the real estate market, there’s bound to be a buyer for every home on the market.

**P**rice is a significant variable in the minds of potential buyers, but there are additional factors that can affect the impression people get of a given home.

Certain home features can tip the scales in favour of sellers. In fact, various renovations can help sell homes more readily. And these renovations need not cost a fortune. Putting a home on the market can be stressful, but these renovations may help it sell fast.

**A FRESH COAT OF PAINT:** Although painting is relatively inexpensive and a job that some do-it-yourselfers can tackle, it’s not a task relished by many. Painting is messy, it takes time, and requires moving furniture. In fact, prepping a room for painting often is the toughest component of any painting job.

But fresh coats of paint can create a strong first impression. Choose a neutral colour and get painting. Jennie Norris, chairwoman for the International Association of Home Staging Professionals, says gray is a “safe” colour that has been trending in recent years.

**MINOR BATHROOM REMODEL:** Remove dated wall coverings, replace fixtures, consider re-glazing or replacing an old tub, and swap old shower doors for fast fixes in a bathroom. If there’s more room in the budget, replacing a tub, tile surround, floor, toilet, sink, vanity, and fixtures can cost roughly \$10,500, says HGTV. You’ll recoup an average of \$10,700 at resale, making a minor bathroom remodel a potentially worthy investment.

**REDONE KITCHEN:** The kitchen tends to be the hub of a home. This room gets the most usage and attention of any space, and it’s a great place to focus your remodelling attention. The National Association of the Remodelling Industry estimates that homeowners can recover up to 52 percent of the cost of a kitchen upgrade upon selling a home. Buyers want a functional and updated kitchen. Trending features include drawer-style microwaves and dishwashers, commercial ranges, hidden outlets, and even wine refrigerators.



**UPDATED HEATING AND COOLING SYSTEM:** Better Homes and Gardens reports that homeowners may be able to recoup 85 percent of the cost of new HVAC systems when they sell their homes. Heating, cooling and ventilation components are vital to maintain. You don’t want buyers to be taken aback by an older system, and many millennial buyers are not willing to overlook old mechanical systems.

**FRESH LANDSCAPING:** A home’s exterior is the first thing buyers will see. If they pull up to a home with

eye-catching landscaping and outdoor areas that are attractive yet functional, they’re more likely to be intrigued. Often buyers will equate a home that features an impressive exterior with upkeep inside as well. The American Nursery Landscape Association says the average homeowner may spend \$3,500 for landscaping.

Improving a home’s chances to sell quickly and at a higher price often comes down to making smart improvements that catch the eyes of buyers.



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**RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS**



By Julien Laurion  
Real Estate

It was a peaceful evening in Aurora, Ontario, until a new threat emerged—evil home buyers determined to snatch up all the best properties and leave chaos in their wake. The town was in a state of panic, and the residents didn't know where to turn. That's when I, Julien Laurion, knew it was time to call in some serious backup.

**I DIALED THE BAT-SIGNAL HOTLINE**, and within minutes, the legendary Batman and his trusty sidekick Robin swooped into town, ready to save the day.

As the Batmobile roared down Yonge Street, Batman and Robin assessed the situation. They quickly realized that these evil home buyers were no ordinary villains. They were armed with deceitful contracts, misleading listings, and sky-high bids designed to throw everyone off their game.

"Looks like we've got our work cut out for us, Robin," Batman said, his eyes narrowing behind his mask.

"Right, Batman. But with Julien Laurion on our side, we can't lose!" Robin replied with a confident grin.

Our first mission was to fortify Aurora's homes against these nefarious buyers. With Laurion Contracting's top-notch skills and Batman's advanced technology, we reinforced the foundations, added secret compartments, and installed state-of-the-art security systems.

"These homes are now as strong as the Batcave," Batman declared.



# BATMAN AND ROBIN SAVE THE DAY IN AURORA

We didn't stop there. We created cozy nooks, stunning kitchens, and luxurious bathrooms that would make any honest homebuyer fall in love. Our goal was to ensure that only those with pure intentions could truly appreciate the beauty of these homes.

Next, we needed to outsmart the evil home buyers on the Real Estate front. With Julien Laurion Real Estate's expertise and Robin's detective skills, we devised a plan to expose their tricks and protect our clients.

"Real Estate is all about understanding people's needs, just like solving a mystery," Robin explained. "Let's show these villains what we're made of."

We organized community meetings, educating everyone about the red flags to watch out for. We provided free consultations, offering invaluable insights into the true value and potential of properties. Batman even hosted a special seminar on negotiation tactics, ensuring our clients were well-prepared to face any challenge.

**THE FINAL SHOWDOWN**

The climax of our adventure came at the Aurora Home Show. The evil home buyers, disguised as legiti-

mate bidders, thought they could take over the event. But we were ready.

Batman and Robin, disguised as regular attendees, mingled with the crowd, gathering intel. Meanwhile, I set up a booth showcasing Laurion Contracting's finest work and Julien Laurion Real Estates most enticing listings.

As the bidding wars began, the villains revealed their true colors, trying to outbid everyone with absurd offers. But our community stood strong, armed with knowledge and confidence.

"Your tricks won't work here!" Batman declared, stepping forward with Robin by his side.

With a swift and decisive move, we exposed their deceitful tactics. The crowd cheered as the villains were escorted out, their evil plans thwarted.

With the threat neutralized, peace returned to Aurora. Batman and Robin departed, leaving behind a grateful community and a strengthened real estate market. "Remember, Julien, the true power lies in building trust and community," Batman said before driving off into the night.

"Thanks, Batman. We'll keep Aurora safe and strong," I replied, feeling a renewed sense of purpose.

Together, Laurion Contracting and Julien Laurion Real Estate continue to build dreams and make homes, ensuring that Aurora remains a haven for honest, hardworking families. And who knows? If another threat arises, we might just see the Bat-Signal light up the sky once more.

Until then, the adventure continues, and the story of how Batman and Robin saved Aurora from evil home buyers becomes a cherished legend in our town.

I've got your back from start to finish. I'm a local Realtor who has lived in Aurora for more than 30 years and know it inside and out. With A LOT of home construction experience, I have an eye that will help you make informed decisions re: home concerns and renovations. Let me help you with your next big purchase/move. Please feel free to call or email me directly at 416-402-5530 or julien@bigtuna.ca or check out my socials at @bigtunarealty

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**MARKET UPDATE – JUNE 2024**

**AURORA**

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

**\$1,403,913**

AVERAGE 25 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

**83**

187 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

**101%**

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

**-1.17%**

**KING**

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

**\$2,439,888**

AVERAGE 49 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

**27**

90 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

**95%**

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

**-3.82%**

\*The statistics provided were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's Market Watch JUNE 2024; Summary of Existing Home Transactions for All Home Types, JUNE 2024 + Focus on the MLS Home Price Index for Composite, JUNE 2024 for York Region's Aurora and King

Many consumers thought that with the rate drop earlier in June, the market would take off again. What we have seen as a result is the market moving and maintaining a slower and steadier pace. There is more choice for Buyers shopping on the market, which means an opportunity for Offers with home inspections or finance conditions again and fewer multiple offer night occurrences. Our inventory is up substantially year over year and the physical number of sales are down year over year as well. With this in mind, Sellers need to ensure their pricing strategy is competitive to be positioned strongly "in" the market and not just sitting "on" the market. Working closely with your real estate advisor to strategize is integral. In an evolving market, the Key Advantage Team are your trusted partners for insight and support, to help you make informed decisions with confidence. If you are thinking of buying or selling, now is the time to connect to talk strategy.

– Provided by Key Advantage Team Royal LePage RCR Realty  
Lindsay Strom, Broker  
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\* Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract.



# How to stain your deck

(NC) Your deck is the perfect place to enjoy your time as the weather gets warmer. If it's starting to look a little worn out, staining your wooden deck can help you breathe new life into your outdoor space. Here's a step-by-step guide to help you get started.

**CHOOSE THE RIGHT TIME**

Sprinkle a small amount of water onto the deck. If it absorbs in less than 10 minutes, your deck needs urgent care. Choose a time of the year when the temperature is in the 10- to 30-degree Celsius range, and when no rain is in the forecast. It's also best to avoid applying stain in direct sunlight if possible, working in sections as the sun moves across your deck.

**PREPARE THE DECK**

Inspect your deck for damage. Sand any splintered areas with 80-grit sandpaper or a belt sander and replace any missing fasteners. You can also tighten any screws or hammer down nails that are sticking up. Sweep away dirt, dust and debris with a broom, and rinse your deck with water. You can also use a pressure washer on a light setting. Next, use a deck cleaner product and a brush to deep clean the wood, and allow your deck to dry for two to three days before applying stain.

**PICK THE BEST STAIN**

Choosing the best deck stain for your project depends on a variety of factors unique to your deck. Look for a stain at your local hardware store, like The Home Depot, that's made for your deck's wood and matches your decking material. To keep your deck in great

shape for longer, pick one that is designed to repel water and protect against UV rays.

You'll get the best results by using an oil-based stain over a deck previously finished with oil-based stains and water-based stain over a deck previously finished with a water-based ones.

**START WITH THE RAILINGS**

Sweep your deck again to remove any debris that may have accumulated after deep-cleaning. Make sure to sweep the railings with a broom as well to remove any dust. Protect your siding, door trim and any other parts of the home with painter's tape. Stir the stain thoroughly and transfer it to a paint tray to make things easier.

Begin staining your deck, working your way down from the highest points like posts and balusters. Use long, even strokes with your brush to ensure a consistent coating on your railings and try not to drip on the deck.

**STAIN THE DECK BOARDS**

Apply the stain to your deck using a brush about the width of your deck boards. Choose your starting and stopping points, like by your deck stairs or a back door to your home so you don't block yourself into a corner, and work in one direction. Apply your stain in long, even strokes along the length of the deck boards.

Use a smaller paintbrush to apply stain in cracks and hard to reach corners. You can also touch up areas between boards this way. One coat is generally enough when staining your deck boards.

**ALLOW THE STAIN TO DRY**

Let your stain dry for 24 to 48 hours before walking on your deck. Wait an extra day or two before putting heavy furniture back in to place.

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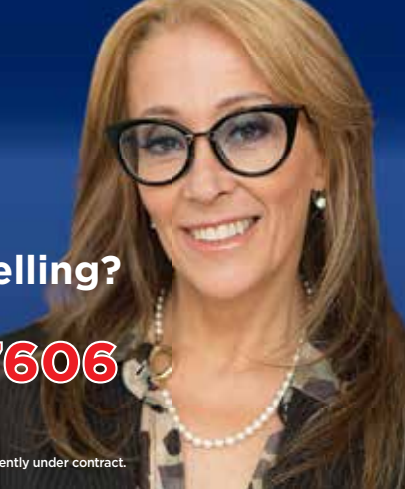
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# Hunting for a new home? 4 things to consider

(NC) Whether you're a first-time buyer or a seasoned reseller, the process of buying a home is equal parts excitement and exhaustion. If you're in the market this spring, here are four factors to consider.

suggest prospective owners engage with the board and learn about managing the unique shared risks associated with condos. Find more information through the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. [cia-ica.ca](http://cia-ica.ca)

**REFRESH THE YARD**

Have you found the home of your dreams, but feel the yard is a little lacking? Don't worry, it doesn't have to be a dealbreaker. Landscaping and projects like adding a new deck are relatively affordable ways to spruce up any outdoor space, particularly if you do some or all of the work yourself. Free digital tools, like the AR Visualizer offered by composite decking manufacturer Trex, can help you explore design possibilities by offering a virtual view of how the yard would look post-reno. [trex.com](http://trex.com)

**CHECK AND UPDATE ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT**

Congratulations, you found your dream home. While you'll already have a long to-do list for moving day, you should add testing the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to your list. Replace the backup batteries and make sure none of the units have passed their expiry date.

**MAP OUT YOUR HOME-BUYING JOURNEY**

Before you go house-hunting, make sure you know your full financial picture. Talk to an advisor from your financial institution to map out your pathway to home ownership. If the numbers don't quite work, put a pause on buying and see which steps you can take to get you closer to that future move-in day. If you haven't already, consider opening a registered First Home Savings Account. You can make tax-deductible contributions of up to \$8,000 a year (up to a lifetime total of \$40,000) and withdraw the money tax-free when you're ready to buy a qualifying home. [rbc.com/mymoneymatters](http://rbc.com/mymoneymatters)

If the home has an old-style thermostat, consider swapping it for a smart thermostat that allows you to adjust your home temperature from anywhere and set different temperature schedules for various times of the day. [firstalert.ca](http://firstalert.ca)

**SHARED CONDO COSTS**

If you're budgeting for a condo, remember that shared elements, from pools to parking garages, need ongoing investments to ensure the safety, comfort and resale value of your property. While major updates can raise fees, risk assessment professionals typically say these updates are important to avoid larger problems. They

By Allan Britnell, Editor-in-Chief, News Canada  
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# HOW TO CREATE AN *outdoor living retreat*

All fresco entertaining has taken off in recent years. It's much more common today to find homeowners who want to extend living spaces to the outdoors in meaningful ways that go beyond a few lawn chairs and a stand-alone grill.

**D**ream backyard living rooms mirror similar spaces indoors and contain features like cozy corners, lush furniture and televisions or movie projectors. Plus, they often about additional outdoor luxuries like fully functional kitchens.

Homeowners have various options when designing outdoor living spaces. Above all else, spaces should be created with the goal of encouraging people to get together. Here are some ideas.

**POOLSIDE RETREAT**

Homeowners with pools and other water features likely want this area to be the star of the entertaining

space. Furniture will be more of the lounging variety, with comfortable chaises and spots to catch the sun. If a swim-up bar isn't possible, a rolling bar cart can be stocked with essentials for cocktails or mocktails for the kids. Furniture near the pool will be exposed to a lot of sun, so look for durable, sun-resistant fabrics.

**FIRESIDE NOOK**

Gathering around an outdoor fireplace or fire pit is a treat when the weather cools down. Mirror the look of the same setup indoors by arranging outdoor sofas so they flank the fireplace. Add some ottomans or side tables for stowing mulled cider or hot chocolate. A mantel above the fireplace can hold pots of greenery or candles that add to the ambiance.

**CONSIDER A CUSTOM BANQUETTE**

Unused corners on a patio or rooftop retreat can utilize a custom-made banquette that provides the functionality of a sofa sectional outdoors. Have a contractor design it to the exact specifications of the area, and add a rug to ground the space.

**VARY THE FLOORING**

Depending on the entertaining space, a balance of soft grass, pavers or other hardscape will be necessary. Certain areas will need to be hard enough for

chairs and other furniture, particularly for those who are including an outdoor dining table in the design.

**CREATE SOME PRIVACY**

Some homeowners are lucky enough to have natural barriers that offer privacy in their entertaining spaces. When there isn't enough, tall shrubs, inexpensive bamboo fencing or trellis can provide a blind that makes an outdoor living area more cozy and private. Consider placing tall, potted plants on rolling casters to improve privacy as the need arises.

Outdoor living spaces are all the rage, and they can add value and functionality to most any home.



## How to keep an AC unit running strong

Air conditioners are a lifeline come the dog days of summer, when soaring temperatures make a well-cooled home a welcome respite from the outdoors. Maintaining an AC unit ensures it will be there to keep everyone cool when the mercury rises. The following are some steps homeowners can take to keep their AC units in tip-top shape this summer.

**REPLACE THE AIR FILTER ON THE UNIT**

Dirt, dust, debris, and pollen can quickly fill the filter on an AC unit. Replacing these filters prior to summer can make the unit operate more efficiently and keep cool air circulating throughout the house all summer. Homeowners can first identify which type of unit they have and then find an online tutorial to see how to replace the filter. Some filters are more expensive than others, but the cost is still low and the energy savings can be substantial.

**SCHEDULE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE ON THE UNIT**

Routine maintenance performed by a local HVAC technician is another way to ensure an AC unit is running at peak capacity when it's most needed. Such maintenance is perhaps most effective in spring, as that ensures the unit is running strong from the first heat wave of the summer all the way through Labor Day. HVAC technicians can identify problems and recommend services that homeowners may not recognize they need until it's already hot out. Annual maintenance appointments also give HVAC professionals a chance to assess a system compared to the previous year, which can help them identify if a unit is nearing its end. That can ensure homeowners are not caught off guard when the unit needs to be replaced.

**HELP THE UNIT MAKE IT THROUGH THE SUMMER**

Whether it's a typical summer or one marked by a handful of heat waves, AC units can use a little help to get through the season. Closing curtains throughout the house on hot afternoons is a natural way to keep a home cool during a heat wave, and that can cut back on home cooling costs and protect a unit from being overworked. Ceiling fans also can be installed to keep rooms cool and circulate air, which also makes a hot summer a little less taxing on an AC unit.

**USE A PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT**

Programmable thermostats allow homeowners to set the temperatures inside their homes throughout the day. If no one is home during the afternoon, there's no reason to have the AC cranking. Program the thermostat so the house is comfortable when people are home, but raise the desired temperature when no one is around. That gives the AC unit a break during the day and can help to dramatically reduce the cost of cooling the home.

AC units will not last forever, but some simple maintenance can improve their life expectancy and keep homes comfortable throughout the summer.

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Updated & upgraded beauty of a townhome with inlaw potential in finished lower level. Open concept plan! hardwood floors! Gourmet kitchen with granite counters. Spacious living/dining combo w/cozy gas fireplace. Primary bedroom with ensuite bath and walk in closet. Walkout lower level.

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**2510-88 GRANGWAY AVENUE, SCARBOROUGH**



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**EXECUTIVE HOME: \$400K EXTERIOR UPGRADES**

Rare executive home in a tranquil cul-de-sac beside a parkette. This 8000 sqft custom-built residence features a 4-car garage, 19ft marble foyer, gourmet kitchen, primary suite with a gas fireplace, and an entertainment basement with a rec room and theater. Outside, enjoy a saltwater pool, cabana, sunroom, mini-golf green, and outdoor bar/kitchenette. Over \$400K in upgrades.



**BRAND NEW - DOUBLE LOT SIZE**

Brand new custom-built executive home on a premium 96' x 126' lot in Richmond Hill. Open concept layout with high-quality craftsmanship, 10' ceilings, chef's kitchen, spa-like ensuite, and spacious bedrooms. Includes a 38' x 126' easement. Free finished basement if sold by July 5th. Truly a masterpiece!



**BRAND NEW EXECUTIVE "GREEN" & "SMART" HOME**

Experience eco-smart luxury in South Aurora's prestigious Royal Hill. This home features a gourmet kitchen, spa-like master suite, hardwood and porcelain floors, 10' ceilings, and an oak staircase. Highlights include a walk-out lower level, green technology, and serene views. Located close to amenities, nature, and transit for unparalleled sustainable living.



**LAKE WILCOX LUXURY HOME HAVEN**

This soon-to-be-built executive home in Lake Wilcox is situated on a 150' lot and features 4+1 bedrooms, 5 baths, a chef's kitchen with JennAir appliances, gas fireplaces, hardwood floors, and a skylit primary suite. The finished lower level and ability to personalize finishes ensure a fully customized luxury residence.



**LUXURY LIVING WITH HIGH-END FINISHES**

Welcome to luxurious living in King City. This custom home features a \$500k chef's kitchen, saltwater pool, and outdoor kitchen. Perfect for entertaining with a rec room, cedar cigar room, and 4-car garage. Enjoy solid wood flooring, a spacious primary suite, and proximity to top schools and amenities.



**ZONED FOR HOME BUSINESS, SALTWATER POOL**

This fully renovated executive home in Richmond Hill boasts a 4-car garage, finished basement, solariums, and a pool with a waterfall. Perfect for remote work, it's near schools, parks, and amenities. Zoned to allow 35% of its space for home business, it also includes a sunroom, indoor hot tub, and fenced backyard.



**LUXURIOUS 'FERNBROOK' HOME IN AURORA**

Presenting the exquisitely designed 'Fernbrook' executive home in Princeton Heights, Aurora Estates. This expansive lot property boasts premium finishes and a gourmet kitchen, with customization options available. It includes four generously sized bedrooms, each with its own private bathroom.



**PRESTIGIOUS HOME WITH PREMIUM FENCED LOT**

This executive home boasts a 3-car garage with an EV port on a premium lot in a prestigious community. Enjoy a grand 2-story foyer with a 3-way fireplace, a chef's kitchen, a private deck, a luxurious primary suite, and a finished walk-out lower level with a gym, recreation room, and additional office.



**PERSONALIZE YOUR EXECUTIVE DREAM HOME**

Explore this magnificent new 'Fernbrook Homes' property in prestigious Princeton Heights, Aurora Estates. Featuring a customizable kitchen with buyer-selected cabinetry and appliances, this executive home offers luxurious finishes, four spacious bedrooms with private bathrooms, and ample natural light.



**OAK RIDGES HOME WITH ADJACENT LAND**

Beautifully renovated home, nearly 3000 sqft plus lower level, on a 74 x 296ft lot in Oak Ridges. Features a modern kitchen with walk-out to a pool-sized backyard, large family room with gas fireplace, formal living and dining rooms, and a primary suite with walk-in closet and luxurious ensuite. Rare chance to purchase with adjacent vacant land, totaling over 48,000 sqft.



**CUSTOMIZE YOUR DREAM LAKE WILCOX HOME**

Introducing an opportunity to customize your dream executive home in Lake Wilcox. This to-be-built residence is designed with 4+1 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, and a chef's kitchen outfitted with high-end JennAir appliances. Envision luxurious finishes throughout, with the chance to select your preferences to truly make it your own.



**90 X 200 FT LAKE WILCOX GEM**

Discover your secluded paradise in Richmond Hill's prestigious Lake Wilcox community, close to Hwy 404 for easy commuting. This versatile home offers a unique layout, a large front porch for sunsets, and a prime 90 x 200 ft lot. Near Lake Wilcox Park and amenities, it's ideal for renovation or building your dream home.

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