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**APRIL 27, 2025**



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Every April, the **Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake** inspires our community members and leaders, businesses, and Southlake Health physicians, staff, volunteers, and grateful patients and families to come together to walk, run and raise for leading edge care, close to home. Generous community support enables Southlake Health to deliver the world-class and compassionate care our loved ones, friends, colleagues, and neighbours have come to expect from us, and we are so grateful that support. We look forward to coming together again this year along our exclusive Davis Drive route - see you on April 27!"

-Jennifer Ritter, President and CEO,  
Southlake Health Foundation



Our community of donors are key members of our Southlake Health Family, whose fundraising and philanthropy helps us meet the needs of patients and families who depend on us. We are so grateful to those who do their part to support leading edge care, close to home at Southlake Health."

-Dr. Charmaine van Schaik, Chief of Staff,  
Southlake Health



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King's Community Newspaper

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## MPP Lecce celebrates Holi with Hindu Community

Stephen Lecce, MPP for King—Vaughan, joined the local Hindu community to celebrate Holi, the Festival of Colours March 15. "Holi has to be one of my favourite events of the year," said Lecce. "We celebrated Holi, the festival of colours, unity, and positivity with many excited families. Wishing our friends in the South Asian community a Happy Holi and a positive start to the spring season."

## Councillors' remuneration hits \$536K in 2024

By Mark Pavilons  
Editor  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The total cost for King's councillors came in at \$536,905 for 2024. Council received a statement of remuneration and expenses from Finance Director Peggy Tollett. That amount was up slightly from the \$507,736.77 total in 2023. The Municipal Act, 2001 requires the Treasurer of each municipality to submit a report to council, on or before March 31 each year, containing an itemized statement of the remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year to each member of council in respect of his or her services as a member of council. Mayor Steve Pellegrini was on top, with a salary of just

over \$107,000. He received roughly \$28,000 in payroll and health benefits. He was also paid or reimbursed for conference and event expenses. The mayor also received a \$10,500 car allowance, bringing his total remuneration to almost \$152,000. Councillor David Boyd was next on the list, with a total compensation of \$69,466.81. That included a salary of just under \$50,000 plus benefits and expenses. Councillor Jennifer Anstey followed with a salary of \$49,711.50 plus payroll, health benefits and expenses bringing her total to \$66,872.15. Councillor Debbie Schaefer, with a total compensation of \$64,988.20 was next in line. She was followed by Avia Eek (\$64,372.36), Mary Asselstine (\$60,108.55) and Jordan Cescolini (\$59,134.72). Cescolini, Asselstine, Schaefer and Eek all drew a salary of \$48,092.25 each.



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March Break fun at King camps.

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Museum looking for photos of King soldiers.

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## Upcoming Meetings



**COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
**Monday, April 07**  
**6 p.m. - Council Public Planning**  
**Monday, April 14**  
**6 p.m. - Council**

In-person at the King Township Municipal Centre and live streamed at [king.ca/meetings](http://king.ca/meetings)

**COMMITTEES AND BOARDS**  
**Tuesday, April 08**  
**11 a.m. - Accessibility Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, April 10**  
**6 p.m. - Heritage Advisory Committee**

Virtual

**Wednesday, April 16**  
**6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment**

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)

## Recent Planning & Heritage Notices

- **Notice of Public Planning Meeting April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Concerning a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision**  
 Re: 13711 Keele Street, King City.
- **Notice of Intention to Pass Amending By-laws on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to Remove the Holding (H) Symbols**  
 Re: 13500 and 13700 Dufferin Street and 1793 15th Sideroad, King City (File Z-2025-01).

View full planning and heritage notices at [king.ca/news](http://king.ca/news) and subscribe to receive these notices by email at [king.ca/subscribe](http://king.ca/subscribe)



**Water Bills & Property Tax**  
**Due Date: April 23**

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

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  - AquaFit Instructor
  - Aquatics Lifeguard
  - Aquatics Lifeguard/Instructor
  - Attendant I - Facilities
- View job postings at [king.ca/employment](http://king.ca/employment)

## Public Open House Commercial Licensing Framework

King Township is exploring a commercial licensing system to support local businesses, ensure regulatory compliance, and help future planning and we want to hear from you.

Business owners and residents are invited to a Public Open House on **Thursday, March 27 from 5-7 p.m.** at the **King Township Municipal Centre** to discuss business licensing options and share their feedback with the Township's project team. **An online survey will also open on March 28 and will run until April 11.**

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



**Thursday Mar. 27**  
 10:30am-1pm



## King Climate Resilient Agriculture Workshop

### Market Gardening: The Business and Innovation of Resilient Agriculture

### Schomberg Community Hall

Learn from experts like Brandon Hebor from Boreal Farms and Antonio Gomes, a regenerative and innovative farmer.

Listen to case stories and demonstrations that will provide valuable insights into sustainable farming techniques, and learn about grant and funding opportunities.

Register at [king.ca/ResilientAG](http://king.ca/ResilientAG)



## HAVE YOUR SAY

### York Region's Sign Bylaw



Virtual public information meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, March 27  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Register at [york.ca/SignBylaw](http://york.ca/SignBylaw)



## King Community Clean-Up Saturday, April 19

Get outside and celebrate **Earth Week** by taking part in the annual King Community Clean Up. Do your part and help pick up litter to keep our parks, streets, ditches, and neighbourhoods clean and green.

**Getting involved is easy!** Select a public space you would like to clean up. Invite your friends, family and neighbours to join the clean up. Register your clean up group and location then pick up your clean up supplies.

For details, visit [king.ca/CommunityCleanUp](http://king.ca/CommunityCleanUp)



**Bring your broken items back to life at the next Repair Café**  
 Saturday, March 29 from 10a.m. to 2p.m.  
**Zancor Centre**  
 Register at [king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents](http://king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents)



## Host your private party or corporate workshop at the Zancor Centre

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# Investments made to keep local water safe

**By Mark Pavilons**  
**Editor**  
 Local Journalism  
 Initiative Reporter

York Region's water is safe to drink. Local water is distributed by King Township and must meet high regulatory quality standards as legislated by the Province of Ontario.

A recent report to King council revealed local water quality meets or exceeds all standards.

York Region monitors your water quality around the clock to ensure compliance with the Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards, which identifies more than 100 criteria for safe consumption limits. These criteria are revised frequently by the province to reflect new scientific findings or concerns.

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has a Made-in-Ontario drinking water quality management framework. All drinking water systems in Ontario are required to submit an Operational Plan and be registered to the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS). York Region has maintained accreditation to the DWQMS since 2008. This Standard requires utilities to prepare long-term financial plans.

York Region's certification to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 standard for water operations demonstrates its continued commitment to provide safe drinking water. This internationally recognized standard of excellence focuses on quality management. All water supply and treatment plants and associated facilities, owned by York Region, are registered to ISO 9001. To achieve registration, an organization must establish, implement, maintain and continually improve its activities and business processes.

The provincial Drinking Water Systems Regulation 170/03 requires York Region to report on our drinking water systems each calendar year. The reports describe the operation of York Region drinking water systems and drinking water quality test results.

Ansnoerveldt is served (120) by the Ansnoerveldt Drinking Water System is centred on Dufferin Street, north of Highway 9. Local groundwater is naturally high in minerals.

A total of \$85,857 for pump maintenance, new regional remote operations center construction, general maintenance and repairs was invested last

year by York Region.

Serving roughly 7,370 residents, Nobleton DWS includes five wells, two storage facilities, and one booster pumping station. Chlorine provides disinfection and maintains a secondary residual. Sodium silicate is added to sequester naturally occurring iron and manganese. Storage facilities hold treated water and help the booster station maintain pressure.

In 2024, York spent \$1,858,432 for well rehabilitation and pump maintenance, treatment facility upgrades, design and construction, new regional remote operations center construction, general maintenance and repairs.

Providing water to some 2,530 residents, Schomberg DWS includes one Water treatment Plant, three wells and one storage/rechlorination facility. Naturally occurring methane is removed through pre-oxidation with chlorine followed by air stripping. Potassium permanganate is added for iron and manganese removal using media filtration. Water is disinfected with UV light, followed by chlorine which combines with naturally occurring ammonia to form chloramines to provide a secondary residual.

Last year, the Region spent \$208,298 for well rehabilitation and pump maintenance, new regional remote operations center construction, general maintenance and repairs.

For the 8,990 people in King City, the DWS includes two wells, one pumping station, and two storage facilities. If the wells are used for supply, chlorine provides disinfection, and chloramine provides a secondary residual. Sodium silicate can be added to sequester naturally occurring iron and manganese. Wells are currently offline. Storage facilities hold treated water and maintain pressure.

In 2024, York spent \$345,632 for valve chamber upgrades design, treatment and storage facility rehabilitation design, new regional remote operations center construction, general maintenance and repairs.

For all three villages, Operators test the water and inspect the process. Online analyzers continuously monitor treatment and water flow. When analyzers detect a significant process or water quality issue, the system automatically pauses operation until an operator takes action.

You can access detailed reports for each village at <https://www.york.ca/environment/water-and-wastewater/drinking-water-quality-and-monitoring>

## Climate Resilient Agriculture workshop takes place on March 27

Building on the success of the first King Climate Resilient Agriculture Workshop, the second workshop is scheduled for Thursday, March 27, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Schomberg Community Hall.

Key highlights of the workshop include:

**Expert presentations:** Learn from Brandon Hebor of Boreal Farms and Antonio Gomes, a regenerative and innovative farmer, who will share their expertise and experiences.

**Grant and funding opportunities:** Discover various grant and funding opportunities available to support sustainable farming practices.

**Case stories and demonstrations:** Gain valuable insights through case stories and practical demonstrations that showcase effective techniques for resilient agriculture.

This event is free of charge, but space is limited. Almost 30 participants attended the first workshop – which focused on cover crops – on Feb. 21. Interested participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible at [king.ca/resilientAG](http://king.ca/resilientAG) to secure their spot.

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# Editorial, Letters & Opinion

*"A newspaper is not just ink and paper; it is the heartbeat of a community."*

## Finding, and defining the joy in our lives

### Deep Questions Part 2

After examining one's purpose in my last column, here is a new introspective question to ponder.

My daughter asked: "Do you want to feel more joy and what are some things you can do to feel this way?"

Joy. Hmmm.

It's defined as "the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires ... a state of happiness or felicity."

Kind of vague, don't you think?

Buddha said that when our minds are pure, joy follows like a shadow that never leaves.

But the walls we build around us keep out both sadness and joy.

Of course we all long to find and experience joy. We want to squeeze every morsel out of it and never let it go.

The vision of joy differs from person to person. Some find it in fulfilling work and achievements; other see it in the budding flowers they planted in their garden. Some see joy spring to life in creative expression and knowledge, and still others equate joy with friendship, family and happiness.

Tim Cook encouraged us to let joy be in the journey, not the distant goal.

And Mother Teresa said: "Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls."

As you can see, joy is pretty tough to put your finger on. And for many, it's elusive, hiding just out of reach.

I can't really describe it, either. For me, joyful moments are those special, frozen-in-time parts of the day. Watching the pooches frap or do something silly never fails to make me laugh out loud.

Sharing a joke with my kids - especially when we're all on the same page - is always fun. Even making my wife



Mark Pavilons

cry with sentimental words written in a greeting card brings me elation.

But I think, by and large, joy just happens. You can't force it, just like you can't force health, wealth and happiness. They all take concerted effort, a lifetime of commitment.

Yes, I firmly believe you can find joy in the moment, and in many little things along the way.

There's joy in spring, and watching new life emerge from the soil. The colours that unfold are simply marvellous.

For me, I love sitting in our backyard in the summer, looking at the forest, watching for signs of life. I find it amazing that I get to share my space with hummingbirds, bees, dragonflies and birds. They don't know what joy is, but they do have a habit of creating it.

As a child, I found joy in the holidays, and gathering around the dinner table. I found pleasure in reading, writing poetry, drawing and building models. I still tinker with tiny model airplanes because they soothe my complex mind

with really simple ideas and thoughts.

"Building a plastic model is a form of art. And like any art, it's subjective. What matters is not what others think of your model, but what you think of it. And how much you enjoyed making it."

Joy can be simple or very complex.

Many people spend a lot of time in their lives trying to outsmart their own vulnerabilities or shortcomings. They equate joy with success or some sort of recognition.

If you wait for pats on the back, you'll be disappointed.

Many "experts" say we should focus on creating joy and not merely accepting it as it comes. That's all well and good, but the practicality of life says otherwise.

We have to spend roughly eight hours per day working for a living. Money is necessary to put a roof over our heads, food on the table and brand name brand runners on our kids' feet. It pays for our taxes, car repairs and dog food.

With a third of our lives dedicated to the "grindstone," another third is spent sleeping. Recharging our minds and bodies every night is vital to our overall well being. It's not a luxury, but a necessity.

And that leaves roughly eight to 10 hours per day to do as we please. And that "pleasure" often entails cooking, doing dishes, running errands, helping kids with their homework and getting stressed out by watching the nightly news.

One could argue there's little joy in any of these things.

Of course, you can always exploit any situation for nuggets of brightness.

After my chemo sessions at Southlake in Newmarket, my wife and I would

venture to Costco and it became a bit of a tradition. It turned a rather unpleasant task into time together, exploring the massive shelves of massive products. We found bargains and had a few laughs.

While I can't speak for anyone else, I know that mental health issues tend to kick joy to the ground and place a not-so-tender shoe on its chest. I have experienced waves of dread, sweeping over me out of nowhere, knocking me off-balance.

My health concerns dominate my thoughts - every second of every day. There's no joy in cancer.

I have let it crush almost all joy within me, succumbing to the darkness on a regular basis.

I wish I could wag my tail like a happy puppy, who seems content just to be alive and finds joy in seeing someone's face at the end of the day.

I think, perhaps, joy is also shutting out the anguish and letting in the glee, comfort and wonder.

And finding humour, wherever it may be lurking, is always satisfying.

Hugh Sidey once said that a sense of humour is needed armour in life. "Laughter on one's lips is a sign that the person down deep has a pretty good grasp of life."

While I may have a "pretty good grasp of life," it doesn't mean I'm filled with joy.

But I welcome all spontaneous feelings of joy.

The joy of life, according to Aleister Crowley, is in the exercise of one's energies; continual growth; constant change; the enjoyment of every new experience."

Have at it, I say.

### Taxes

## Tax burden per Ontarian rising to \$9,406

The provincial tax burden per Ontarian (inflation-adjusted) is higher now than it ever was under the previous government, finds a new report published today by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

"Lowering taxes is one way Queen's Park could boost economic growth, attract more investment and let Ontario workers keep more of their own money," said Ben Eisen, Fraser Institute senior fellow and co-author Pro-Growth Options for Shrinking the Tax Burden in Ontario.

Despite several promises made by the current provincial government to lower taxes, the tax burden for Ontarians remains high.

In fact, tax revenue for the provincial government, compared to the size of the economy (GDP), has steadily increased in recent years. Provincial tax revenue was equivalent to 12.1 percent of GDP in Ontario in 2017/18. In 2023/24, that had risen to 13.0 percent and projected to increase to 13.4 percent in 2024/25.

Furthermore, the provincial tax burden per person (inflation-adjusted) increased from \$6,358 in 2003/04 to \$8,736 in 2017/18 - the previous government's final year. However, per-person tax revenue increased further to \$9,307 in 2023/24, and is projected to increase again to \$9,406 this year.

Given that provincial tax revenues have been increasing, the study notes that there is room for the government to pursue pro-growth tax reform. It shows that by eliminating Ontario's two top provincial tax brackets provincial revenue would be reduced by at least \$5 billion.

"Pursuing pro-growth tax reform would benefit the province in several ways, including greater economic growth, more business investment and a lower tax burden for Ontario workers," Eisen said.



### Quote of the Week

*"Carry out a random act of kindness ... that one day someone might do the same for you."*

- Princess Diana

### Trivia Tidbits

*Laura Secord warned the British of the impending attack on Canada by the Americans during the war of 1812.*

### King Weekly Sentinel WEBPOLL

www.kingsentinel.com

Results from last week's poll:

**Will you make an effort to buy Canadian in light of the U.S. tariffs?**

a) Yes  100%  
b) No  0%

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

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Have you become more proud of Canada as we stand up to U.S. tariffs?

a) Yes  
b) No

Go to our website and cast a vote!

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# OFA working to understand, react to recent tariffs

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture is working hard to wade through the tariffs and their impacts on farmers.

OFA's board and staff are working closely with Ontario's commodity group leaders and OFA grassroots members to understand immediate impacts, challenges and opportunities that farmers, members and sectors are facing in this time of trade turmoil. This includes a roundtable of commodity group leaders convened by OFA to create a joint position all organizations can use to advocate collectively to government on behalf of the sector.

OFA also has board and staff at many of major farm shows and events to meet with members, as well as responding to emails and phone calls.

OFA participates in a minimum twice weekly national call with the Government of Canada Forum on Canada-U.S. issues where we obtain information about government discussions, negotiations, meetings with key players in the USA and feedback from across the country about the impact on countless industries, sectors, businesses and individuals.

This is also where we contribute valuable feedback from the industry on both the pros and cons of retaliatory tariff proposals from the government, and we've identified and provided input on both immediate and longer term support programs to mitigate and address the impact to our sector.

Some of this work resulted in the announcement of the Advanced Payment Program being extended through 2025 with a \$250,000 interest free loan available to farmers as well as the announcement of \$5 billion of programs through Farm Credit Canada and Economic Development Canada and more. More details are available below in the resources section of this page.

OFA is working with key sector leaders and experts to identify specific interprovincial trade barriers for agricultural goods both in terms of red tape in transportation and logistics as well as market access for Ontario products. This is to provide

## Agriculture

input to government around the needs of our sector as they prioritize addressing interprovincial trade barriers that have plagued our sector for decades.

On April 1, OFA is holding a provincial policy advisory council meeting with farmer and commodity representation to share information and capture feedback from members about their experiences with interprovincial trade barriers as well as recommended solutions and areas of priority focus.

OFA has also been working with partners across the province to identify tools and opportunities to capitalize on the "buy local" momentum that we are seeing Ontario- and Canada-wide. We are using free and paid media opportunities to promote lo-

cal food, Ontario labels and raise the level of awareness of our communities about things such as product of Canada and made in Canada. They also have an email distribution list of 75,000 approximately "non-farm" consumers with whom we're regularly sharing information about how and where to shop local.

Check out: [www.homegrownofa.ca](http://www.homegrownofa.ca) or @homegrownofa and some of their recent paid advertising here: [www.innovatingcanada.ca/campaign/industry-and-business/product-of-canada](http://www.innovatingcanada.ca/campaign/industry-and-business/product-of-canada).

The recent tariffs imposed by China on Canadian agricultural products is yet another blow to farmers.

China recently announced that it will impose 100 per cent tariffs on Canadian canola and peas and 25 per cent tariffs on pork and seafood products starting March 20. These tariffs are in response to tariffs imposed by the Canadian government last fall on

Chinese-made electric vehicles, steel and aluminium products.

"The global tariff and trade situation continues to remain fluid. The announcement of tariffs on Canadian agricultural exports by China is another blow to farmers who are already grappling with the impacts of the ongoing trade war between the United States and Canada as result of U.S.-imposed tariffs," said Drew Spoelstra, President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

"As these trade challenges unfold, the OFA is actively engaging with the federal and provincial governments, municipal leaders, our commodity partners, county federations, stakeholders, members and the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to identify the current and future impacts all of these trade actions have on our sector.

"We encourage our federal and provincial governments to continue their work in addressing this issue in a timely manner, and to ensure there is financial compensation available for farmers negatively affected by the US and Chinese tariffs."

## Applications open for Give Back awards

The Neighbourhood Network's Give Back Awards are an annual \$1,000 cash prize awarded to 20 graduating students from high schools in Aurora, Georgina, King Township, Newmarket, and Whitchurch-Stouffville. The awards are presented to students who have demonstrated an outstanding dedication to community involvement.

"The Give Back Awards shine a light on students who are making a real impact through volunteerism," said Erin Cerenzia, Manager, Community Relations. "We encourage all eligible students to apply and share their stories of giving back. Their dedication and efforts help strengthen our communities, and we're excited to recognize and celebrate their contributions!"

Applications are open until 4 p.m. on Friday, March 28, and are available at [www.nnetwork.org/GBA](http://www.nnetwork.org/GBA). Winners will be announced during National Volunteer Week.

Neighbourhood Network is a division of Magna International Inc. that multiplies community giving and creates caring and vibrant neighbourhoods by promoting volunteerism, linking resources, and supporting local charities and agencies.

Follow them on Instagram: [www.instagram.com/neighbourhoodnetwork](http://www.instagram.com/neighbourhoodnetwork) or email [info@neighbourhoodnetwork.org](mailto:info@neighbourhoodnetwork.org) [www.nnetwork.org/GBA](http://www.nnetwork.org/GBA)



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# CANADA STRONG

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# Business, Finance & Real Estate

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 Your Voice for Business in King



## Township seeks feedback on proposed commercial licensing

King Township is exploring creating a commercial licensing system to better support local businesses, ensure they follow regulations and help with future planning to manage growth in King. The primary goal is to create a framework that fosters a thriving economic environment.

To accomplish this, King is actively looking for feedback from business owners and the general public through an upcoming public open house followed by an online survey.

The public open house will take place on Thursday, March 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the King Township Municipal Centre, located at 2585 King Road. Residents and businesses are invited to discuss the commercial licensing options and provide their feedback directly. This is an opportunity to engage with project leaders and share your thoughts.

King Township has partnered with Ernst & Young to collaborate with the team of staff that are leading this project, which is a key part of the 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan's Complete Communities priority. The Township

team includes staff representing a variety of divisions including Economic Development, Clerks, By-Law, Planning and Finance.

An online survey will also open on March 28 and will run until April 11, accessible through the project's SpeaKing webpage. King encourages all residents and stakeholders to complete the survey during this period. Your feedback will help us gather valuable insights on commercial licensing options and identify key issues that matter most to you.

On the SpeaKing page you can also register to receive regular email updates and access the Commercial Licensing Framework Discussion Paper which provides an overview of commercial licensing and this project.

Many smaller municipalities in Ontario have successfully implemented business licensing requirements, resulting in numerous benefits for their communities, including:

**Enhanced community safety:** Ensuring businesses comply with local regulations helps maintain a safe environ-

ment for residents and visitors.

**Increased transparency and accountability:** A licensing framework provides clear guidelines and standards for businesses, promoting fairness and accountability.

**Economic growth:** Streamlined licensing processes can facilitate faster business formation and job creation, contributing to the local economy.

**Improved data collection:** Licensing helps municipalities gather valuable data on local economic activity, which can inform better decision-making and

resource allocation.

Additionally, business licensing is closely related to land use issues. Licensing ensures that businesses operate in appropriate areas, aligning with local zoning bylaws and land use regulations. This helps prevent conflicts with community planning objectives and ensures that business activities are conducted in suitable locations.

For more information about the proposed commercial licensing framework or the survey, visit the project SpeaKing page.

## King Township receives Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for fourth consecutive year

King Township is proud to announce that it has received the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget presentation for the fourth consecutive year. This prestigious award reflects the Township's commitment to the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

To receive this award, King Township's budget was evaluated on its effectiveness as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide and communications device. The budget documents were rated "proficient" in all four categories and the 14 mandatory criteria within those categories.

With over 1,700 participants in the Budget Awards Program, King Township's achievement sets an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

Notably, the 2025 budget marks King's first time issuing a service-based budget. This approach enhances accountability by allowing citizens to clearly see how funds are allocated to specific services that directly impact their daily lives. It also supports the Township's Corporate Strategic Plan (2023-2026), ensuring resources are directed to meet critical priorities.

The 2025 budget organized expenditures into six service areas: Maintaining King, Serving King, Keeping King Safe, Greening King, Governing King, and Planning and Growing King.

The 2025 budget underscored King Township's commitment to delivering essential services and infrastructure investments, with highlights including enhanced snow removal and road maintenance, investment in parks and sustainability initiatives, improvements to fire and emergency services and support for recreation programs and cultural events.

King Township engaged residents through multiple public consultations, including an online budget book and an in-person open house, providing valuable feedback that helped shape the final budget. For more details on the 2025 municipal budget, visit [king.ca/budget](http://king.ca/budget).

"Receiving the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the fourth year in a row is a testament to our dedication to transparency, accountability and excellence in budgeting. This award reflects the hard work of our staff and the commitment of our Council to serve the citizens of King Township effectively," said Mayor Steve Pellegrini.

Daniel Kostopoulos, CAO, added: "This award is a recognition of our efforts to be transparent and accountable and we will continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of our governance. It also highlights how the 2025 budget reflects our commitment to prudent financial management and citizen-focused planning."

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**FRRESH-4 WEATHER FORECAST SYSTEM**

From Thursday, March 20 to Wednesday, March 26

THURS 20TH	FRI 21ST	SAT 22ND	SUN 23RD	MON 24TH	TUES 25TH	WED 26TH
Cloudy/Showers High 12C° Low -4C° ~1mm Wind SW 29k	Sunny High 6C° Low 2C° - Wind SW 17k	Sun/Clouds High 2C° Low -6C° - Wind NW 28k	Mainly Sunny High 1C° Low -2C° - Wind SW 9k	Mixed Precip. High 4C° Low -1C° 1-3cm/<1mm Wind S 10k	Clouds/Sun High 3C° Low -4C° - Wind W 13k	Cloud/Flurries High 1C° Low -5C° <1cm Wind NW 20k

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 Read us online at [www.kingsentinel.com](http://www.kingsentinel.com)

**Repair Café brings broken items back to life**

Repair Cafés are a chance to bring broken items back to life. Whether you have a button that needs sewing, a vacuum needing a new cord, or a bicycle needing a wheel alignment, the Repair Café is the place for you. Provided in partnership with York Region and delivered by NewMakeIt, volunteer fixers will assess your needs and do their best to fix your item. Please note that repairs are not guaranteed and fixers are not responsible for returning items to their original state.

The next free Repair Cafe takes place on Saturday, March 29 at the Zancor Centre from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Repair Café specialties include bicycles, jewelry, sewing needs (small tears and repairs), small appliances and toys.

Registration is required and each guest can bring one item. Register at [NewMakeIt.com](http://NewMakeIt.com). For more information or to volunteer as a fixer, visit Repair Cafe/York Region.

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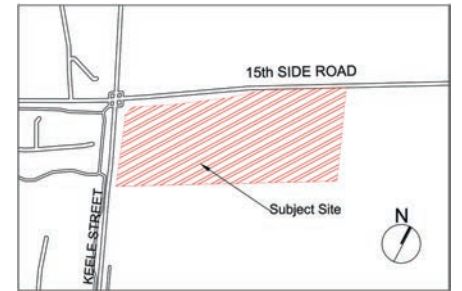


**NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION**

The owners of 13711 Keele Street at the southeast corner of 15<sup>th</sup> sideroad and Keele Street in the Township of King invite you to attend a public information centre meeting hosted by their planner SGL Planning & Design Inc. SGL and its consulting team will provide an overview of the proposal and receive comments/questions from attendees. The open house will be held on:

**Tuesday April 1, 2025 – 6:00 PM – 7:45 PM**  
**King Township Public Library – 1970 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1K9**

The proposed development consists of 26 single detached homes and 64 townhouse units, while retaining identified natural heritage features on the site. The purpose of the applications are to seek a Zoning By-law Amendment as well as a Draft Plan of Subdivision. This meeting is not the Townships' Statutory Public Meeting (which will be held later in the process) and no decision on the application will be made on this date.



For more information, please contact [info@sglplanning.ca](mailto:info@sglplanning.ca)



## Memories made at March Break camps

Small moments, big memories were made at King Township March Break camps.

More than 50 campers took part at Nobleton Community Centre & Arena and, for the first time, Zancor Centre. The fun never stopped as campers played games, created crafts, went swimming, tried Para ice hockey and (most importantly) made new friends.

Make more memories by saving your spot in summer camp! Whether your child is a baker or builder, an artist, actor, animal lover or fan of superheroes, secret agents, science and sports, there's a summer camp experience waiting for them.

To view the Summer Camps Guide, visit [king.ca/camps](http://king.ca/camps).

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[WWW.DUFFERINMARSH.CA](http://WWW.DUFFERINMARSH.CA)



# STANDING UP FOR CANADA

 **STEPHEN LECCE**  
 MPP FOR KING—VAUGHAN



KingWeeklySentinel

# Arts & Entertainment

## Celebrate local creativity: The 20th Annual Studio Tour King Art Show & Sale

Join Arts Society King for the highly anticipated 20th Annual Studio Tour King Art Show & Sale, happening April 5 and 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. across multiple locations in King Township.

This milestone event is ASK's largest yet, showcasing an impressive lineup of 45 talented artists! Studio Tour King offers a rare opportunity to discover and purchase unique works of art, engage with artists about their creative processes, and step inside their workspaces – all while enjoying the picturesque countryside and charming villages of King Township.

Artists will be exhibiting at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre (all four buildings, including the newly restored Church and Train Station), Schomberg Community Hall, King City Seniors Centre, and various home studios open to the public. For a complete list of locations, visit ASK's website at [www.artsocietyking.ca](http://www.artsocietyking.ca) or explore the event on the TOUREKA! App (<https://link.toureka.app/studiotourking>). TOUREKA! is free to download and available on Google Play and the Apple Store.

The 45 featured artists showcase an incredible range of artistic disciplines, including basketry, ceramics, fibre and textile art, glasswork, ink, jewelry, mixed media, painting, printmaking, and woodwork.

Below is just a glimpse of the diverse talent you'll encounter from the fine art painters on the tour! For the full list of participating artists, visit ASK's website – there's something for everyone, no matter your artistic taste!

### Painting

**Lisa Allshire:** Lisa works in oil and acrylic and was a muralist in Dublin and London for twelve years before moving to Canada in 1999.

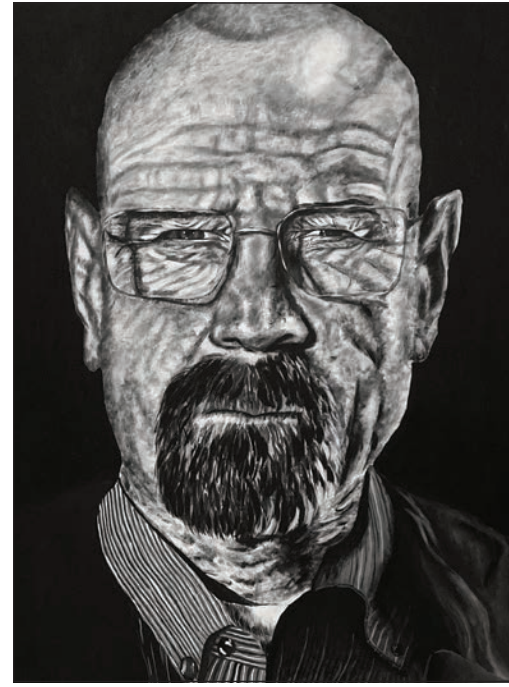
**Olesya Betin:** Olesya's art is in the realism and Impressionism style, incorporating media such as oil, acrylic, watercolour, and pastel.

**Susie Cattedra:** Susie's current collections of acrylic paintings consist of florals, landscapes and seascapes.

**Winnie Chen:** Working primarily in watercolours, Winnie's art focuses on landscapes, flowers, and birds, deeply influenced by her connection to nature.

**Spenta Chothia:** Spenta uses oil, acrylic, and spray paint to extract the beauty and sentiment from the subject, feeling, and moment.

**Alexandra Conrad:** Alexandra paints landscapes, cityscapes, portraits, nature and abstracts in oil and acrylic using warm and vibrant colours applied with energetic brush strokes or palette knife.



**Nicolette Di Stefano:** Nicolette crafts striking black-and-white portraits in acrylic, that aim to capture the true essence of each subject, striving to make her work as lifelike as possible.

**Patricia Earl:** Patricia's watercolour and acrylic paintings of farmlands, wildflowers and landscapes reflect the beauty of King Township and Ontario's countryside.

**Jacqueline England:** Jacqueline has worked in various mediums but favours oils as she loves the intense colour that is achieved by using them.

**Angela Flesariu:** Angela creates abstract art using acrylics and watercolours, drawing inspiration from nature and from day-to-day life.

**Barbara Karabin:** Working in oil, Barbara is passionate about King Township: this land, its colours and textures and countryside.

**Linda Mackey Lang:** Linda is best known for her Arctic icebergs, glaciers, and climate change oil paintings.

**Katy MacFarlane:** Katy creates tiny watercolour, ink, and collage paintings of interesting places, inside and out.

**Hans Martin:** Hans has won several watercolour awards including three first prizes and two honourable mentions.

**Veronica Meloche:** Veronica's acrylic art is about texture, colour and the memory of the human touch and experience on the clay or canvas

**Mary Morganelli:** Mary has brought together her lifelong passion of painting – where secret gems of hidden ponds is discovered within forests, and sunsets leave skies in unbelievable bursts of colour are captured on canvas to live on in their glory.

**Dorita Peer:** Working in oil and acrylic as well as sculpture, Dorita engages

in her art skills through illustration, advertising design, political action and free personal explorations.

**Ivanka Pipinikova:** Ivanka's oil paintings aim to create beautiful, impactful art that conveys the feeling and mood of a moment in a way that the viewer can become a part of it.

**Amanda Riccio:** Amanda works in acrylic, ink, and watercolour, with her latest series her latest series the result of capturing a fleeting feeling.

**Manizhe Sabet Sarvestany:** An established artist, Manizhe works in oil, acrylic, and watercolour, with numerous solo and group shows in Canada and Europe.

**Melissa Sherman:** Melissa's current artwork uses dogs and other animals as metaphors to express her emotions, thoughts and ideas using paint, clay and mixed media.

**Sylva Sroujian:** Painting with cold wax and oil, and acrylic, the boundless beauty of nature is the inspiration for Sylva's landscape paintings.

**Andrea Taylor:** Andrea works in acrylic and has been teaching visual art in the Toronto District School Board for 18 years.

**Joe Trimmeliti:** Joe's oil and acrylic paintings are original impressions inspired by his natural surroundings and rich imagination.

**Susan Walker-Ing:** Susan is dedicated to plein air painting, creating art in mediums such as printmaking, watercolour, drawing, and painting in pastels, acrylics, and oils.

**Debra Wronzberg:** Working in acrylics, Debra is a great admirer of Kintsugi art with its metaphor for life, "what is broken can be repaired and be stronger than it was."

The Studio Tour King Art Show & Sale is a free community event, welcoming all visitors to explore and enjoy. Get a sneak peek at the participating artists and their incredible work on the Arts Society King website ([www.artsocietyking.ca](http://www.artsocietyking.ca)), where you'll also find links to their websites and social media pages.

The artists are excited to meet you, share their creative journeys, and showcase their work. Find yourself in the country – lose yourself in the art.



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**THE TONY AWARD-WINNING COMEDY**  
By Yasmina Reza Translated by Christopher Hampton  
**LASKAY HALL**  
APRIL 9TH - 19TH, 2025

## CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 253310 • Solution in Classifieds

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8				
9				10		11			12			
13					14		15					
16				17		18						
19			20		21				22			
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			31			32		33				
		34				35		36		37		
	38				39		40		41		42	
43					44			45		46		47
48			49	50				51		52		
53							54			55		
56								57				
	58									59		

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Take heed

5. One's superior

9. Prepped meat

11. Tighten anew

13. Type of textile fiber

15. Animalistic

16. When you hope to get somewhere

17. Offender

19. Former NYC mayor Ed

21. Type of cryptocurrency

22. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano

23. Herring-like fish

25. Popular PBS program

26. Congressman (abbr.)

27. Flightless Australian birds

29. Defrosted

31. Prior Yankee sensation Kevin

33. Nasal mucus

34. Some are southern seaweed

36. A place to construct

38. Popular beer brand

39. Shouts of farewell

41. Network of nerves

43. Make a mistake

44. Showed old movie

46. Body parts

48. A divisor

52. Congressional investigatory body

53. Papers

54. Most unnatural

56. Judge the worth of something

57. Makes sounds while sleeping

58. Which (abbr.)

59. Hungarian Violinist

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Pages

2. Head pain

3. A loud utterance

4. Large brown substances

5. Hulu's chef Carmine

6. Greek mountain

7. Made final

8. Bar

9. Tai subgroup

10. What you eat

11. Teaches again

12. Small constellation

14. Type of berry

15. Cows fattened for meat

18. A way to hoof it

20. Exaggerated a role

24. About two genus

26. Long upholstered seat

28. What employees earn

30. Fiber from a coconut husk

32. Digits

34. Polish by rubbing

35. Liquid body substances

37. Furniture with open shelves

38. Edible part of a chicken

40. Satisfy

42. Tool used to remove

43. Icelandic poems

45. Swiss village

47. Drunks

49. Evergreen plant

50. Light precipitation

51. Ribosomal

55. An informal debt instrument

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

# King Theatre Company busy with productions

By Brian Boake

I caught up with a whirlwind named Chloë Rose Flowers recently. The Artistic Director of King Theatre Company (KTC) is hammering out her next on-stage offering.

Chloë was gracious enough to offer thanks to her theatre volunteers, without whom the production would not have been possible. Fair enough; we love those unpaid folks who park cars, put out and put back chairs, usher attendees, and so many other tasks.

When I attended the play last August, I harboured a secret fear that we'd be watching performances and technical elements closer to a small town's "Hey, kids, let's put on a show!" effort, than professional-grade theatre. My concerns dissipated about 10 minutes after the lights went up.

I wasn't alone in my thumbs-up reaction. Chloë reported with quiet, justifiable pride that the audience comments she received were universally positive.

Chloë's casting choices in David French's two-hander were impeccable. She told me that Josh Palmer was a friend, but she insisted he earn the part of Jacob rather than having it gifted. He accepted the challenge, won the role on merit, and was excellent. Mona Hillis, whom Chloë didn't know but came with strong recommendations, complemented Palmer wonderfully.

The success of not just the play's performances, but the venue, encouraged Chloë to engage the Pine Farms Orchard again. "Tuesdays with Morrie" will be staged 10 times (Wednesday through Saturday evenings) between August 13 and 28. "Salt-Water Moon" performances were completely sold out. Even with the Pine Farms' front-porch

theatre (go – you'll see) expanded to 120 seats, I expect tickets to move briskly.

In the meantime, KTC has committed to a staging of "Art," written by Yasmina Reza. This sort-of comedy, penned en français in 1995, examines the surprising results of the purchase of a modern painting. Breaking the tradition of a small cast, there's a 50% increase – from 2 to 3; in this case, friends who have divergent opinions about the artistic merits and pecuniary value of the canvas. While "Art" is set in Paris, we'll hear their disputations in an English translation by Christopher Hampton.

Chloë is currently scratching her performer's itch in rehearsals for "9 to 5." The musical will run for six performances in March at Mississauga's Meadowvale Theatre. She laughed as she described the, um, chest augmentation she must don backstage to flesh out her character, has landed the role of Doralee Rhodes. The over-the-top secretary was played in the movie by the inimitable Dolly Parton. Chloë gets to dance and roll out her soprano voice.

Chloë is leading a series of children's musical rehearsals using 101 Dalmatians as the template. This work began in mid-January and wraps up in early March, also at Laskay Hall. Adrian Forestieri is her musical director, and the project is running in partnership with King Township.

"Tuesdays with Morrie" is another two-hander, based on the eponymous memoir penned by sports journalist Mitch Albom. In 1995, Albom learned of the terminal illness of his former sociology professor, Morris Schwartz, and felt compelled to reconnect. Schwartz was afflicted with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou

Gehrig's disease. It is a hideous ailment with no cure.

The conversations of Mitch and Morrie, which took place during Albom's weekly visit to Schwartz's apartment, formed the basis for the original work. Its success spawned a movie starring Jack Lemmon as Schwartz, and a play, which Albom co-wrote with Jeffrey Hatcher.

Chloë is once again highly conscious of getting the right pair of actors for "Tuesdays ...". In my eyes, 'Mitch' should be in early middle age and already financially successful.

Whoever is selected as 'Mitch' must play the piano.

'Morrie' is already well past retirement age (skilful makeup application can assist) and exhibit progressive weakness as the disease destroys his motor functions over the months of Mitch's visits.

Even so, he must possess a grace and level of acceptance of his fate we all could strive for. However, he can't tip over into preciousness. Bathos is a disaster.

This all sounds very grim. Where's the pleasure for the audience? Ah, it's there – Morrie will provide life lessons for Mitch, and we'll eavesdrop.

Is Chloë's motto "If you want something done, give it to a busy person?" She lives like it is.

Chloë's troupe needs volunteers. Contact her via e-mail at kingtheatrecompany@gmail.com

KTC is an endeavour with legs, and worthy of support.



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## Seeking photos of WWI King soldiers

In 1925, a war memorial was erected in Aurora's Town Park to commemorate soldiers, from Aurora, Whitchurch and King, who lost their lives in the Great War.

Later this year, the 100th anniversary of that war memorial will be recognized with an on-site exhibit in Aurora, a digital exhibition, and a street banner program in each community. Staff at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre (KHCC) are collaborating with colleagues at the Aurora Museum & Archives and the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum on this project.

In addition to using images from the King Township Archives, KHCC staff are asking for your assistance in locating photographs for these soldiers.

If you have a family connection to one of these WWI soldiers and have a photograph that could be scanned for this project, please contact Liza Mallyon, Coordinator of Collections & Exhibitions at kingmuseum@king.ca or 905-833-2331.

Agar, Joseph Matthew; Brown, Harold Joseph; Brown, Sherman Rogers; Burton, Harry; Chamberlain, William James; Clift, Russell Cornelius; Douglas, Edgar Samuel; Doyle, Maxwell Charles; Doyle, Wilfred Laurier; Doyle, William Joseph; Ferguson, John; Ferguson, Leonard Llewellyn; Flanagan, William John; Follitt, John Henry; Granger, Carl; Howard, George Thomas; Kay, Arthur John; Leland, Bert; Little, Telford Samuel; McMaster, Thomas; Marshall, Aubrey Milton; Martin, Leslie D; Merchant, (John) Wallace; Parker, Russell Clayton; Payne, Arthur Edgar Simpson; Ralston James Alfred; Rutledge, John Robert; Sydnie, Jack; Watson, Ernest Townley; Webb, Oscar Melville; Wickens, Ewart Roland; Willis, Garnet; Wood, Lowell Wallace, and Woodruff, Edward Charles.

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# Hike for Hospice Spring 2025

Join us for a Hike for Hospice, a national initiative supporting palliative care services. Organized by local hospices, each event aims to provide comfort and assistance to families during their most challenging times.

Your participation directly contributes to compassionate care for those in need. Let's unite this spring to make a difference.

**Join a Hike for Hospice event near you and help our communities.**

## HIKE FOR HOSPICE



### MARGARET BAHEN HOSPICE & DOANE HOUSE HOSPICE

Saturday, May 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025 – Fairy Lake, Newmarket  
Visit: [www.myhospice.ca/hikeforhospice/](http://www.myhospice.ca/hikeforhospice/)

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WALK FOR  
HILL HOUSE  
HOSPICE



### HILL HOUSE HOSPICE

Sunday, May 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 – 36 Wright Street, Richmond Hill  
Visit: [www.walkforhillhousehospice.com](http://www.walkforhillhousehospice.com)

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# Mobile clinic 'pivotal' for addiction care in York, South Simcoe

By Brock Weir

A new mobile unit will be a game-changer for Addiction Services Central Ontario and the clients they serve in York Region and South Simcoe.

Addiction Services of York Region formally launched their new Mobile Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic at their Aurora headquarters recently. RAAM will allow them to provide quicker and more efficient services to clients in the area.

The RAAM Clinic is funded by Ontario Health and is aimed at bringing addictions medicine, counselling, case management, and harm reduction support directly to youth and adults who need it most.

Penny Marrett, Executive Director of Addiction Services Central Ontario, says this will help eliminate further barriers to care.

"The van and the mobile clinic is going to help us serve individuals who have a harder time coming to our rapid access addiction medicine clinics that are actually in hospitals and pharmacies," says Marrett. "It is really important for us to be going to where the people are located versus them coming to us all the time. It's hard here in York Region and South Simcoe to always, if you don't have a car, come to where the ser-

vice is being provided, so this enables us to go to where they want us to be."

Those who are looking to connect with the RAAM Clinic and the highly-qualified staff who lead it can be referred by community agencies, primary care providers, and even on a self-referral by simply making a telephone call or visiting [helpwithaddictions.ca](http://helpwithaddictions.ca).

On-board services include addictions medicine, case management, referral to peer support and/or addictions counselling, and even just as an information resource. Staff include a team of professionals, including a nurse practitioner, registered practical nurse, case manager, addiction counsellor and peer support. Clients can speak directly with an addiction professional about their recovery journey, receive advice on treatment options, and learn about support services.

"As a trusted provider of addiction services for over 40 years, ASCO is committed to breaking down barriers to care," says Marrett. "We are grateful to Ontario Health for their support in making this initiative a reality. The launch of this mobile clinic will allow us to expand our reach, bringing vital support directly to those who may not have had access otherwise, ensuring that no one is left behind in their path to recovery."



"In the end, many people think that lots of people can come to where you are and where you're located, wherever it is in the community. The truth of the matter is it doesn't always happen. It's not always easy to do that; either you can't get transportation to where the location is, or the hours are different. In the end, this is also recognizing that not ev-

erybody has the same capacity to get to where you're located. From our perspective, it's about how best we serve people. We serve people best when we go where they are located when they need us."

For more information on the Mobile RAAM Clinic schedule or to contact the team, visit the website listed above or call 1-833-627-RAAM (7226).

## York continues investments in social infrastructure

York Regional Council received an update on several critical social infrastructure investments made over the past two years to support ongoing challenges facing our communities.

"Actions funded through these investments are making a positive difference. By expanding our support systems and increasing housing options, we are building strong, caring and safer communities," said York Region Chairman and CEO Eric Jolliffe. "However, addressing these complex challenges requires ongoing investments and a focus on long-term solutions from all levels of government."

Investments concentrated on program areas experiencing increased demand for service across the Region, targeting specific areas of need and implemented quickly. Key achievements include:

**Homelessness Support:** Providing additional seasonal shelter beds and year-round support for people experiencing homelessness.

**Housing Development:** Contributing to Regional housing priorities and funding two non-profit providers to provide more affordable rental options.

**Community Services:** Funding to 31 community agencies which delivered 47 community services to residents, including mental health support, assistance for victims of crime, tragic circumstance or human trafficking and other essential services.

"We remain committed to finding solutions to support individuals facing homelessness with a respectful approach and wrap-around supports to allow them to move forward successfully," said Vaughan Regional Councillor Gino Rosati, Chair of Community and Health Services.



## Charity GOLF CHALLENGE



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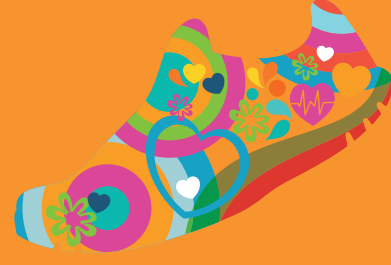



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# King Weekly Sentinel

SECTION B

Sports • News • Community Events  
Classifieds • At Your Service



## Georgina sweeps series with 6-1 win over Schomberg

By Jim Stewart

During the second intermission at the Trisan Centre on Thursday night, the songs "All I Need is a Miracle" by Mike and the Mechanics and Bonnie Tyler's "Holding Out for a Hero" were blasted over the PA to inspire a miraculous, heroic third period comeback by Schomberg and wishful thinking for the PJHL squad's loyal fan base.

Alas, the miracle didn't transpire, the hero didn't emerge, the Cougars could not overcome a 4-1 second period deficit, and the Georgina Ice juggernaut steam-rolled the home side 6-1 in front of 402 spectators. The Ice swept the seven-game semi-final series 4 games to 0, thereby ending Schomberg's first season in the

tough East Orr Division.

The second-seeded Ice will take on the first-seeded Clarington Eagles in the Divisional Final. The Eagles also swept their way to the East Orr championship series by dispatching the Port Perry Lumberjacks in four games.

Schomberg's veteran Head Coach Stan Kondrotas – gracious in defeat after a good season by his squad – praised Georgina's many strengths in the series: "They are a very skilled and fast team. Their lineup featured four drop down players from the OJHL, including Oda-ro Ewere who was the captain of the Stouffville Spirit for two years. He scored two more goals tonight. The talent is definitely there and Georgina went out and picked up some excellent players to get



Hard-hitting Cougar rookie forward and Schomberg resident Grady Duggan (17) leaves a crumpled Georgina Ice player in his wake during Game 4 of a rough and tumble PJHL playoff series that concluded at the Trisan Centre on Thursday night.



Vices James Gillem for Team Morning and Teresa Steenhoek for Team Steenhoek deliver during Quarter final action in the Mixed league.



## Surprises, upsets, come-from-behind wins in King curling playoff games

By Shellie Morning  
King Curling Club

Playoffs always include a mixture of surprises, upsets and come from-behind wins that add to the dramatic and memorable season ending games. This past week, there was no shortage of the twists and turns for the win in both the Womens and the Mixed League's opening quarter-final games.

In the Womens A division, precise shot making was the overall decision maker for a close game between Gorsline and Gerrits. Team Gerrits, virtually a new team, gave it their all and had Gorsline in the chase but after a measure in the final end, Gorsline claimed the one point score for the win and advances to the semi final.

Team Stronach, who was in 4th place in the standings before playoffs, delivered a solid game in their opening round with a win to advance.

In the B-division Teams Fraser and de Winter both played strategically and accurately on the hits and draws to win their matches and move on to the Semis.

Thursday Mixed League has experienced one of their closest team standings in the club's history. So close there was a 4-way tie for second place.

The tie-breakers were broken by head-to-head games to determine the match ups. Season League leader and the past 2 time League Champions Team Inglis were securely in 1st place going into the quarter-finals.

Again, opening round games included an array of playoff excitement that left a buzz on ice level and in the spectator lounge.

An upset was the first to grab attention with Team Flannigan winning against the reigning champs and league leaders Team Inglis.

The rest of the field all vying for the title and side by side sheets all experienced tight, back and forth nail biting games.

Team Pelland seeded 6th was up against 3rd place Team Barber had sharpened their brooms claiming the first 2 ends blanking the next then allowing Barber a deuce in the 4th. The turning point of the game broke free with Pelland scoring in the next 3 ends for the win.

Clark (2nd) versus Sheardown (7th), resulted in a mixed bag of great shots and score board exchanges. Team Clark would eventually claim the final 2 ends for a solid win advancing to the semi final games.

The final sheet featured Teams

Morning (4th seeded) and Steenhoek (5th). After 4 ends of single point steals by Steenhoek and 2 of the points were determined after a measure, the game couldnt get much closer. Down 4-0, Morning earned 2 in the fifth end after supreme sweeping by Gillem and Cameron and timely draw by Fraser to set up the end leaving Skip Morning a hit for 2.

The 4-2 score heading in the last end presented a do or die situation for Morning who needed 3 for the win. After well placed guards and come arounds to the scoring area it was down to the Skip rocks with Morning sitting 2 for the count. Morning's first shot was a draw to the button to sit 3. Steenhoek's first rock missed on the run-back hit leaving a port for his last shot so Morning was left to place a guard.

Steenhoek's final throw was a hit through a port with superior sweeping by Battershell and Morawetz, the rock cruised through the port rubbing against a stone jamming the Morning stones in the 4 foot ring for the dramatic come-from-behind win to advance to the semi final. Honorable mentions to Dan Steenhoek on his draw making, and his front end of wife Teresa, and spares Trevor Battershell and Carol Morawetz for a very well played game.

Team Morning's Second Connie Fraser played lights-out with pristine hits and draws that were key in keeping her team in the chase.

### Wheelchair Provincial Championships

Two teams carrying the King Curling name participated in this past week-ends Wheelchair Provincial Championships in Galt, Ont.

Team Joseph, with 2 returning players Collinda Joseph as Skip and Karl Allen at 2nd, and new members Reid Mulligan and Jillian Hopkins, are coached by King CC member Bruce Gorsline. Team Galt new to wear the King name and in their debut run at the Provincials posted a 1-5 record but have no doubt left their mark for future recognition on the Canadian stage.

Collinda Joseph fresh off the World Wheelchair championships skipped her squad to a 5-0 record into the finals. The gold medal game was a hard fought game against Team Bax who eventually claimed the victory.

Congratulations to Bruce and Team Joseph on becoming Silver medalists at Ontario Wheelchair Provincial Championships.

even stronger for the playoffs. The Ice's hockey IQ is also excellent."

Coach Kondrotas reflected on his team's high point of the season which included a 5-0 shutout of the perennially-powerful Eagles in Clarington in mid-season: "We had two wins in a row against the two top teams: Clarington and Georgina. I thought the season might take off for us from that point. We competed really well against both those teams all season. We gave Clarington their worst loss in three years."

Kondrotas savored the big win against Clarington, but gave both the Eagles and Ice an equal chance of winning the Division: "It'll be close. Georgina is really rolling right now. If they had our goalie (PJHL All-Star Goalie Nicolas Morvan), Georgina would even give (#2-ranked) Alliston a great series."

Coach Kondrotas singled out Matthew Lychek's breakaway goal as the high point of Game 4 for the Cougars: "He's got the ability to do that all the time. It was a nice short-handed goal and it made the game 2-1 at the time. Matthew was playing our systems and it resulted in a great scoring opportunity."

The veteran Cougar centre's breakaway marker, set up by a perfect neutral zone pass by defensive stalwart Reece Muir, was, indeed, a goal scorer's goal. On the PK, Lychek got in behind the Ice defenders just beyond the blue line, took's Muir's fine feed in the neutral zone, created space for himself during the breakaway chase, and fired the puck five-hole past Ice goaltender Ryan Moore at 14:05 of the second period to pull the home side to within one. Hope was "springing eternal" for Schomberg's fanbase.

## Collingwood follows its winning recipe to eliminate King from playoffs in five games

By Jim Stewart

After dropping Game 1 on home ice to the upstart seventh-seed Rebellion, the Collingwood Blues swept the next four OJHL West quarterfinal contests by deploying a winning recipe that has served the reigning Canadian Junior Champions all season.

The main ingredient of that winning recipe is the Blues' potent power play. After Collingwood scored two goals with the man-advantage in Game 1, the CJHL champs fired ten more power play markers over the remaining games in the series, including four in Game 2 in a 5-2 win at the Zancor Centre.

In addition to a potent power play,



However, it was all Georgina after Lychek's dramatic shortie. The red-hot Ice extinguished any flicker of hope by firing four unanswered goals: two by Ewere and Seth Kirou in the second period and two by Nikita Cheblov and Curtis Misner in the third period.

By contrast, Game 3 of the series was much closer. Unfortunately, All-Star goaltender Nicolas Morvan's spectacular 55-save performance was wasted by the Cougars on Monday evening at the Georgina Ice Palace. While "Marvelous" Morvan was busy keeping his team in the East Orr semifinal series, the Cougars suffered an untimely offensive outage and the Ice skated off with a narrow 3-0 win in front of 596 fans.

Moore had a comparably quiet night in the nets for Georgina. The Ice goaltender made 22 saves to earn his first shutout of the 2025 playoffs. Going into Game 4 in Schomberg, Moore boasted a gaudy .950 SAV%, a 1.29 GAA, and seven consecutive playoff victories in the playoffs.

Ozzy Miller gave the Ice a 1-0 lead at 16:31 of the first period – the only goal Georgina would need to secure its third consecutive win in the series.

The Ice and Cougars battled tooth and nail through a scoreless second period. After 19 goal-less minutes in the final frame, Georgina's Isaac Mengers fired an empty-netter with 28 seconds left in Game 3 to seal the deal for the home side.

Cheblov made it 3-0 with 15 seconds remaining on the clock to provide an icy exclamation point for the Georgina squad which improved their 2025 playoff record to 7-1 with Monday's win over the third-seeded Cougars.

the Blues' winning recipe included consistent offensive production from Zander Veccia (10 points in the series – third in OJHL playoff scoring) and Damen Boose (9 points in the series – fifth in OJHL playoff scoring), a deep roster of goal scorers, strong goaltending from Noah Tegelaar, and a loyal fanbase filling their home rink to capacity.

Collingwood's decisive, series-clinching 7-1 victory in Game 5 – in front of 1,081 fans at Eddie Bush Memorial Arena – featured two power play goals, a goal each from Veccia and Boose, Daniel Markevych's first three goals of the playoffs, and Tegelaar turned aside 23 of 24 shots to earn the win. All the ingredients of a championship hockey team were displayed by mighty Collingwood on Friday night.

With 1:11 left on the clock and trailing 7-0, the Rebellion got on the scoreboard when Kyle Baston's power play goal beat Tegelaar. Leading scorer Marshall McCharles and Captain Jake Anderson earned assists on the franchise's final goal of its inaugural season in King.

The turning point of the series took place late in the first period during Game 4 on Wednesday night.

See 'Collingwood' on Page 16

## Nobleton Notes

By Angie Maccarone

St. Paul's Church  
By Linda Blydorp

We invite you to join us in person for worship this Sunday at 10 a.m. Our Pastor, Jeff Loach, will lead the service this morning continuing with a new series entitled, "The ABCs of Discipleship." This Sunday's letter is K for "Knit Together", from Colossians 2.1-5.

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.

Our mid-week LifeConnect small groups are an opportunity to connect with others and grow in faith. Groups meet for discussion, study, and prayer throughout the week.

Students in Grade 7 to 12 are invited to our YouthConnect every other Friday, the next meeting being this Friday, March 21 at 7 p.m. Join us as we explore questions about life, faith, and Jesus with the youth Alpha program.

St. Mary's Church

Browse our websites:  
St. Patrick's Parish:  
<https://stpatrickssc.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

Please register for each program you plan to attend. Materials and food are purchased according to the number of people registered.

All Educational Thursdays are \$1 for members, and \$2 for non-members.

Indoor Bocce is now available every Thursday, upstairs in the large room in the Nobleton arena from 10 a.m. to noon.

March 6 - The History of Tattoos and their Artistic Expression. Presented by Sapphire. Tattoos have gone through movements and trends. Come out and listen to this information.

March 13 - Ageism and Abuse Elder Prevention. Presented by Yellow Brick House. Learn the relationship between ageism and how it is impacted by abuse in this interactive workshop.

March - 20 The History of the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. Learn about the museum in King and the research that they do and the history of this centre. A representative from the museum will do a presentation.

March 27 - Spring Floral Painting with artist Angela Del Borrello. Step by step instructions will be provided by Angela on how to do an acrylic floral painting. Cost is \$10 which includes all materials. Registration required by March 24.

Learn the importance and benefits of

various vitamins and minerals in our daily food and the effects on our body.

April 10 - It's a pizza party. Come out and learn how to make homemade pizza with Rose. The pizza will be cooked and enjoyed by all. We will supply some other goodies. The cost is \$5. Register by April 7.

April 17 - Easter décor with Artist Angela Del Borrello. Make a centerpiece for your table. Cost to be determined, all instructions and material will be included. Register by April 14.

April 24 - Annie Tulk a Registered Psychotherapist and Life Wisdom Coach Master will discuss coping strategies and techniques in dealing with feelings of anxiety and depression.

Nobleton Lions

It's spring and again this year the Easter Bunny will be visiting the Nobleton Community Park next to the arena on Saturday, April 19, at 10 a.m. to leave eggs for King Township kids. There will be free chocolate bunnies for the kids and free drinks for everyone at this event, co-sponsored by all three Lions Clubs in King.

Stay tuned for other upcoming events like the Victoria Day celebration, the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides on Sunday, May 25, and the annual golf fundraiser on June 8.

The Lions continue to welcome new members with a heart to serve, both men and women. You may join us as a guest 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. The next meeting is on January 28.

To view more information about how the Nobleton Lions engage with both the local community and the wider Lions International worldwide community, please visit our website at [www.NobletonLionsClub.com](http://www.NobletonLionsClub.com). You may also follow us on Instagram at [nobleton.lions.club](https://www.instagram.com/nobleton.lions.club)

Book club

The Nobleton Book Club is resuming its in person, monthly discussions of books at the Nobleton Library, located on 8 Sheardown Drive. Our schedule of meetings is on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the program room.

The Nobleton Book Club has been meeting regularly for over the past 12 years; new members are always welcome to join! Whether you have read the book or not, come by and check out these very interesting, lively and entertaining discussions. All these titles are available to borrow, for free, through the Nobleton library and other King Township libraries. If you have any questions, call Heather, our facilitator, at the Nobleton Library at 905-859-4188. Come and join this group of Nobleton readers.

Here is the reading list for the Nobleton Branch Book Club for 2025:

Wednesday, April 9, 2025, Crow by Mary Kathleen Grissom.

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, Yellow Face by R.F. Kuang.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025, Someone You Know by Catherine Fogarty.



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## Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

Our regular Sunday services are: 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church (lower level), Schomberg and 11:15 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. Both churches offer refreshments afterwards.

Rev. Richard is offering a "reflection" (Lenten Bible study) on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. at Nobleton United, followed by a lunch at noon. Rev. Richard is providing the main course. Dessert or salad contributions are welcome but not required. All are welcome to join for some camaraderie and learning, with lots of "side tracks."

The Community Pot-Luck Lunch is Tuesday, April 1 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Lunch is at 11:50 a.m. Remember to bring something to share for the meal.

The next Seniors Lunch at St. Mary Magdalene Church is Tuesday, April 8. Please arrive at 11:15 a.m. The program starts at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker is Richard McLeod, the History Hound. The topic is the "Ghost Canal" in Newmarket. The meal is ham, scalloped potatoes, grilled green veg, with chocolate nests with eggs for dessert. The meal can be delivered, if you prefer. Please let Sheila Kelly know (905-939-2315) if you plan to attend. Space is limited.

The next meeting of the Schomberg U.C.W. is Thursday, April 10 at 1 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Church. All community members are welcome. There will be some refreshments at the end of the meeting.

Schomberg United Church is cele-

brating its Anniversary on Palm Sunday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m. with guest speaker Deborah McCracken, the founder of "The Olive Branch For Children" (TOBFC), which operates in Tanzania. Kim and Jack Campbell have known Deborah since she founded TOBFC over 20 years ago. It has grown to have a very impressive outreach in rural Tanzania with education, healthcare, ag-training, micro loans for business, etc. Deborah is a very dynamic and engaging speaker and having her present to us is especially fitting now that Schomberg United Church has committed to help fund scholarships for her students. Deborah is only in Canada for 5 weeks on her annual fund-raising drive.

The famous DiFebo Pasta Dinner last Friday Nobleton United Church was extremely joyful and fun. Rev. Evelyn McLachan was the MC for the occasion and announced the door prizes for so many lucky winners of honey products (thanks, Pioneer Honey), plants and wine. Then Rev. Evelyn wearing special shamrock glasses ran a "Left Right" game where groups of about 6 passed around a shamrock emblem according to the story, and the eventual winner got a prize. Many thanks to Gino & Sue DiFebo for making the special sauce and creating hundreds of meatballs, and for Val Ball for providing the dessert of fruit, ice cream and pizzelle cookie.

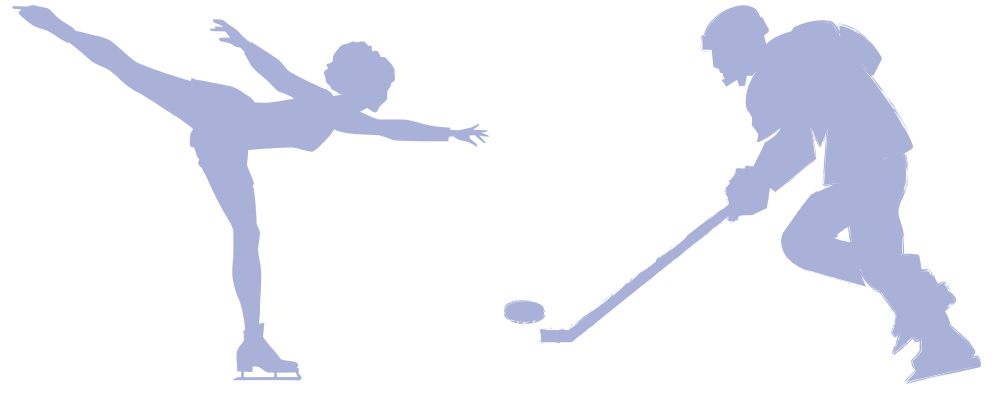
Over \$1,600 was raised for the Church. Thanks also to the many volunteers who waited on tables, served or washed dishes in the kitchen, made the salad, set the tables, created seating plans.

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.

# Nobleton

## SKATING CLUB

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## Nobleton Tennis Club

Registration is Now Open

- ~ *Swing into Action* An event designed for non-members interested in learning tennis
- ~ Tennis **Adult and Junior** weekly Group Lessons, first session begins May 14, 2025.
- ~ Half day **Junior Summer Camps** July 7-11 and July 21-25, 2025. These are very popular camps and size is limited, please register as soon as possible.
- ~ We offer Ladies Major, Ladies B, Mixed 55+, Mixed A and Mixed B Intercounty teams, socials and more. See website for further details.

Please visit our website for more information  
[clubspark.ca/nobletontennisclub.com](http://clubspark.ca/nobletontennisclub.com)  
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# Collingwood just too strong for King team

From Page 13

The Rebellion stormed out of the gate at the Zancor Centre and built a two-goal margin 15 minutes into the first period. Adam Smeeton's power play goal at 10:57 staked the Rebellion to a 1-0 lead, their first opening frame lead since Game 1. Smeeton banged in Owen Bruining's rebound from between the circles that beat Tegelaar cleanly.

Less than five minutes later, Mikhail Zakharov scored a highlight reel goal to give the home side a 2-0 cushion on their seventh shot on net. Zakharov displayed great patience after receiving a sliding pass from McCharles. The London Knights' commit deftly dangled the puck in front of a range of Blues defenders, exploited a gap in their defense, and slid the puck past Tegelaar who looked beatable on this night. The sky seemed to be the limit for King with the reigning champs reeling in the first fifteen minutes of Game 4 and the Rebellion appeared to be on track to tie the series at two games apiece.

With the first period seemingly in hand, the Rebellion continued their sound defensive work, deploying a stretch 3-2 zone that cut off the Blues' 5-on-5 skating lanes.

However, disaster loomed when McCharles drew an interference penalty in the neutral zone with 3:10 left on the clock and Ryan Fairbairn was sent to the sin bin for cross checking with 1:27 left in the first period. The Blues' vaunted power play scored on both opportunities - Boose beat Tre Altman 56 seconds into the first man-advantage and then set up Will Hughes for the equalizer 23 seconds into Fairbairn's infraction.

To make matters worse for King, the Blues scored their third consecutive goal and took their first lead of Game 4 when Sam Lockyer's big wrist shot whistled past Altman high glove side less than two minutes into the second period.

Although Antonio Cerqua's power play goal evened the score with 3:26 left to play in the middle frame, the

visitors took control of the game with three more consecutive goals early in the third period by Hughes, Max Campbell, and Vecchia to stake Collingwood to a commanding 6-3 lead.

McCharles drew the Rebellion a little closer with 3:38 left in the final frame when his shot slipped over Tegelaar's shoulder and dropped in under the crossbar, but Peter Kioussis's power play goal provided the Blues with their seventh goal of the game to set up a must-win Game 5 in Collingwood for King.

Collingwood's decisive 4-1 victory in Game 3 - in front of 815 fans at Eddie Bush Memorial Arena - replicated much of Game two's scoring pattern that the Blues won 5-2 at the Zancor Centre.

Once again, the Blues took a 2-0 first period lead, the Rebellion narrowed the margin early in the second period, but Collingwood scored the next two goals to put the game away. Once again, the Rebellion never led, but King did limit the mighty Blues' power play to one

goal compared to the four man-advantage markers they surrendered last Sunday afternoon.

Kioussis opened the scoring on Monday night in Collingwood at 5:13 of the opening frame and Boose tallied his third of the playoffs at 12:40 to give the home side a two-goal advantage heading into first intermission.

Twenty-two seconds into the middle frame, McCharles fired his first of the playoffs. Zakharov, who was a constant offensive threat in the series, earned his fourth assist versus the Blues on McCharles's marker.

Ethan Facchina's power play goal mid-way through the second period restored Collingwood's two-goal lead and Lockyer closed the Game 3 scoring at 10:49 of the third period to provide the Blues with their second consecutive three-goal victory.



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# Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Is it too early to celebrate the arrival of spring? Asking for a friend.

Personally, I can't wait to see everything in full bloom. I enjoy spring, but mostly because it means that summer is not far behind, and we all know what that means – the Schomberg Fair

The Schomberg Agricultural Society is pleased to bring you the 175th Fair! The Fair theme this year is "Sewing Seeds of Memories for 175 Years."

Each year the Fair is presented by dedicated volunteers to celebrate and promote our agricultural community, and to provide exhibitions, demonstrations, competitions, entertainment and FUN. Special classes and events are being planned to celebrate this historic Fair, and we encourage you to visit the website at [schombergfair.ca](http://schombergfair.ca) to peek at some of the planned events. Check out the competitions – for people looking for something to do while resting up from all the snow shoveling during

the last few wintry weeks of 2025, we encourage you to visit the Homecraft Section where there is something for everyone to enter – whether you are an avid gardener, an artist with a masterpiece to show off, planning to finish that knitting or sewing project that's gathering dust, love to bake? Proud owner of a genuine antique goes under? Just a few of the possibilities. There is a section for Juniors to enter too. Now's a great time to start a project to enter this historic event.

Be sure to mark your calendars with the dates: May 23 to 25 and plan to come out and celebrate with them.

## Horticultural Society 90th anniversary

A limited number of tickets are still available for the upcoming 90th anniversary celebration of the Schomberg Horticultural Society on Tuesday, April 15 at the Schomberg Community Hall. Our program committee is diligently preparing for a grand celebration, featuring TV personality Frankie Flowers as a special guest, an anniversary themed flower show, door prizes and refreshments. Browse our archives and displays on the main floor of the

Schomberg Community Hall, where you will find interesting historical information.

## Schomberg 55+

This past Monday our club celebrated St. Paddy's day in style. We dressed in our best green and shamrocks and our very own "Tightly wound Ukulele Club" entertained with a few good ole Irish drinking songs, and since our "Maritime Kitchen Party" is this Saturday, we also celebrated our Maritime folks with our Ugly stick contest. There were so many great ones it was terribly hard to pick the winners. Congratulations to the winners, good job everyone.

If you signed up for the Maritime Kitchen party and are unable to make it, please call King Seniors and please let them know, as we have a waiting list.

The King Seniors are having a bus trip to Fallsview Casino on May 7, and the cost is \$45 each, and includes \$ 35 of free play at the Casino. You can sign up online or at the Trisan, King Senior centre or call 905-833-6565. Please make sure to register quickly, this will sell out.

Bridge will continue each Tuesday

at 1:30 p.m. at Schomberg Community Hall

Our Tightly Wound Ukulele club will now meet at 3 p.m. on Thursdays. If you're interested in learning to play and you're a member, feel free to come out. If you're not a member, you can sign up at Trisan or one of our meetings.

Monday, March 17 – 10 a.m. – Ugly Stick Awards and East Coast Music sing-along with the Tightly Wound Ukulele Band.

Monday, March 31 – 10 a.m. Speaker – Lynn Holden – photographer and author of Voyage of the Vikings.

Monday, April 14 – 2-4 p.m. – Speaker – Greg Porter on the topic of the 113th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic. Registration required to [klbird@hotmail.com](mailto:klbird@hotmail.com).

Wednesday, April 14 -10 a.m. – Workshop – Petal Academy – floral arrangement (bulbs). Cost \$75 +HST. Please register at [klbird@hotmail.com](mailto:klbird@hotmail.com) by April 9.

Annual fee is \$20 per person for residents, and \$25 per person for non-residents.

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here [spporter5952@gmail.com](mailto:spporter5952@gmail.com) or 416-460-5952.

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### 708 OBITUARIES

#### Bruno: Joanne

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Joanne Bruno (Callaghan), on Saturday, March 8, 2025 in her 88th year, after a brief illness. She was the beloved wife of the late Donald Bruno and the loving mother to Shirley Bruno, Donna Healey (Philip) and Len Bruno (Jackie). Joanne adored her grandchildren: Justin, Leanne, Jeff (Elizabeth), Chris (Kim) and great-grandchildren: Nathan, Nicholas, Austin, Aiden and Liam. She will be missed by her sisters Wendy Henderson (Joe) and Susan Tompkins (Glenn). Living on a dairy farm, Joanne loved animals, especially Bailey (her black lab). Joanne was a proud Canadian who always reminded us that we live in the best country in the world. Joanne will be missed by all her family and friends.

Visitation was held at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Rd., Tottenham 905-936-3477, on Friday, March 14, 2025 from 10:30am until the time of Funeral Service in the chapel at 12pm. Interment followed in Morningside Cemetery Palgrave. A reception took place in the Cliffside Hall at the funeral home after the interment. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Stevenson Memorial Hospital, Matthews House Hospice, or Alliston & District Humane Society. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at [www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com](http://www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com)

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# King's Corners

## King City United By Sheryl Sinka

Last Sunday Rev. Andrew Lee spoke on the three temptations of Jesus during his 40 days in the wilderness. In today's times we can identify with having to make choices for our country and our families, our friends and ourselves. May God be with us guiding our decisions and informing our hearts on the paths to take as He is with us every step along the way.

Sunday, March 23 we welcome back Rev. Bill Fritz to lead our worship.

Save the date - April 12 at 6 p.m. KCUC will host The Spaghetti dinner with musical guests "The Sentimental Journey." Last year the dinner was sold out and there are a set number of tickets available this year. For information or tickets please call the office at 905-833-5181. The office is on holiday until April 2, however, messages will be retrieved if they are left on the answering machine.

We encourage all to make an effort to contribute to the King Township Food Bank. Information is available at ktfb.ca The donations to the King Township Food bank continue to be needed in greater quantities than ever before and the community can make a significant difference if it works together to continue to support the Food Bank and the families that access this much needed service.

If you have any questions please contact the church office at 905-833 5181.

## King Bible Church

Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for our Sunday Worship service. Pastor Mark Nowell will be speaking on "Greater - The Book of Hebrews." We will also be streaming the service online at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube.

We invite everyone to the next Open Closet Outlet on Saturday, May 10 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Restrictions apply. For personal use only.

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)), Administrative Assistant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd, King City, 905-833-5104.

## King City Seniors (55+) By Carolyn Kanitz

Please note that Mobility Matters will resume on Monday, March 24.

Friday, March 21 - Workshop - Cre-

ate a spring wreath with artist Angela Del Borrello. The class is capped at 20 people so register early. The cost is \$5 per person for the wreath and the (artificial) flowers. Stop by the office to sign up.

Friday, April 4 - 10am -Presentation Nicholas Farah, CFA at RBC will discuss disability tax credits and disability savings plans. Refreshments will be available. Please register at 905-833-6565.

Sunday, April 13 -2-4pm - Spring Fling - Please join us for afternoon tea and our speaker, Elaine Charal. Come prepared to laugh and learn during Elaine's 'Power of the Pen' while you discover how to communicate more effectively with family and friends through knowing what the strokes of handwriting mean. Everyone will learn about their strengths as reflected in the 'paper mirror' of their handwriting. Refreshments will be provided by the KCSC social committee. Please register by April 7 by calling 905-833-6565. Thank you to Hospall Homecare for sponsoring this event.

The following activities are offered at the King City Seniors' Centre. 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. - Crochet class.

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 [kingcityseniors@gmail.com](mailto:kingcityseniors@gmail.com)

## York Pines United

Thanks to trees on the line in Potageville, the lights starting flickering and then the power went off right as we began last Sunday. We moved to the Fellowship Room where Lesley Morris led us in another intimate service.

This Sunday is the third Sunday in Lent. If you gave something up, you can have it on Sunday. The hymn sing of our favorites for this Sunday has been postponed. Feel free to join us for coffee

at noon after the service at 11 a.m. Rev. Bruce Roffey presides next Sunday.

The Lenten study group at our sister church in King City continues on Saturday at 10 a.m. with good discussion and good food. Music is the theme used in Something Sacred, this year's study guide from the United Church of Canada, It's available from [ucrdstore.ca](http://ucrdstore.ca) in e-book format. Newcomers are always welcome.

Book Club meets again on Monday, March 24 at 10 a.m., and the book will be another novel, but a perhaps timely one: "Conclave" by Robert Harris (famous English author). Contact the office at [yorkpinesuc@gmail.com](mailto:yorkpinesuc@gmail.com) or 905-727-8118 if you wish to participate remotely. You don't have to have read the book.

Our next Fellowship Lunch is on Wednesday, March 26 at 12 p.m. at Swiss Chalet at the north end of Newmarket (East Gwillimbury). Come and bring a friend. Contact the office at [yorkpinesuc@gmail.com](mailto:yorkpinesuc@gmail.com) or 905-727-8118 if you wish to attend.

## Schomberg AA meetings

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

## Sacred Heart Church

Restless Outreach Ministry needs volunteers for Friday, March 28 help to prepare sandwiches to be distributed.

Holy Rosary at 5:30 p.m. Benediction at 6:30 p.m., Celebration of Mass at 7 pm.

Reminders: 1) Adult Faith Educational Meeting & Potluck Supper Saturday, March 22 on Blessed Carlo Acutis - a patron of the internet and of the Youth in 2023.

2) Gala of Hope, Saturday, May 24. Tickets sold after Sunday Masses.

3) Children's Bible Camp - July 14 - 18.

Sharelife Sunday, March 30. Your support will greatly help more than 150,000 people in York Region. Learn more at [sharelife.org/impact](http://sharelife.org/impact). Thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need!

Our parish goal this year is \$27,500. Donate through the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

Coffee & Friendship was provided by The Celio Family following the past Sunday Masses.

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.

## King City Tennis Association

The King City Tennis Association is a non-profit tennis club established by volunteers over 40 years ago in partnership with King Township. The King City Tennis Association outdoor season runs from May to October 2025.

The 2025 KCTA website opened March 15 ready to accept 2025 Early Bird KCTA memberships with discounts, until April 15.

Visit [kingcitytennis.com](http://kingcitytennis.com)

Markus Ziegler, our OTA Certified Head Tennis Coach of several years, is ready to provide tennis programs and lessons for all ages and levels of ability.

Markus offers many excellent and varied skill-level tennis instruction for adults, in addition to Junior Programs for ages 4 to 16 years, running May through October.

Don't forget the very popular 1 to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday Junior Summer Camp in July and August. A total of 9 different weeks to choose from. Each week is limited to only 28 Juniors, so please sign up early.

## St. Andrew's By Kathy Patterson

Everyone is welcome at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at 13190 Keele St., 2 blocks north of the King Rd. Our Sunday morning worship service is at 10:30 a.m. and join us afterwards for coffee time.

This Sunday, March 23, we are very excited to welcome the Well, a Christian and Missionary Alliance Church to our Morning Worship Service and Communion Service at 10:30 a.m. Both churches will be participating and we'll have Coffee Time afterwards, a time to get to know our Partnership Friends who will be worshipping at St. Andrew's, Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m.

Our recorded services are on YouTube. Our website is [standrews-kingcity.ca](http://standrews-kingcity.ca) and click on the YouTube frame. Our Pastor Alison Agnew's lead-in text to her sermon about why the 10 Commandments was Ephesians 5:1-2 "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

During Lent, Life Connect will be on Thursdays at 2 p.m. at the church. All are invited to see a video called "Why Does Easter Matter?" It is in four parts, thus the other Thursdays are March 27, April 3 and April 10. Come and discuss what Easter is all about. Palm Sunday is April 13.

For Pastoral Care please call the Rev. Alison Agnew or call your Elder. Our office number is 905-833-2325.

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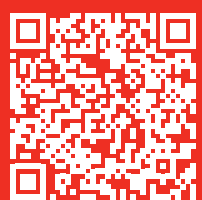
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# Leading with heart:



## Lindsay Strom's impact in real estate and her commitment to community

Lindsay Strom is a licensed real estate professional and Lead of Key Advantage, a local team with Royal LePage RCR Realty.

She has built a successful and thriving career deeply rooted in family, community, and innovation. Her journey in real estate began at a young age. As a teen, Lindsay worked at the front desk of Royal LePage, where her mother, Susie Strom, was a realtor. This early exposure to the industry sparked her interest and paved the way for her future career. After graduating from Western University with a degree in Media Information & Technology, Lindsay initially pursued a career in advertising. However, her passion for real estate ultimately led her back to the family business.

In 2011, Lindsay earned her real estate license and joined her mother in the business. Together, they worked to expand their clientele across York Region, building lasting relationships with their clients. In 2019, Lindsay and her mother launched the Key Advantage brand, focusing on providing exceptional service to clients. As the business grew, Lindsay took over her mother's role as Team Lead, continuing to evolve Key Advantage into a modern and innovative real estate brand. She integrated cutting-edge tools and technology into the business, ensuring they were always at the forefront of the real estate market while maintaining a strong focus on a service-oriented approach.

Community involvement is central to Lindsay's values, and as an active member of the Aurora community, she is passionate about giving back. Aurora offers numerous programs and events for families, and as a mother of three, Lindsay personally enjoys these opportunities with her family. She is a volunteer and strong supporter of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, being a proud hockey mom. Key Advantage also hosts an annual Community Pop-Up Market in Aurora, inviting local small business owners to come and share their own passion for their businesses, providing a platform for them to connect with the community, showcase their products and services, and foster a spirit of collaboration and support among local entrepreneurs.

Lindsay's commitment to continuous learning and personal growth led her to obtain her Broker's License during the pandemic lockdown, allowing her to elevate the Key Advantage team and enhance client service. Known for her genuine empathy and ability to connect with others, Lindsay's magnetic energy has earned her deep, meaningful relationships with clients, colleagues, and friends.

Professionally, Lindsay thrives in human connection, and personally, she maintains a positive and optimistic outlook on life. She believes that mindset and our connection to the universe play key roles in shaping

our destinies. Outside of real estate, Lindsay enjoys fitness, astrology, wine, home décor, golf, and skiing.

Believing that "home" should be a safe space for everyone, Lindsay has incorporated charitable giving into the very fabric of Key Advantage. The business donates a portion of every commission to the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation, which supports women and children who have experienced intimate partner violence. Lindsay's dedication to this cause is evident in her personal involvement with the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation and her advocacy for the work it does to provide shelter, counseling, and a fresh start for those who need it most.

This October, Lindsay will take on a new challenge combining her love for adventure with her commitment to helping others. She will participate in a 100 km charity trek across Cambodia in support of the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. Lindsay will be traveling alongside other RLP Shelter Foundation champions from across Canada to trek for five days, raising funds to support women and children affected by intimate partner violence. To participate, each trekker must raise at least \$6,000, and Lindsay has set a personal goal of raising \$15,000. The funds will be split, with 80% benefiting Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region and 20% supporting national programs that help prevent domestic violence. This trek will be physically and emotionally demanding, but Lindsay is committed to the cause and is preparing for the challenge by training both mentally and physically.

...Believing that "home" should be a safe space for everyone, Lindsay has incorporated charitable giving into the very fabric of Key Advantage...

The Royal LePage Shelter Foundation has raised more than \$46 million to date, supporting over 50,000 women and children each year through various programs. The foundation provides safe shelter, counseling, and programs that help survivors rebuild their lives and heal from their experiences of abuse. Lindsay is proud to be a part of this important initiative and is excited to contribute to its continued success.

Lindsay's dedication to helping others extends beyond real estate, and her upcoming trek is just one example of how she uses her platform to make a difference. As she trains for this life-changing journey, she looks forward to continuing her work in real estate and contributing to causes that improve lives.

Written by Heather Eickmann

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\$2,050,000

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### HOT NEW SHARON LISTING!



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# TO INSPECT OR NOT TO INSPECT: Should you ever waive a home inspection?

In today's fast-paced real estate market, where competition among buyers can be fierce, it's not uncommon to encounter a situation where you're asked to waive certain conditions in order to make your offer more appealing.

One of the most debated conditions is the home inspection. But should you ever waive a home inspection? While it may seem tempting to make your offer stand out, there are significant risks involved. Here's a look at why waiving a home inspection may not always be the best decision.

**WHAT IS A HOME INSPECTION?**

A home inspection is a thorough examination of a property's condition. A licensed inspector looks at various elements, including the foundation, roofing, plumbing, electrical systems, and appliances. The goal is to identify any potential issues or hidden problems that could require costly repairs in the future. The inspection typically happens after an offer has been made and before the closing, giving the buyer an opportunity to back out or negotiate repairs based on the findings.

**WHY SOME BUYERS WAIVE A HOME INSPECTION**

In competitive markets, especially in areas with low inventory, some buyers waive a home inspection in hopes of making their offer more attractive to

sellers. A seller might receive multiple offers, and one without a home inspection condition could be more appealing because it reduces the likelihood of delays or negotiations over repair requests.

Buyers may also waive inspections if they are confident in their ability to spot issues on their own or if they're planning to renovate the home extensively anyway. Others might feel that the risk of uncovering a major problem outweighs the potential benefits of the inspection.

**THE RISKS OF WAIVING A HOME INSPECTION**

While waiving the inspection might help in getting your offer accepted, it comes with significant risks. Without a professional's opinion, there's no guarantee that you'll uncover all of the home's hidden issues. What might seem like a dream home could have underlying problems that aren't immediately obvious, such as:

- **Foundation Issues:** Cracks in the foundation could indicate major structural problems that might cost tens of thousands of dollars to repair.
- **Electrical or Plumbing Problems:** Hidden faults in the electrical system or plumbing could pose a safety risk and lead to expensive repairs.
- **Pest Infestation or Mold:** You might unknowingly purchase a property with a severe pest problem or mold that could require costly remediation.
- **Roof Leaks:** Roof damage or leaks might not be visible until significant damage has already occurred.

Without an inspection, the responsibility for any costly repairs or maintenance falls entirely on the buyer, potentially leading to unexpected financial burdens shortly after moving in.

**WHEN IS IT OKAY TO WAIVE A HOME INSPECTION?**  
Despite the risks, there are certain circumstances where waiving a home inspection may make sense.

For example:

- **New Construction Homes:** If you're buying a newly built home, it's often less likely to have significant hidden issues. Builders are usually required to meet specific standards, and the home may still be under warranty.
- **As-Is Properties:** If you're purchasing a home "as-is" and are willing to take on repairs, you might decide to waive the inspection. However, this decision should still be made with caution and after carefully considering the potential risks.
- **Strong Market Conditions:** In an extremely competitive market, waiving a home inspection might be the only way to get your offer accepted. However, in such cases, it's vital to have a thorough understanding of the risks involved and to be prepared to deal with any unforeseen issues.

**ALTERNATIVES TO WAIVING AN INSPECTION**

If you're determined to compete in a hot market but don't want to waive your inspection altogether, there are a few alternatives to consider:

- **Pre-Inspection:** Some buyers schedule an inspection before submitting an offer. This way, you know what issues to expect and can make an informed decision without waiting until the offer is accepted.
- **Shortened Inspection Condition Period:** If you want to make your offer more appealing but still want some protection, you can offer a shorter inspection window. This reduces the amount of time the seller has to wait for you to conduct your inspection.

In most cases, waiving a home inspection is a risky move. While it can make your offer more attractive in a competitive market, it puts you at risk of inheriting costly, unforeseen problems. It's crucial to weigh the potential benefits against the risks before deciding to waive this important step in the home-buying process. Always consult with a real estate professional or lawyer to ensure you're making an informed decision based on your unique situation.

At the Michele Denniston Real Estate Group, we're committed to helping you navigate Ontario's real estate market. Whether you're buying or selling, we offer expert guidance to ensure a smooth, successful transaction. For personalized advice, contact Michele at (416) 433-8316 or michele@micheledenniston.com.



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# Home renovations that will save you money

(NC) Home renovations can transform your space, making it more beautiful, functional and valuable. But did you know some upgrades can also save you money in the long run? Here are five smart renovations to consider:

**SEAL AIR LEAKS**

Air leaks around windows, doors, cracks and even ceiling light fixtures can let out warm or cool air, making your HVAC system work harder. Air sealing is an affordable and effective way to reduce energy costs, increase comfort and create a healthier indoor environment - making it a perfect first step in any renovation.

**UPGRADE YOUR WINDOWS**

Did you know that up to 30 percent of your home's heating energy can escape through the windows? Start small by re-caulking or weather-stripping to seal drafts and consider replacing your windows with more efficient models in the long run. These fixes can cut energy costs while keeping your home comfortable.

**CONSERVE WATER WITH MODERN FIXTURES**

If your bathroom or kitchen fixtures are old or leaky, now's the time to make the switch. Modern low-flow showerheads, faucets and toilets are designed to

conserve water without sacrificing performance. These upgrades can lower your utility bills and help the environment at the same time.

**INVEST IN ENERGY-EFFICIENT APPLIANCES AND SYSTEMS**

Energy-efficient appliances are a great way to reduce your utility bills while helping the environment. Think beyond the basics - like a new fridge or washer - and consider upgrading your heating system. Replacing a furnace or boiler with an electric heat pump, for example, can provide reliable heating and cooling year-round while saving you hundreds of dollars every month.

**EMBRACE ECO-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING**

Eco-friendly landscaping offers more than just curb appeal; it can save you time and money, too. Native plants and shrubs require less maintenance and water, while strategically placed trees will eventually provide shade in summer to lower cooling costs. This approach is a win for both your wallet and the planet.

**FUNDING YOUR NEXT HOME RENOVATION PROJECT**

To make these eco-friendly renovations more affordable, explore available rebates and grants, like the Oil to Heat Pump Affordability program, which offers upfront payments to help low- to median-income households switch to cleaner heating sources. Additionally, the Canada Greener Homes Loan provides interest-free financing for energy-efficient upgrades. Some municipalities, provinces or territories may also have local incentive programs to consider.

Learn more about funding for eco-friendly home renovations at [canada.ca/heatpumps](http://canada.ca/heatpumps).



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**MARKET UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2025**

**AURORA**

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

**\$1,147,807**

AVERAGE 26 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

**31**

110 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

**101%**

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

**-1.58%**

**KING**

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

**\$2,742,333**

AVERAGE 61 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

**18**

58 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

**92%**

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

**0.79%**

\*The statistics provided were obtained from the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's Market Watch FEBRUARY 2025; Summary of Existing Home Transactions for All Home Types, FEBRUARY 2025 + Focus on the MLS Home Price Index for Composite, FEBRUARY 2025 for York Region's Aurora and King

Buyers seem to be in "wait and see" mode, as inventory is slowly increasing, but uncertainty about our trade relationship with the United States and affordability concerns are still at the forefront of decision making. Home sales were down in the GTA, compared to the same period last year, while inventory remains stable. Pricing is down year over year in many York Region markets, in addition to sales volume. For Buyers, it is an opportune time to negotiate and include conditions, as days on market are creeping up. If trade concerns diminish and rates continue to lower, stronger sales activity should occur. For Sellers, having a strong pricing strategy and competitive marketing will ensure maximizing sales results. Open Houses are still being well traversed, and there are still a number of Buyers looking to secure homes in 2025, despite the current landscape. As always, it is imperative to work closely with your trusted advisor. In a changing landscape, Key Advantage is always here to help navigate transitions.

– 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.



KEY ADVANTAGE



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**How to  
decorate your  
front porch for  
all-season weather**

(NC) A beautiful front porch welcomes you home, invites visitors in and can be a relaxing spot to spend time reading or people watching. But our unpredictable weather makes it hard to keep up a stylish look year-round. Here are some ideas you can try:

**DURABLE FURNITURE**

Start with good-quality furniture designed for the outdoors—opt for weather-resistant materials like teak or wrought iron, which can withstand both snow and rain. Add cozy touches with outdoor cushions and throws made from water-resistant fabrics. Even better, an outdoor storage bench is the perfect weatherproofing solution to protect upholstered cushions from the elements.

**THE RIGHT PLANTS**

In the summer, embrace the warmer temperatures and create a beautiful space with potted plants like hardy perennials, including hostas, peonies and

coneflowers that thrive in Canadian climates. Hanging baskets can also brighten up a front porch, and your roof will offer some protection from hail, rain damage and direct sunlight.

**QUALITY LIGHTING**

Add warmth to your porch with sustainable lighting, such as solar-powered lanterns or Edison bulb string lights. Consider spending a little more to purchase resilient, weatherproof lights that are built to withstand outdoor conditions.

If you're in the market for a new home this spring, a cozy front porch, like those featured in new community developments like Alpine Park can add curb appeal and make the place feel more like home, sooner. Learn more about the positive impacts of an attractive front porch at [alpinepark.ca](http://alpinepark.ca).

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# SURVIVING THE HOMEFRONT: Real estate, renovations and the 2025 chaos



By **Julien Laurion**  
Real Estate

Welcome to 2025, where interest rates do the cha-cha, the housing market plays hard to get, and supply chains still think they're on a pandemic-era vacation.

If you're trying to buy, sell, or renovate a home in this wild economy, you might feel like you need a crystal ball, a stiff drink, or both. But fear not! That's where I come in—your friendly neighbourhood realtor and contractor, here to make sense of the madness.

**INTEREST RATES: THE ULTIMATE PLOT TWIST**

Remember when interest rates were so low you could buy a house for the price of a good pizza? Yeah, that's over. Now, rates fluctuate like a politician's promises—one minute hopeful, the next a gut punch. But does that mean you should sit tight and wait? Not necessarily.

Here's the thing: the market is always moving. While some buyers are hesitating, others are swooping in, snagging deals with less competition. Sellers, on the other hand, need to be strategic—pricing right, staging well, and making those small but powerful upgrades that push buyers over the edge. And when it comes to those upgrades? Well, that's where the second half of my business comes in.

**THE RENOVATION REALITY: SUPPLY CHAINS AND STICKER SHOCK**

If you've tried to renovate recently, you know that getting materials is like winning the lottery—except instead of money, your prize is a slightly less delayed shipment of flooring. The global supply chain is still recovering, and costs have yet to calm down. Lumber, electrical components, and even basic appliances seem to have taken on luxury status.

So, what's the move? Smart renovations. Instead of gutting your kitchen just because HGTV said so, focus on projects with the best return:

- ✓ **Paint & Fixtures** – A fresh coat of paint and modern lighting can make an outdated home feel brand new.
- ✓ **Bathrooms & Kitchens** – Even minor updates, like new hardware or backsplash, can boost value.
- ✓ **Energy Efficiency** – Government incentives for

eco-friendly upgrades mean now is the time to consider solar panels, better insulation, or efficient windows.

If you're renovating to sell, the key is not to overdo it. I've seen people sink thousands into unnecessary upgrades, only to watch their dream buyers come in and say, "Eh, we're ripping it all out anyway." That's why working with a realtor who's also a contractor (ahem, me) can save you money and headaches.

**POLITICS, TRADE, AND YOUR HOME**

Government policies can shift the market overnight. From new housing affordability programs to trade restrictions affecting material costs, what happens in the world of politics directly impacts homeowners. Right now, Canadian homebuyers are watching closely as policies around interest rates, foreign investment, and urban development unfold.

For investors, the rental market is another hot topic. With housing shortages in major cities, renting remains in high demand—great news if you're thinking about buying an income property. But beware of upcoming regulations that could impact how you manage those investments.

**SO... WHAT NOW?**

Whether you're buying, selling, or upgrading, 2025 is all about strategy. The key to winning in this market is simple:

✓ **Stay informed** – Market trends change fast. Work with someone who keeps up (spoiler: that's me).

✓ **Be adaptable** – If Plan A doesn't work, we pivot.

✓ **Work with experts** – Whether you need a solid real estate strategy, renovation advice, or both, I've got you covered.

So if you're wondering what to do with your biggest investment this year, let's talk. Whether it's buying smart, selling for top dollar, or upgrading with intention, I'll make sure you don't just survive this market—you thrive in it.

Julien Laurion – All About Homes  
Real Estate | Contracting | Solutions That Make Sense

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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**\$3,298,888**

**4500 SF MASTERPIECE WITH POOL- BRADFORD**

Knock-out custom built home with over 6500 sf of living space on 3 levels. 6 bedrooms, 0.7 acre with 250 ft frontage. Magnificent backyard oasis with inviting inground saltwater pool. Heated shop and parking for over 20 vehicles. Huge gourmet kitchen w/custom island & cabinetry. Curb appeal and much more! Hardwood floors.

**\$1,999,888**

**SHOW STOPPER CUSTOM HOME, BIG BAY POINT**

Discover paradise with this 4+2-bed, 6-bath luxury property at Big Bay Point. Nestled between a deeded beach on Lake Simcoe's Kempenfelt Bay and vibrant Friday Harbour, enjoy resort-style living with forest views, an outdoor kitchen, fire pit, cedar sauna, gym, and pergola. Entertain or unwind in a spacious 3242 SF home with a 4-car garage, dual driveways, and room for recreational toys. Embrace a dream lifestyle!

**\$1,888,888**

**60 FOOT LOT! 4+1 BEDROOM! RENOVATED! FINISHED BASEMENT!**

It's a beauty! Demand Southwest Aurora location steps to park and nature! Updated centre island kitchen with quartz counters! Kitchen 'open' to spacious family room! Updated baths! Updated hwd laminate - vinyl floors! Fresh modern decor! Professionally finished lower level recreation room, play room, 5th bedroom/Den and 2pc bath!

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Prime Muskoka Commercial Property! Investors / End Users / Live & Work! Windermere & Raymond Road (Muskoka Lakes) High visibility. Year-round traffic! 3000 SF commercial building incl 1000 SF 2-bay auto repair shop with 2023 clean ESA parking for 35 cars! Plus 1000 SF renovated 3 bedroom bungalow! Zoning allows for multiple uses including Cannabis retail!

**\$1,198,888**

# 6 ways to prepare your home for spring thaw

(NC) As the weather warms it's important to make sure that the change in seasons does not cause damage to our homes.

**PROTECTING YOUR HOME**, especially during spring runoff, requires a bit of foresight, planning and support.

Here are six tips presented by TD Insurance that will help you take preventative measures.

1 Check your eaves and downspouts. Ensure the downspouts extend away from your foundation to allow the water to drain away from your home and out toward the backyard, back lane or street.

2 Inspect the grounds. Check to see if driveways, sidewalks, decks, around your basement and patios have the appropriate grading to direct water away from your home. Check your basement for any foundation cracks and have those repaired to avoid ongoing seepage or a sudden entrance of water.

3 A functioning sump pump can prevent flooding in your home so be sure to check that it is in working order. Consider adding back-up battery power so that your sump pump continues to work in the event of an electricity outage. If you live in an area prone to flooding and you don't already have a sump pump installed it may be something to consider.

4 Consider installing a backflow valve. In the event of a main sewer backup, backflow valves will automatically close to prevent water and sewage

from entering your home. Backflow valves are to be installed on your basement sewer connections and are a good preventative measure.

5 While home insurance policies cover an array of scenarios from system ruptures to different types of water escapes, you may need additional coverage based on where you live and your exposure to water. Extended Water Damage Coverage and Above Ground Water Coverage are additional insurance options meant to further protect homeowners from water entering the home from the exterior.

6 You can also take precautionary measures inside your home by not storing important documents and water-sensitive valuables like artwork, collectibles or rugs in the basement in case there is a flood.

Home insurance can cover you in case there is damage to your home during the spring thaw. Take some time to review your insurance policy or talk to an insurance advisor to make sure your coverage fits your needs. If you are a TD Insurance customer, you can review your coverage details directly from their app.

www.newscanada.com



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**\$14,000 / Month**

Fantastic luxury home in the flawless community of Islington Woods, with almost 6,000 sq. ft. of living space! Highlights include an immaculate, spacious chef's kitchen and a massive, two level backyard with unparalleled picturesque views!

**Executive End-Unit Townhouse!**  
**\$1,375,000**

This newly built townhome features an open concept layout, a Parisian style kitchen, multiple walk-out balconies, and fantastic finishes throughout. The rooftop patio boasts panoramic views and ample space for an outdoor kitchen!

**A Private Forest Retreat!**  
**\$5,750,000**

Custom built estate home on 4.43 acres in a prestigious estate community! Enjoy stunning rooms designed by Jane Lockhart, a sun-drenched Muskoka room, and a landscaped yard boasting multiple entertainment areas.

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**2 TUSCANY GRANDE**

Looking for elegance? Looking for 'move in ready' - nothing to do but unpack? Your search is over - welcome to 2 Tuscany Grande in Briar Hill. Beautifully appointed and backing onto the golf course and ponds, this home will not disappoint you. Tastefully updated, this home offers an open concept, and spacious rooms to live, relax and entertain in. Contact me for your personal tour before it's gone. Offered at \$1,100,000

**50 HILLCREST DRIVE**

Absolutely stunning home in the "AWARD WINNING" community of "Briar Hill". This open concept bungalow is finished with all the upgrades you would desire in a home and is complete with a professionally finished lower level with walk out doors to patio and amazing gardens. The double car garage and larger double wide driveway allows lots of room for your guests to park. Enjoy access to 36 holes of golf, 2 scenic nature trails, and a 16,000 sq. ft. "COMMUNITY CENTER" filled with an abundance of activities and events. Don't wait until Spring to book an appointment, DO IT NOW, as this home will not disappoint. Offered at \$1,087,000

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# How to determine if the time is right to downsize

The phrase “bigger is better” has endured for quite some time.

Though it may be impossible to pinpoint precisely who coined the phrase, its lesson that larger things tend to be more valuable than smaller alternatives is applicable in numerous situations. But no adage is applicable to every situation, and in some instances, people may find that bigger is not better.

Downsizing is an approach many individuals consider after turning 50. Parents who are empty nesters and others nearing retirement may wonder if the time is right to downsize from their current homes. Though that's a strategy millions of people have adopted over time, the decision is not always so simple. Individuals over 50 who are trying to determine if downsizing is right for them can consider a host of factors before making a decision.

**• MONTHLY HOUSING EXPENSES:**

Before downsizing their homes, individuals should determine just how much they're currently spending on housing. Individuals who have fixed-rate mortgages likely know the amount of their monthly mortgage payment, but what about maintenance? Home maintenance expenses fluctuate, but a careful examination of the previous 12 months' expenditures can give homeowners an idea of just how much they're spending to maintain their properties. The number may be eye-opening, as Thumbtack's "Home Care Price Index" released in the third quarter of 2024 revealed that the average annual cost to maintain a single-family home reached an all-time high of \$10,433. If such expenses are preventing homeowners from building their

retirement nest eggs, then it might be time to seek alternative housing.

**• REAL ESTATE PRICES:**

Real estate prices have skyrocketed in recent years, which can be both good and bad for current homeowners considering downsizing. Many people who downsize look to move from a single-family home into a condominium, where maintenance tasks are typically handled by a homeowners' association (HOA). Such communities typically charge HOA fees, which can be minimal or considerable. In addition, the price of condominiums has risen in recent years, with the lender New American Funding reporting in early 2024 that the median sale price of a condo reached \$341,000. So, homeowners who want to downsize their homes may end up taking most of the profit from selling their current properties and reinvesting it in a costly condo. Some may deem that it is worthwhile, while others may find the cost savings of downsizing in the current market are negligible.

**• EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENT:**

Downsizing may be considered with cost savings in mind, but it's important to consider your emotional attachment to your current home. Many homeowners over 50 raised their families in their current homes, and letting go of a property where so many memories were made can be difficult. Homeowners who are not prepared to move on from properties that are meaningful to them and their families can consider additional ways to downsize their financial obligations.

Downsizing is something many homeowners over 50 consider. Any decision regarding downsizing is best made after considering a range of variables.

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### CHATEAU-INSPIRED LUXURY WITH POOL

Nestled on a premium lot in the prestigious Fontainebleau community of Oak Ridges/Lake Wilcox, this chateau-inspired executive home features a 3-car garage, 10-ft ceilings, and a gourmet kitchen. Enjoy a private backyard oasis with a heated saltwater pool. Luxurious finishes, expansive living spaces, and thoughtful upgrades make this home truly extraordinary.



### LOCATION. LUXURY. LIFESTYLE.

Experience luxury at King Heights Boutique Condominiums in King City, with suites starting at \$534,465. Spacious 1-3 bedroom layouts boast 10' ceilings, custom cabinetry, quartz countertops, and Miele appliances. Enjoy premium amenities, including a rooftop terrace, fitness studio, and lounges, all steps from the GO station, parks, and community center.



### ELEGANT EXECUTIVE HOME IN PRIME LOCATION

Welcome to this immaculate executive home with a 3-car garage and EV port on a premium fenced lot. Enjoy a chef's kitchen, coffered-ceiling living room, main-floor office, and a spa-like primary suite. The finished walkout lower level features a gym, rec room with fireplace, second office, and ample storage. Prime location near top amenities!



### SPRAWLING 2+ ACRE KLEINBURG OASIS

A rare 2+ acre double lot in Kleinburg backs onto a scenic conservation area and river, featuring a fully upgraded 6-bed, 4-bath bungalow. Highlights include an open-concept layout, skylight, modern kitchen, walkout basement with second kitchen, and 332 ft of waterfront. Enjoy direct trail access, stunning views, and endless customization potential!



### BRAND-NEW EXECUTIVE HOME, LAKE WILCOX

Brand new executive home being built on a 150' lot in Lake Wilcox. This 4+1 bedroom, 5-bath home offers a chef's kitchen with custom cabinetry, quartz counters, and premium appliances, plus 10' main floor ceilings and elegant finishes. The finished lower level features a rec room, gym, wine cellar, and separate entrance. Walk to Lake Wilcox Park!



### LUXURY "GREEN & SMART" HOME

This 3,800 sqft "green & smart" executive home sits in South Aurora's prestigious Royal Hill community with lush trails and luxury living. Featuring 10' ceilings, hardwood floors, and oversized windows, a gourmet Wolf kitchen, and a spa-like primary suite. The walk-out lower level offers endless potential. Close to parks, trails, transit, and amenities.



### FERNBROOK HOME WITH \$200K UPGRADES

This meticulously designed home boasts \$200K+ in upgrades, an AyA chef's kitchen with marble countertops, a great room with a gas fireplace, and an elegant dining area. Featuring 5 spacious bedrooms, each with an ensuite, plus a main floor bedroom and office. Steps to Yonge St, transit, shopping, golf, and top-tier amenities. Luxury living at its finest!



### LUXURY TOWNHOME WITH ROOFTOP TERRACE

Experience luxury living at "The Bond on Yonge" in Richmond Hill. This 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom (1331 sqft) townhome boasts a 375 sqft private rooftop terrace, stainless steel appliances, quartz countertops, 9ft ceilings, and floor-to-ceiling windows. Conveniently located near Yonge Street, schools, parks, shops, and transit, it's perfect for modern, elegant living.



### SERENE LIVING NEAR MUSSELMANS LAKE

Explore this sophisticated 4-level brick backsplitted in Ballantrae! Boasting 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, a double garage, and oversized windows, this home offers a bright, open layout. Enjoy a functional kitchen, spacious living areas, a cozy family room with a fireplace, and a landscaped yard with balcony views. Conveniently close to schools, parks, golf, and Musselmans Lake!



### MODERN 1+DEN SUITE WITH HUGE TERRACE

Experience upscale living in this 1-bedroom + den suite with a 400 sq. ft. L-shaped terrace, seamlessly blending indoor-outdoor living. Featuring new Zebra blinds, vinyl flooring, and an in-suite washer/dryer, this unit offers an open layout, modern kitchen with breakfast bar, and top-tier amenities. Conveniently located near transit, parks, and shopping!



### CUSTOM HOME WITH PREMIUM UPGRADES

Brand new custom executive home being built, proudly situated on a 150' lot in the sought-after Lake Wilcox community. Offering 4+1 bedrooms, 5 baths, and a chef's kitchen with quartz counters, custom cabinetry, Jennair appliances, plus a finished basement with gym, wine cellar, and more. Walk to Lake Wilcox Park & trails.



### LUXURIOUS 'FERNBROOK' EXECUTIVE HOME

This brand-new luxury home features \$200K+ in upgrades on a prestigious Princeton Heights lot. Enjoy a chef's AyA kitchen with premium appliances, a family room with a gas fireplace, and a covered loggia. Upstairs, 4 spacious bedrooms with ensuites and a lavish primary suite with a spa-like bath. Prime location near Yonge St, transit, shopping, golf, and top amenities!

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