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MP praises Senior of the Year

King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts visited the King City Seniors Centre to congratulate Rosemary Bellefontaine on winning Ontario Senior of the Year. Rosemary's extensive volunteer work has touched many lives and made a lasting impact on the community.



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WHO WILL THEY BECOME?
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EDUCATION WITH BALANCE

Council supports agreement on 'Boynton' lands in Nobleton

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

There are plans for a large-scale subdivision just south of Nobleton. And both the proponents and Township are creating an agreement to everyone's benefit. The owner of the property known as Boynton Lands at 12805 Highway 27 in the southeast quadrant of the Village of Nobleton has submitted applications for Regional and Township Official Plan Amendments, a Zoning By-law Amendment, and a Draft Plan of Subdivision. The purpose of these applications is to develop the property into a 416-lot residential subdivision, including parks, stormwater management blocks, natural heritage features, and buffers. Additionally, the plan includes

mixed-use blocks for future commercial, office, and medium-density residential uses, along with a secondary school site. Planning Division staff recommends approval of the applications and the enactment of the requisite bylaws by council. The applications were initially submitted in March 2019, with public meetings held in November 2022 and February 2025. There will be a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement (MCFA) between the Township of King and Prebrick Systems (Boynton) Inc. (Prebrick). The contribution would be used to partially fund municipal capital facilities in the Village of Nobleton. Staff pointed out that the contributions would be provided after the landowner receives any necessary approvals from the approval authority through the typical public planning process.

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Work on Hamby House set to begin.
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Wednesday, August 20
6 p.m. - Committee of Adjustment

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

View full Council and Committee agendas at king.ca/meetings

Subscribe to receive email notifications regarding Council meetings & agendas at king.ca/subscribe

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Cold Creek Conservation Area

king.ca/EnvironmentalEvents

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Safer Together National Drowning Prevention Week

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Over 400 Canadians die in preventable water-related incidents each year. Join King Township and the Lifesaving Society for a series of water smart events to support National Drowning Prevention Week.

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 Tuesday, Jul. 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Family "Swim to Survive"
 Friday, Jul. 25 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

World Drowning Prevention Day: Free Public Swim
 Friday, Jul. 25 from 2:45 to 4:15 p.m.

KING 175 EST. 1850

Work on historic Hambly House is set to begin

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

Long overdue conservation work on the historic Hambly House in Nobleton is set to begin.

The owner of the Hambly House, located at 6012 King Road, plans to undertake conservation work on the structure, which requires a heritage permit for approval. The current designation bylaw (By-law 82-144) is outdated and lacks a statement of cultural heritage value and a list of heritage attributes, which are required under the Ontario Heritage Act, as per the 2005 amendments.

Updating the designation bylaw will provide clarity and ensure that

Planning Staff, the Heritage Advisory Committee, and Council can properly review and assess the proposed works. The amendment will establish a clear statement of cultural heritage value and a detailed list of heritage attributes, providing the necessary foundation for evaluating the property's heritage significance and guiding decisions regarding future alterations.

Township staff recommended council issue a conditional heritage permit approval, delegating final review and approval authority to the Director of Growth Management Services. This approach allows the property owner to proceed with the restoration works during the summer months when Council is on break, ensuring alignment with heritage conservation principles

and preventing unnecessary delays in the restoration of the Hambly House.

The house is unique and has been a local landmark for many years.

The building has a polychromatic red brick construction, with yellow brick quoins and yellow brick lintels on windows and doors. It has vertical red brick lintels on windows and arched lintels and narrow arched windows. Arched single and double-hung one-over-one and two-over-two windows with wooden frames and sills make it stand out. The front and rear verandas are classic, along with cedar roof shingles. It has wood gingerbread on the front, rear, and east gable roof; wood finials and pierced gable top panels, and dormers on the east façade with gingerbread trim.

Three-storey tower on the east façade and Bellcast mansard roof of the tower make it stand out on the landscape. Urns, weather vanes, and iron works on roof and corbelled cornice on tower top off this structure.

Staff will review the proposed works be carried out, in consultation with the Heritage Advisory Committee, to the satisfaction of the Director of Growth Management Services.

The director will also ensure that the review assesses the impact of the proposed works in relation to the cultural heritage value and attributes of the property, as established in the amended designation bylaw.

Updating the designation by-law to include the required statement of cul-

tural heritage value and list of heritage attributes will provide clarity, and ensure that Planning Staff, the Heritage Advisory Committee, and Council can properly review and assess the proposed works to be undertaken.

This amendment will establish a clear statement of cultural heritage value, and a detailed list of heritage attributes, providing the necessary foundation for evaluating the property's heritage significance, and guiding decisions regarding future alterations.

Staff said that by adopting this approach, the Township can facilitate a timely and efficient process while upholding heritage conservation standards, preventing unnecessary delays in the restoration of the Hambly House.

The property contains the home of Charles Hambly, a prominent early United Empire Loyalist settler, who was a significant person in the history of the Nobleton community as an early landowner, shopkeeper, postmaster, Township Councillor, and Trustee of the Rough Cast Church. The property remained in the Hambly family well into the 20th century.

In 2019, Council approved a zoning amendment to rezone lands to permit a mixed-use development, consisting of 33 apartment dwelling units and 1,877 square metres of commercial space.

In May 2025, the owner contacted Township staff to inquire about the restoration and conservation process required as part of the ongoing development.

Agreement contributes to municipality

From Front Page

The Township was approached by representatives of Prebrick with a request to consider a Municipal Capital Facility Agreement. Staff have considered what draft Principles would be appropriate to form the basis of any potential MCFA. This review has now reached a point where Staff requires Council's direction prior to proceeding further toward finalizing a draft Municipal Capital Facility Agreement.

The principles that are the basis of the Municipal Capital Facility Agreement are as follows:

Receive a voluntary financial commitment to allow the Municipality to provide municipal capital facilities in the Village of Nobleton.

The MCFA contribution is to be in monetary form to provide flexibility to use the contribution for municipal infrastructure and community benefits as determined by the Township in accordance with the Municipal Act.

The voluntary financial contribution follows, and is independent of, the requisite planning approvals being obtained by the landowners through the typical planning process mandated under the Planning Act and through the approval of Council.

The lands to which the MCFA pertains are located at 12805 Highway 27 in the Village of Nobleton. Applications have been submitted by Prebrick for Of-

ficial Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments, and Approval of a Draft Plan of Subdivision. The purpose of the Applications is to allow for the development of a subdivision which includes a total of 416 residential units, as well as a secondary school, commercial uses, parks and natural heritage features.

Due to the status of the available servicing allocation within the Village of Nobleton, staff are recommending that the MCFA be structured so as to include an initial phase to a maximum of 50% of the total number of residential units, being 208 units. Going beyond the initial phase is subject to York Region's assignment of increased servicing capacity to the Township. The total contribution that is anticipated to be realized in the initial phase based on allocation of servicing capacity to 50% of the units currently proposed is estimated to be \$4,160,000.

The MCFA would provide for the landowner to receive allocation of sewer and water capacity by the Township, sufficient to service the initial phase of 50% of the proposed Principles of the MCFA.

The Township's solicitor will prepare and finalize an agreement, in consultation with the legal representative for the landowners. Staff did stress that endorsing the principles would not bind Council to approve any present and/or future application regarding the landowner's development proposals.





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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

Let the tears flow and laughter ring out!

I'm in a weird place lately, or perhaps it's exactly where I'm meant to be.

It's that small spot between and behind the eyes, just behind the nasal cavity. It's the place where you feel a tear coming on, and you have the choice of reeling it back in or letting it flow.

In my case, it's like I'm frequently on the verge of crying, full or partial waterworks. Often it comes unannounced, without warning.

I picture myself sitting alone at a roulette wheel. My brain has compacted every emotion into a single white ball. It's tossed in the wheel, spinning round and round. Where it ends up is anyone's guess.

It's not gambling and there are no real winners. I must deal with the particular emotion wherever the ball decides to land. Good, bad, odd, even, red, black, it's all the same.

My wife and I were great at roulette when we travelled. I would match or leverage Kim's very good gut feelings, often resulting in some decent wins. There's nothing like a stack of chips being pushed your way!

And in life – the roulette wheel in my mind – it's a constant gamble. We try to parlay, leverage, hedge and beat the odds. But beating the house is tough.

As I ponder things in life, my feelings are spinning, but there are more than 36 possible resting places. Each presents its own challenges – grief, sorrow, sadness, regret, stress, disappointment, joy, frustration, and a slew of second-guesses.

Along with that knot between my eyes come sudden spurts of a strange, needy closeness, a genuine love for my family members.

I see them every day and tell them I love them, but the words are often just syllables. In my recent experiences – almost like getting whacked by a paddle in the face – it's an ache, a need to see their faces and hear their laughter. I've never felt this before.

Is it hormonal, due to my medication? Is it a reflective poignancy?

I've had many human aches and pains – a hollow stomach in anticipa-



Mark Pavilons

tion; cold sweats; waves of panic, and a now constant fear of death.

But this shot in the face is a new one. I don't really mind it and have become used to it now.

Emotional tears contain different proteins, hormones, and even neurotransmitters that reflect the emotional experience you're having.

Crying is one way our bodies help regulate overwhelming emotions. By releasing these chemicals, tears help us literally feel calmer.

Crying may be part of the healing and it's funny that we often try to stifle it.

Unlike most animals, humans are the only species known to cry emotional tears visibly.

Allowing yourself to feel and express emotion, in whatever form it takes, is often a sign that you're connected to your inner experience and can help you move through the emotion and get to the other side.

Maybe I'm actually growing, evolving and unlocking some previously hidden expanses. As my journey takes a turn, I've tried to meditate, reach deep and consider the possibilities. I've read

about people travelling outside their bodies and transcending, in search of ultimate enlightenment.

Dionne Warwick once said that crying is "cleansing," and there's always a reason for the tears.

I admire those types and people like the Dalai Lama for finding that sweet spot of happiness and contentment. They have many answers that are out of reach for most of us poor saps. I long to feel part of something much, much bigger than myself.

Alas, maybe in the next life.

But back to my teary-eyed car rides and quiet moments.

Maybe we were meant to let loose, open up, and show our true selves. Keeping everything bottled up can be so tiring.

Maybe our emotions, tear ducts and short breaths are meant to release that built-up tension. We can't all find nirvana in the lotus position in our bedrooms but maybe we can travel somewhere we are all meant to be. Maybe it's over the rainbow as Dorothy believed. Perhaps it's walking on sunshine as Katrina & The Waves espoused.

Wherever we're headed, may the wind be at our backs! Sure, the course ahead may be treacherous and waves so high we're filled with fear but somehow we know the clouds will part and the seas will calm.

Funny isn't it? We've all survived

many storms and we're still standing.

We've placed our bets and let the ball land where it may. We may have won and lost but we're still in the game.

When my eyes fill up I am swamped by a feeling of despair that somehow the world won't miss me after all. Maybe there won't be anyone at the dock to welcome me after such a long voyage.

And maybe that little white ball will get bounced right off the table, hit the floor and roll under a piece of furniture, where it rests, forgotten. Or the dog eats it!

We smile when we see people in their cars laughing, or singing along with the radio. We should also open our hearts to those sulking behind the wheel, having a bad day. Maybe a smile and a wave would do them some good!

Some believe we have to laugh to keep from crying, in order to maintain control.

Those who know me see me as a jovial guy, one who's often quick with a joke or prone to laughter. I really enjoy it – there's nothing quite like it.

Scientists believe that laughter, at its deepest level, is a sign of resilience, adaptability and cognition. Does that mean we're at the top of the food chain due to our ability to recite knock-knock jokes?

It is to laugh.

Laugh or cry. Do what you must.

And do it with gusto!

Legislation

Review acts and impacts

The King Chamber of Commerce acknowledges the introduction of Ontario's Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act. This legislation proposes a "One Project, One Process" framework aimed at streamlining project approvals by reducing regulatory duplication and improving clarity and timelines in the development process.

According to the Government of Ontario, the framework is designed to maintain environmental protections and ensure continued engagement with Indigenous and local communities. The Act has been positioned as part of the province's broader strategy to enhance economic competitiveness and to support the responsible development of Ontario's critical minerals – such as nickel, cobalt, copper, and platinum—which are foundational to sectors including electric vehicles, clean energy, aerospace, and national defence.

The province has indicated that this is a targeted and time-sensitive policy measure aimed at attracting investment, accelerating infrastructure development, and generating employment opportunities across Ontario.

The King Chamber of Commerce remains committed to monitoring legislative and regulatory developments that may impact the business community in King Township. We encourage local stakeholders to review the Act and consider its potential implications for their operations and industries.



Quote of the Week

"Loneliness hits hard because it isn't about the absence of people, but the absence of connection."

— George Orwell

Trivia Tidbits

Ontario's Agnes Macphail was the first woman elected to the House of Commons in the 1921.

We welcome your letters to the editor.

Please submit your comments / thoughts / ideas to editor@kingsentinel.com, including your name and telephone number.

The **King Weekly Sentinel** is your community newspaper!

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Like it or not, we can't live without insects

By David Suzuki

The Environment

Many people find insects annoying, even frightening. As a former fruit fly geneticist who spent many boyhood years exploring insect and other life in the swamps near my home in Leamington, Ontario, I've always been fascinated by them. They're also a critical component in the web of life.

When insects are killed or die off, everything in the food web is affected, from the birds, bats and lizards that feed on insects to the snakes, coyotes and cougars that feed on birds and lizards, and on and on.

We haven't learned our lesson over the 63 years since Rachel Carson's seminal *Silent Spring* was published — a book that influenced me and others and was the inspiration for growing environmental awareness. Carson pointed out the folly of applying new technologies or scientific developments on a widespread scale without understanding or even considering the impacts on interconnected natural systems.

Before Carson's book, Swiss chemist Paul Mueller developed the pesticide DDT and won a Nobel Prize for his work. It was seen as a miracle chemical, deadly to many "pests" and disease-carrying insects. It's use on malaria-carrying mosquitoes saved many human lives, but it also led to the deaths of millions of bald eagles, osprey, pelicans and other birds. Carson learned

that, beyond having a direct impact on animals that feed on insects, especially birds, DDT was also "bioaccumulating" in some species and "biomagnifying" through the food web, including to humans.

Insecticide bans helped insect populations recover in some places, but they now face another dire threat: global heating. Many scientists believe insect biomass is being reduced by as much as 2.5 per cent a year. That may not seem like a lot. "But if you run that forward just four decades, we're talking about nearly half the tree of life disappearing in one human lifetime. That is absolutely catastrophic," entomologist David Wagner told the *Guardian*.

Pesticides (still), habitat loss, industrial activity, agriculture, and air, land, water and light pollution are still eradicating insects, but new research points to climate disruption as an increasingly devastating factor. Insect populations are now plummeting even in areas free from pesticides, fertilizers and industrial activity — including protected forests in countries such as Costa Rica. Many insects are hypersensitive to environmental changes — in heat, humidity, rainfall, light and seasonal variations. Events such as an unusually dry spring can prevent them from emerging from the ground, for example. Availability of water is especially critical, as they must

stay constantly hydrated.

Insect collapse is already working its way through the web of life. A 2019 study found that three billion birds in the U.S., close to one-third, had disappeared since the 1970s, mostly those that feed on insects. A 2018 study in Puerto Rico's Luquillo rainforest found a significant decrease in birds, frogs and lizards as insect numbers dropped.

Because many insects are pollinators, their decline can also reduce plant and food crop growth.

Anyone who's been around for a while might remember road trips of the past, when you'd have to stop regularly to clean dead bugs off the car windshield and grill. Now, their numbers have diminished to the point that you can often drive a long way without a single splatter.

It's hubris. We fail to understand that nature, which includes us, is interdependent, that every disruption or disturbance we create will have far-reaching consequences. And so we spray poisons indiscriminately, wastefully burn fossil fuels and destroy natural

spaces and habitat. But if insects die, birds and fish that eat them will die and animals that eat the birds and fish will also die ...

We have numerous solutions to these problems — to climate change, biodiversity loss (including insects) and pollution — but sometimes it means putting life before profit, and that doesn't sit well with those who make their money from polluting fuels and chemicals.

We must do everything we can to protect insects. That includes addressing climate disruption by shifting to clean energy and conserving and restoring green spaces. Individually, we can grow more gardens with native, pollinator-friendly plants, reduce pesticide and fertilizer use and more.

It's time to show our insect friends some respect. Our lives depend on them in more ways than most people know.

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

Farm safety can't take a summer break

By Vanessa Renaud

Director, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

It's been a deadly year so far for farm-related accidents on Ontario roads and farms — you only have to follow the news to see tragic stories make headlines. It can be hard to remember sometimes that behind every news story are victims, families and communities who lives have been torn apart, but that's precisely why making safety a priority is so important.

I'm part of my family's farm business in Eastern Ontario, and I also work with many fellow farmers in my region as a Certified Crop Advisor. I'm also a director on the provincial board of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

As we enter the height of summer and the beginning of harvest season for many of Ontario's major crops, it's important to take a look at what we can do to keep ourselves and other safe — on-farm, at work and on our roads.

The good news is that Ontario farmers are being proactive about safety. For the last number of years, county and regional federations of agriculture across the province have been leading local projects focused on safety of all kinds — from road safety and slow-moving vehicle awareness to first aid, CPR and grain bin extraction training.

These projects all have local champions who have identified a need in their communities and together with matching funding from OFA's Revive Fund as well as support from other partners, have taken the lead in bringing these vitally important projects to life.

The Revive Fund was first launched in 2021, and many other local federations have already completed these types of projects (and many others) in previous years — with more than \$1.2 million invested in local community-building projects to date.

To put it simply, farm safety is a big deal. It involves how we deal with equipment, animals, fertilizers and

chemicals and more, and helps us avoid accidents, injuries and death. Key areas include:

Machinery: proper training for operators is important, as is regular maintenance to ensure equipment works the way it should. Pay attention when operating machinery, don't be distracted or cut corners and use gloves and shields when necessary.

Chemicals and fertilizers: read and follow the labels for proper use, handling and storage of fertilizers and farm chemicals. Wear gloves when working around these products and use masks when necessary.

Livestock: know animal behaviour, and adjust how you handle livestock accordingly. Make sure your fences are sturdy so your livestock doesn't get out and cause damage or pose a risk to others.

Kids: keep children away from dangers, assign them age-appropriate tasks and make sure they understand what they need to do to keep safe.

Health: manage fatigue and stress to decrease the risk of errors, especially during particularly busy times like planting or harvest.

Environment: be prepared for extreme weather, monitor fire hazards and make sure you safely dispose chemicals and other farm products.

Emergency preparedness: keep fire extinguishers and a first aid kit in your tractor, combine, pick up truck and buildings. Know your emergency contacts and tell someone if you'll be working in an area with low or no cell service. It was local federations of agriculture who helped lead the Emily project — the installation of 911 numbers on farm fields so first responders can find people in case of emergency.

We all know safety is important and how easy it is to overlook it, but during this busy time of year, let's refocus on it before another accident happens.

More information about the Revive Fund is available at ofa.on.ca/revive-fund.



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WORKING FOR YOU



Appreciating the Oak Ridges Moraine: A natural treasure beneath our feet

By The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust

Have you ever noticed those road signs that say you're entering the Oak Ridges Moraine? While many recognize the name, fewer truly understand the Moraine's incredible history and why it's one of Ontario's most vital landforms.

Stretching 160 kilometres from the Niagara Escarpment to the south shore of Rice Lake, the Oak Ridges Moraine spans a vast 1,900 square kilometres – roughly a third the size of Prince Edward Island. But it's more than just an impressive stretch of land; it's a critical part of our province's natural infrastructure.

The Moraine plays a key role in storing, filtering, and releasing groundwater. Its sandy soils act like a giant sponge, soaking up rain and slowly feeding underground aquifers. These aquifers, in turn, supply water to 64 rivers and streams and provide drinking water directly to over 250,000 people. Groundwater from the Moraine flows south to Lake Ontario and north to Lakes Scugog, Simcoe, and Georgian Bay – ultimately helping to filter and supply clean water to millions across the Greater Toronto Area and beyond.

This vital landscape was shaped over 12,000 years ago by retreating glaciers

at the end of the last ice age. As the ice melted, massive amounts of sediment and rock were pushed together, forming the distinctive ridge we now know as the Oak Ridges Moraine. It's the same set of glacial forces that carved out the Great Lakes.

Back then, the area looked dramatically different – more like a tundra, home to ice age giants like the woolly mammoth. Over time, natural succession and human activity transformed the region into the rich mosaic of forests, wetlands, and kettle lakes we see today.

Speaking of kettle lakes – these unique features were also created by retreating glaciers. As chunks of buried ice melted, they left behind deep depressions that filled with water. Today, these lakes – like Mary Lake in King Township—support a wide range of wildlife and are beloved local landmarks.

Nearly one-third of the Moraine is still forested, and it's recognized as one of six key areas for forest bird diversity in southern Ontario. It's also home to nearly 100 Species at Risk, making it a critical refuge for biodiversity. Despite its importance, over 90% of the Moraine is privately owned, and pressures from development continue to threaten its health. While the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act offers some protection, conservation efforts on the



YRP warn of speed camera ticket scam

York Regional Police is alerting residents about a circulating text message scam involving fake speed camera tickets.

Fraudsters are sending text messages claiming recipients must click on a link to pay outstanding speed camera fines. These messages often appear urgent and may look official, but they are designed to steal personal and financial information.

York Regional Police is reminding the public that all legitimate traffic tickets, speed camera tickets and payment instructions are sent through the mail. York Regional Police or any government agency will never demand payment via text message.

To protect yourself, do not click on links or download attachments from unexpected text messages. Ignore any texts claiming to be ticket payment requests and always wait for official mail notifications regarding traffic violations. If you are unsure about the legitimacy of any communication, office directly using verified contact information.

If you have been a victim of a fraud and have lost money, report the incident promptly to York Regional Police either online at <https://www.yrp.ca/en/online-reporting/Report-a-Crime.asp> or by calling 1-866-876-5423. To report frauds where no money has been lost, contact the Canadian AntiFraud Centre online or by calling 1-888-495-8501.

ground are essential.

That's where organizations like the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust step in. By working with landowners and communities, the Land Trust helps protect environmentally significant lands – ensuring that the Moraine's habitats, wa-

ters, and wildlife are preserved forever. This year the Land Trust is celebrating its 25th anniversary of protecting and conserving land. To learn more about how you can support this vital work or get involved, visit www.oakridgesmoraine.org.

Be on the lookout for oak wilt!

The Region of York is advising residents to watch for oak wilt, an invasive fungus.

On June 2023, the first confirmed detection of oak wilt was found in Canada.

Oak wilt has been found in Niagara Falls, Township of Springwater, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

To help prevent the spread, movement restrictions are in place on affected properties. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is working with other federal, provincial and municipal governments to survey the area and determine next steps.

Residents are asked to report any potentially infected trees to OakWiltReportingOntario-Fletrissement-duchene@inspection.gc.ca.

Oak wilt kills thousands of oak trees each year in urban and natural forests.

Oak wilt is a vascular disease of oak trees, caused by the fungus *Bretziella fagacearum*. The fungus grows on the outer sapwood of oak trees, restricting the flow of water and nutrients through the tree. Some oak species are more vulnerable than others and can die within a year of infection. In some severe cases, red oaks mortality can occur within 2-6 weeks following infection.

Oak wilt has been confirmed in 24 U.S. states, some of which border Ontario. The disease was confirmed in Niagara Falls, Ontario in May 2023, making it the first known case of oak wilt in Canada. The origin of the fungus is unknown, but it is believed to have been present in North America since the early 1900s.


The Invasive Species Centre's Oak Wilt Wire is a bi-annual digital newslet-

ter focused solely on oak wilt news. This newsletter will highlight oak wilt in the news, interesting new research, new developments in prevention and management, community oak wilt champions, and updates from oak wilt experts. Tips and trivia are also included to keep you sharp on oak wilt knowledge! If you consider yourself an oak wilt champion in your community and would like your work to be highlighted, please contact us and share your stories!

Oak wilt was named after the characteristic leaf wilting observed on infected trees. *Bretziella fagacearum* spreads through the vascular system of oaks, restricting the movement of water and nutrients up towards the leaves. The leaves of infected oaks can start to wilt and drop prematurely, eventually resulting in complete defoliation.

The leaves will begin turning brown at the outer edges first and will move in towards the middle margin. Leaf discoloration and wilting typically starts at the top of the canopy and moves down over time.













King

7-Day Weather Outlook

From Thursday, July 17 to Wednesday, July 23

THURS 17TH	FRI 18TH	SAT 19TH	SUN 20TH	MON 21ST	TUES 22ND	WED 23RD
						
Risk of T'Storm High 31C° Low 13C° ~1mm Wind W 27k	Sunny High 24C° Low 13C° - Wind NE 7k	Sun/Clouds High 26C° Low 17C° - Wind SW 6k	A Few Showers High 25C° Low 16C° 2-4mm Wind N 12k	Mainly Sunny High 26C° Low 17C° - Wind SE 6k	Sunny High 28C° Low 20C° - Wind SE 7k	Sun/Clouds High 28C° Low 21C° - Wind SW 14k



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CANADIAN-MADE FOR CANADIAN LIVING

Motion aligns with LSRCA goals to mitigate 'salt pollution'

By Mark Pavilons
 Editor
 Local Journalism
 Initiative Reporter

A motion by King councillor bolsters the work being done by Lake Simcoe Conservation to mitigate salt pollution in the Lake Simcoe watershed.

The motion by Councillor Mary Asselstine, originally presented back in April, urges Queen's Park to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the Province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution.

She's also asking King Township to commit to efficiency and environmen-

tal stewardship in the use of salt as much as possible while maintaining safe roads and sidewalks.

Further, the motion calls on the Province to "work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially-endorsed standard BMPs for snow and ice management."

The bottom when it comes to salt application is more is not better, and the consensus around the council table is to look for better practices and a "lighter touch."

David Lembcke, director of watershed science and monitoring for LSRCA, noted 23 of 26 water quality stations are showing an increasing trend in chloride. Many areas are showing



Crime trends show significant decline

York Regional Police continues to make strides in reducing crime across the region, reinforcing York Region's status as one of the safest communities in Canada. While violent crime remains a concern in many parts of the country, York Region is seeing encouraging declines in several major crime categories in 2025.

As of June 25, 2025, the following year-to-date trends have been observed:

Homicides are down 67 per cent, from nine at this time last year to three in 2025.

Theft of motor vehicles has dropped by 37 per cent, from 1,722 to 1,080 incidents.

Carjackings have decreased by 49 per cent, from 41 to 21 incidents.

Residential and commercial break and enters have declined by 11 per cent, from 1,189 to 1,057 incidents.

The continued decline in auto theft and carjackings is a direct result of York Regional Police's targeted enforcement efforts and regional task force initiatives. These numbers reflect the success of dedicated operations aimed at dismantling organized crime networks and addressing the root causes of vehicle-related crimes.

"We know how important it is for residents to feel safe in their homes, on the roads, and in their communities," said Chief Jim MacSween. "These positive trends are the result of tireless efforts from our officers, strategic partner-

ships with other police services, and support from our community. But we know there is always more work to do."

While overall property crime is trending downward, York Regional Police continues to focus on break and enter investigations, and urges homeowners and business owners to remain vigilant and take preventive measures, including the use of security systems and reporting suspicious activity.

York Regional Police is also reporting an encouraging overall decline in hate crime incidents, with total criminal hate incidents down 25 per cent, from 150 to 112. Notably:

Hate incidents based on race/ethnicity decreased from 72 to 62, a 14 per cent reduction.

Hate incidents targeting religion fell from 58 to 33, a 43 per cent drop.

Hate incidents involving sexual orientation declined from 15 to 6, a 60 per cent reduction.

Hate incidents targeting crimes against property also dropped significantly from 77 to 42 reported incidents, a decrease of 45 per cent.

York Regional Police remains committed to proactive policing, crime prevention, and building strong community relationships. Patrols have been increased across the region, and residents will continue to see officers present and engaged in their neighbourhoods. "Together, we are making York Region safer."

chronic and acute levels.

Lembcke noted there's a myth that more salt makes walkways and streets safer but the reality is that's not the case.

There are better winter maintenance practices, but barriers such as liability, cost and public expectations hinder the best results.

A comparison test study was done on two identical parking lots, one with typical treatment, another will less. The less treated lot saw roughly \$40,000 in savings and both were claim free.

He stressed it's possible to reduce application rates while maintaining safety, with a significant cost savings for the municipalities.

The key is obtaining current information, training contractors and give the tools to property managers to make good decisions.

There's broad support in Ontario, he said, among members of commercial properties, the maintenance industry and water quality groups.

Municipalities can help by passing resolutions (similar to King's) that support limited liability, the hiring of certified contractors, and sharing weather data more efficiently.

The King motion will be sent to various ministers and MPPs, along with AMO and LSRCA and TRCA.

The motion noted that road salt is a

known toxic substance designated under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act because of tangible threats of serious or irreversible environmental and health damage.

Salt levels in Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes have increasingly worsened since the 1970s, threatening municipal drinking water sources and aquatic life.

Over the last 25 years actions taken by the Ontario and Canadian governments have not stopped the increase of salt entering Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers and lakes. Roughly 66% of King Township is located within the Oak Ridges Moraine, which is the source of surface and ground water for the Humber and Holland River watersheds draining into Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe respectively.

King did initiate a new salt management plan in 2024 to reduce the use of road salt. In her motion, Asselstine noted the risk of insurance claims against the municipality for slips and falls have led to an overuse of salt, "beyond levels considered best practices."

The motion also pointed out minimum maintenance standards for municipal highways do not include specific criteria for salt usage that promote both efficient and responsible application.

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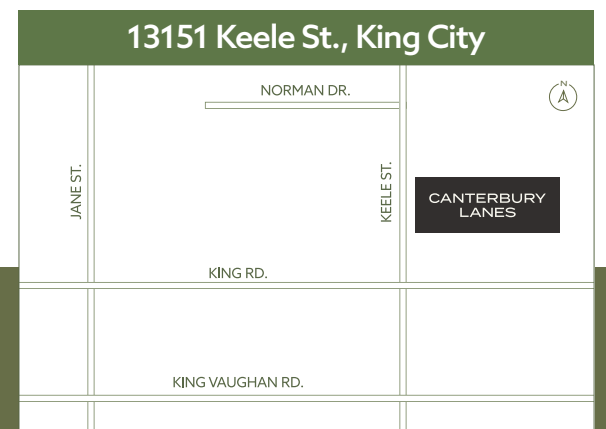


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King's revamped asset management plan will impact budget, taxes

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

Maintaining municipal infrastructure isn't cheap.

King Township's Comprehensive Asset Management Plan – as mandated by the Province – will carry a price tag, and some may not find it palatable.

Staff noted maintaining all hard assets – building, operating, maintaining, renewing, replacing and disposing – will require a 2% increase in the tax burden.

The Township's AMP is an ongoing strategy that is meant to be flexible and adaptable and will be regularly updated and refined to meet the changing needs of the Township. The AMP will undergo continuous evaluation and adjustments as we update asset condition assessments, acquire new assets and dispose of existing assets to ensure alignment with the Township's priorities. The Province requires updates to the AMP to be conducted at minimum every five-years and annual updates on the performance of the LOS through a new asset management progress report.

While staff recommended a tax increase of 2.33% over 10 years, Councillor David Boyd suggested it be lowered to 1.99% over 15 years, to stretch out impact. Councillors voted to accept this level.

"It will impact everyone's pocket," Boyd said, noting the 2.33% mark was just too high to accept.

Councillors all opposed any tax hike, but admitted King, like all municipalities, has to be responsible for its own assets.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini noted the Township has been putting money aside every year for this.

This 2%, he stressed, will be every year, for the next 15 years, putting a strain on the annual budget.

"It will be a difficult year," he said.

While councillors voted to accept Boyd's suggestion, Councillor Jordan Cescolini was the only hold-out, voting against the move in a recorded vote.

The Township's infrastructure systems are essential for providing various municipal services that allow residents, businesses, and visitors to live, work, and play within the Township. As these assets age, it is necessary to invest in their maintenance and eventual replacement to ensure services remain safe, reliable, and efficient, especially as the Township grows.

Provincial mandate directs every municipality in Ontario to prepare an asset management policy, a plan to maintain municipal infrastructure, define current and proposed levels of service, life cycle strategies, a long-term financial strategy, and a publicly accessible asset management plan.

The primary goal of asset management is to maximize the value of the Township's assets, balancing risk, performance, and cost. Staff conduct various activities that guide the process of making the best possible decisions regarding the building, operating, maintaining, renewing, replacing, and disposing of infrastructure assets. One of those activities is the development of this AMP.

The main objectives of the 2025 fully funded Asset Management Plan are to bring the Township into compliance with the next phase of regulations; develop a long-term plan; create a sustainable level of annual capital investment for assets by examining their life cycle needs.

Council approved the corporate management plan in June of 2019 and it was updated in 2024.

The regulation requires the policy be reviewed and if necessary, updated at least every five years.

The 2024 Non-Core AMP (sidewalks, regulatory and warning signs, fleet and equipment, facilities, and parks and forestry).

The Township retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. to build on Phase 1 and 2 to include the proposed LOS, life cycle management, and finan-

cial strategy.

LOS for the Township's assets and included two potential options to fund the AMP.

The LOS targets included proposed improvements to roads and facilities including a road pavement condition index (PCI) value of 80, remaining gravel roads to be converted to a paved surface and an increase to the gross floor area (sq. ft.) of public works facilities to accommodate a joint operations centre.

The first option (10-year phase-in with gravel road conversions) proposed a 3.18% increase to the capital portion of the tax levy and an alternate option was 2025 Comprehensive Asset Management Plan provided with the same LOS but no gravel road conversions which proposed a 2.93% increase to the capital portion of the tax levy.

The total current replacement cost for the Township's infrastructure assets is estimated to be \$1.36 billion. Tax-funded facilities represent the largest share of replacement cost at \$458 million (33.64%), followed by transportation assets at \$380.7 million (27.97%), stormwater management system assets at \$161.6 million (11.87%), water distribution system assets at \$160.9 million (11.82%), wastewater collection system assets at \$131.7 million (9.68%), tax-funded fleet and equipment at \$34.9 million (2.56%), and lastly, parks and forestry assets at \$33.5 million (2.46%).

The overall average useful service life consumed (ULC%) for all water system assets is 30.4%, indicating that the water system is in a 'Very Good' condition state. Also, the overall average ULC% for wastewater assets is 13.1%, indicating that these assets are in a 'Very Good' condition state. The Township's stormwater mains have an average ULC% of 29.3%, indicating that they are currently in a 'Very Good' condition state.

The 10-year cumulative facility condition index (FCI%) for all Township's tax-funded facilities is 4.33%, indicating that facilities are in an overall 'Good' condition state.

The overall average ULC% for all fleet and equipment assets is 86%, indicating that while most assets have expended at least 50% of their estimated useful lives, they are expected to be in a 'Good' condition state and continue functioning as originally intended.

The overall average ULC% for all parks and forestry assets is 35%, indicating that they are expected to be in a 'Very Good' condition state.

A fully developed LOS framework allows the Township to communicate its objectives to stakeholders; inform stakeholders of any planned changes; track performance against objectives to identify trends, and make budget decisions that are linked to LOS outcomes.

Capital expenditures over the 10-year forecast horizon, including inflationary adjustments, total \$192.5 million or an average of \$19.3 million annually.

The financial strategy that supports the Asset Management Plan (AMP) will

fund the current shortfalls in long-term infrastructure funding and will inform future capital planning for asset infrastructure replacement going forward.

The Township allocated approximately \$13.2 million in its 2025 Council approved budget towards capital-related needs for its tax-funded infrastructure assets.

The annual life cycle funding target for the Township's tax-funded assets is \$17.3 million, which leaves an annual infrastructure gap of approximately \$4.1 million.

To address the gap in funding within a 10-year period, the financial strategy is to increase the base funding by 2.33% (or \$896,000) on the capital portion of the tax levy which is required in 2026 (based on a 1% tax level increase of \$385,173). The increase represents approximately \$83.07 on a property assessment at \$1,000,000 based on the 2025 tax levy.

To manage the overall increase the following recommendations were taken to reduce the impact:

Removal of funding requirements for leased or closed buildings including the Nobleton Community Hall, King City Lions Arena and the King City Senior Centre.

Parks Depot and Works Yard long-term asset needs and disposition of these facilities will be reviewed after a new Joint Operation Centre is built.

Maintaining King's strategy to continue the conversion of gravel roads until all roads within the Township are paved.

Reducing the service level of roads to a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 75%.

The tax levy increase amount will be re-evaluated and adjusted each year based on assessment growth to gradually eliminate this funding gap. This allocation would need to increase from approximately \$13.2 million in 2025 to approximately \$24.2 million by 2035.

Staff said if the Township chooses to eliminate the annual infrastructure funding gap over a 15-year timeframe (by 2040), the capital portion of the general tax levy would need to increase by approximately \$767,000, or 1.99% in 2026. The impact of this increase to the capital portion of the property tax bill of a residential property assessed at \$1 million is \$71.04 (6.84%).

Water and Wastewater assets are fully funded. As part of the 2026 Budget this will be reviewed to ensure that inflation is adjusted to the rate if needed each year to ensure the funding remains adequate to meet the financial strategy.

The Township's AMP is an ongoing strategy that is meant to be flexible and adaptable and will be regularly updated and refined to meet the changing needs of the Township. The AMP will undergo continuous evaluation and adjustments as we update asset condition assessments, acquire new assets and dispose of existing assets to ensure alignment with the Township's priorities.

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This summer, the King Township Public Library opens the door to discovery

This summer, King Township Public Library (KTPL) is turning the page on what a library can be. Sure, it has books — but it also has adventure, discovery and a whole lot of fun in store when you step through the doors of one of its four branches or visit online.

First up, the TD Summer Reading Club is designed to keep kids reading and learning all summer long and helps prevent the dreaded “summer slide” — that learning loss that can sneak in during the break. The club is Canada’s biggest, bilingual summer reading program for kids of all ages, interests and abilities.

This free program is co-created and delivered by more than 2,000 public libraries across Canada. It celebrates Canadian authors, illustrators and stories and is designed to inspire kids to explore the fun of reading their way—the key to building a life-long love of reading.

The club runs through Thursday, Aug.

14, featuring bi-weekly prize draws and a grand prize at the end. Open to youth up to the age of 18, participants can register in person at any KTPL branch to receive their reading booklet. For every book read and logged, kids earn ballots toward exciting prize draws throughout the summer. For more information, visit kinglibrary.ca/SRC.

But wait — the KTPL library card also unlocks real-world experiences! Explore local culture, nature and recreation for free with KTPL’s Experience Passes! Use your library card to borrow one of three passes: an Ontario Parks day-use vehicle permit; admission for up to four people to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM); or a RecPass for drop-in programs at Trisan and Zancor Centres.

Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis at all branches—no holds or renewals. Visit your nearest branch with an adult library card to borrow a pass and enjoy a seven-day

loan for Ontario Parks and ROM or 10 days for the RecPass. Learn more at kinglibrary.ca/experience-passes.

There are many other programs running this summer, including:

Parachute Club: Parachute Club is a free outdoor program for children up to age five, running rain or shine. Registration is required and sessions take place from 11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. at King City (Tuesdays until July 29), Schomberg (Wednesdays until July 23) and Nobleton (Thursdays until July 24).

Make-It Lab: Drop-in to the King City branch Make-It Lab and try your hand at something new! Services available may vary, but include 3D printing, Critic Maker, robotics and more. No registration is required, drop-in only. The lab is open on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and on the following Saturdays: July 12, 19, 26 and August 9, 16, and 23. Saturday hours are 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Babysitter Course: Come to the Nobleton branch on Thursday, Aug. 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. and let the Canadian Red Cross prepare you for your first babysitting job. Learn important childcare skills and what to do in case of an emergency. Please pre-register by calling or visiting your local branch. The course costs \$60 and is open to youths ages 11-15.

Movies at the Library: Join other movie lovers this summer to watch a film on the big screen. This all ages,

free program takes place Saturdays at the King City, Nobleton and Schomberg branches until August 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. Bring your favourite stuffies and allergy-safe snacks!

KTPL is a vibrant, multi-branch system committed to providing universal access to information, learning and programming that spans early literacy, teen engagement and adult learning. With branches in King City, Nobleton and Schomberg, KTPL offers a wide range of traditional and innovative services for residents of all ages. Each branch provides access to books, digital resources, public computers, Wi-Fi, mobile and 3D printing, study spaces and meeting rooms. Library cardholders can also access tablets, personal device support and a variety of in-person and online programs.

The Ansnorveldt branch offers 24/7 self-service hold pickups and returns, accessible with a registered security fob. While there is no on-site collection, public Wi-Fi is available to all visitors within close proximity to the branch. Residents interested in using the service can contact info@kinglibrary.ca.

Free KTPL library cards are available for anyone who lives, owns property, works or attends school in the Township of King. Photo identification with your current address is required for registration.

For more information, including branch locations and hours of operation, visit kinglibrary.ca.



Library art installation

Community members gathered June 19 at the King Township Public Library to celebrate the unveiling of Celebrate King, a unique art installation designed to reflect the heart and identity of King Township. The Sentinel mistakenly identified Danielle Donadio as King’s Library CEO. Shown here (correctly) launching the installation were Adele Reid, CEO of King Township Public Library; Patti Skrypek, KTPL, ASK; Rose Grimaldi, KTPL, and Danielle Donadio, Library Board member.



From the Archives



Armstrong’s Hotel (now Hogan’s Inn), King City, circa 1910

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Arts & Entertainment

Church concert showcases Renaissance convent music

By Mark Pavilons
Editor
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

A unique church concert is sure to produce some miraculous melodic contours.

Christ Church Kettleby will host Kettleby native Eliza-Jane Callander and, together with other professional singers, she will present an evening of music written for and by nuns: "Songs for Mary: Music for Women's Voices, 1140-1640."

The concert will be held July 26 at 6 p.m. and tickets are \$25 regular, \$20 senior or students, available online at facebook.com/subrosaensemble or cash at the door.

Guests will be treated to a truly one-of-a-kind performance that reflects the beauty of female acappella voices. It's a spiritual history lesson of sorts, that's sure to touch some hearts.

Callander said music has always been integral to monastic worship, and European nuns have composed since at least the 1100s, however, convent music began to flourish in the 1500s in Italy. At that time about 75% of Italian noblewomen were nuns, largely due to marriage dowry inflation. Convent dowries were somewhat cheaper and, with or without a true vocation, women had far greater freedom for intellectual and artistic pursuits as nuns. Public performance, especially singing, was risqué, but devoting her voice to Christ allowed a woman to (mostly) avoid this stereotype.

Convents thus became wealthy centres of both virtuosity and controversy. Nuns sang on a balcony, hidden behind a grate, for modesty. Their music increased church attendance, but authorities worried the nuns attracted too much attention to themselves; at times, convent music was illegal. Nuns often sang anyway, though, or resisted enforcement, even chasing the police away by throwing projectiles over the convent wall (yes, really)."

Most modern choral music, she says, is written for soprano, alto, tenor, and bass - two women's and two men's parts. However, men and women didn't usually sing together in this period. Boys sometimes sang the higher parts, and many churches didn't allow women to sing until the 1800s. Nevertheless, singing nuns were very popular. Anybody could attend convent services, and patrons often thought the "invisible" nuns surpassed the best male musicians.

Why then don't we hear more about

these women?

"Not once in my entire music history education were they mentioned, just as women's contributions have been downplayed in so many fields. Nuns composed over several centuries, ranging from unison chant to sixteen-part choral harmony with orchestra. Much has been lost, but hundreds of pieces survive."

Callander grew up in Kettleby in a musical household, but she didn't know much about classical music until she took voice lessons as a teenager. She studied Music History and Religion at McGill, then took a second undergrad in classical voice at U of T. She loved studying singing but, in her view, Canadian universities focus too heavily on opera.

"Besides, I always had too many questions: Who first sang this music? Where did they perform it? Who taught them to sing? My teachers didn't really have those answers, and kept saying, 'Why don't you become a musicologist?' A musicologist studies music's history, methods, and relationship to society."

It was only after her performance degree that she discovered "early music," which is pre-classical: from about 1450 to 1700.

"I loved to sing sacred music from this era, but felt like my voice was an anachronism, until studying musicology made me realize that women did sing in church - a lot - as nuns!"

"I wondered why I never heard convent music at the university or in local concerts, so I got some friends together and put on the first Sub Rosa concert in 2017. I completed my MA in Musicology at U of T and my PhD at the University of Huddersfield in the UK. My thesis was about the music of the Conventite, reformed prostitutes who became nuns."

The hour-long concert, with intermission, will consist of mostly sacred music for four unaccompanied women's voices.

"We sing up to four-part harmony across three octaves. The music is mostly from the 1500s and 1600s, along with some medieval music. We are classically trained, so we sing without amplification, but in a softer, more streamlined way than the full-throttle 'opera sound.' We listen closely to each other to ensure harmonic precision and a unified sound."

Callander said the texts relate mostly to the Virgin Mary, the most common subject in convent music, as well as to the many beautiful things associated with her: flowers, nature, fertility, even



Eliza-Jane Callander and an ensemble of singers will present a concert at Christ Church, Kettleby, showcasing Renaissance convent music.

jewels. She will also tell stories about the music and the composers. Songs are in Latin and Italian, with translations provided.

"I hope people who are new to early music might join us, as we aim to make the experience approachable and entertaining."

Although this music is rare, it has great social significance, Callander notes. It shows that women's voices were taken seriously in their lifetime, not just in retrospect by modern society. Even for most classical musicians, this music is unfamiliar. It's risky to branch out from "big name" composers because you can't be sure if audiences will like it.

"I'm not sure why early music in general isn't more popular, though. It's more approachable than a lot of classical music: it's clearer, more nuanced, and is the foundation of modern styles such as folk."

The pioneering ensembles Musica Secreta and Cappella Artemisia introduced convent music to the UK in the 90s. They encountered a lot of resistance.

"Some people still don't like the idea that we should hear more from marginalized composers (such as women or people of colour) just because they were marginalized. I say, why not give these composers a try, and then decide if they're any good? Convent music has become more popular recently. Things are changing slowly, both in scholarship and in performance. Toronto has lots of great music already, so I wish to bring this music to rural areas, and to share it with my neighbours."

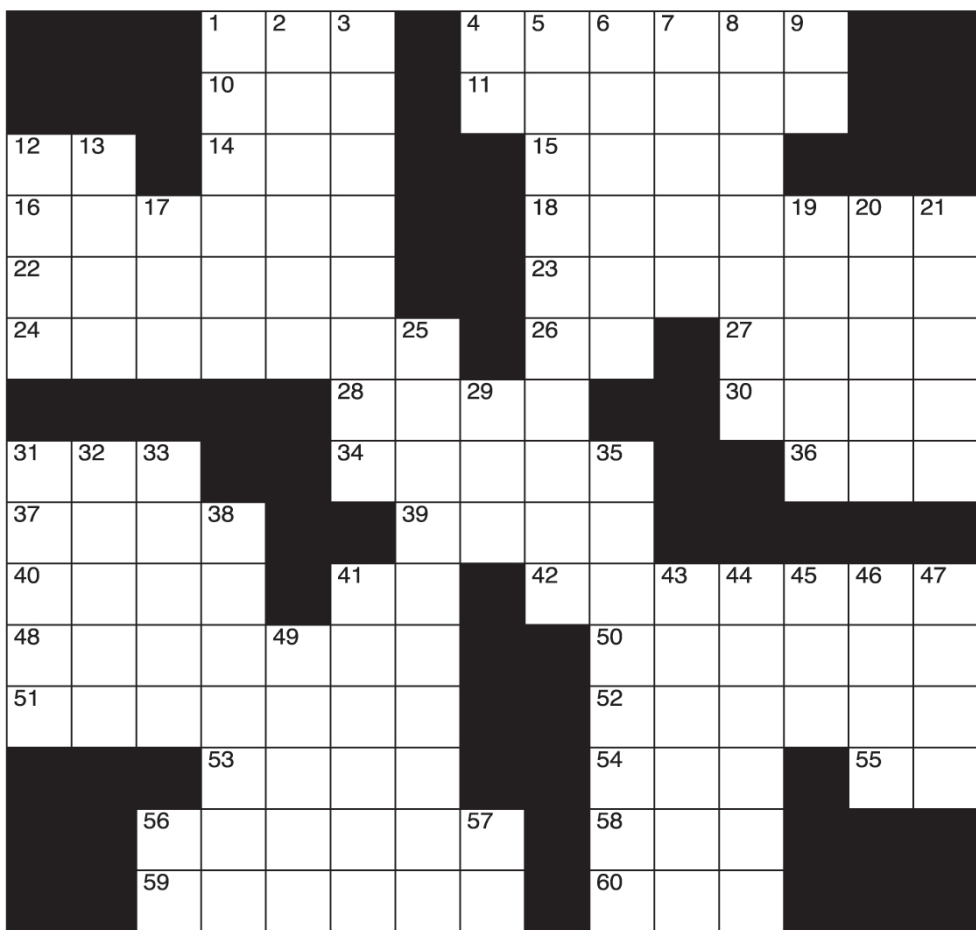
The group's next project will be a Christmas concert and they're aiming for a few concerts a year. Easter and Christmas have the most repertoire, but Callander also loves summertime concerts, when the professional season is paused and we have more time for passion projects.

"We would definitely like to record in the future."

More information about the upcoming concert and past projects can be found on their Facebook page, Sub Rosa. You can also reach her at eliza-janecallander@gmail.com for further enquiries.

CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 257410 • Solution in Classifieds



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Pacific Standard Time
- 4. Extracts through heating and melting
- 10. Express delight
- 11. More curvy
- 12. Expression of uncertainty
- 14. Indicates before
- 15. Daughter of Hera and Zeus
- 16. Southwestern CA city
- 18. Unified
- 22. Less attractive
- 23. Base of jellies
- 24. A large and noisy party
- 26. He was traded for Luka
- 27. Wolverine genus
- 28. "Happy Days" actress Moran

- 30. Root of taro plant
- 31. Student environmental group (abbr.)
- 34. Silk garments
- 36. Unique power
- 37. Ray Liotta cop film
- 39. Leak slowly through
- 40. Notion
- 41. Atomic #55
- 42. Fixed in one place
- 48. About heat
- 50. Type of baseball pitch
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. Large wading birds
- 53. Similar
- 54. Time zone
- 55. Atomic #34
- 56. Program
- 58. Old world, new
- 59. Contrary belief

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Plain-woven fabric
- 2. Classed
- 3. Suppositions for fish
- 4. Midway between south and west
- 5. Tropical American trees
- 6. Leveled
- 7. Published false statement
- 8. Adolescent
- 9. Junior's father
- 12. Aurochs
- 13. Not low
- 17. Boxing's GOAT
- 19. Short musical composition
- 20. Small immature herrings
- 21. Eavesdropper
- 25. Parcels of land
- 29. Anger
- 31. Irritations
- 32. Hindu holy man
- 33. Wicker basket
- 35. Natural object
- 38. Transporting in a vehicle
- 41. A dog is one
- 43. Smaller portion
- 44. Sew
- 45. Belonging to a thing
- 46. Horsley and Greenwood are two
- 47. Scottish language
- 49. Producer
- 56. Exclamation of surprise
- 57. Russian river

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

Heritage award shines spotlight on historic buildings

Nominations opened July 7 for King Township's 2025 Heritage Award.

Heritage grounds people to places and things. Its an ever-evolving foundation to our past that helps us live and grow as people and society. We are surrounded by heritage in King Township.

"We are dotted with towns and hamlets, from Schomberg to Nobleton, to Laskay, to King City and Kettleby. Each of these places has its own special story and their buildings live on to give us the narrative. They are treasures to be cherished for our future as a remembrance and look at the past," said Augusto R. Nalli, Chair, King Township Heritage Advisory Committee.

The King Township Heritage Advisory Committee will be accepting public nominations of heritage properties, that they feel are worthy of recognition. The owner of the winning property will be awarded a framed original illustration of their building created by a local artist. Award of the framed drawing and announcement of the selected property will be made by Mayor Pellegrini and Council at the December 2025 Council meeting.

In 2024 the King Heritage Award was presented to the owner of 2145 King Road. The beautiful red bricked home with dark soffits and copper features adorns the corner of Patton Street and King Road in King City. It is a unique heritage home constructed circa 1891 – it features segmented arches over its windows and entrances, a fan-light over a large window on the main façade, and an eye-catching "L'oeil de Boeuf"—or bull's eye – window in the front gable.

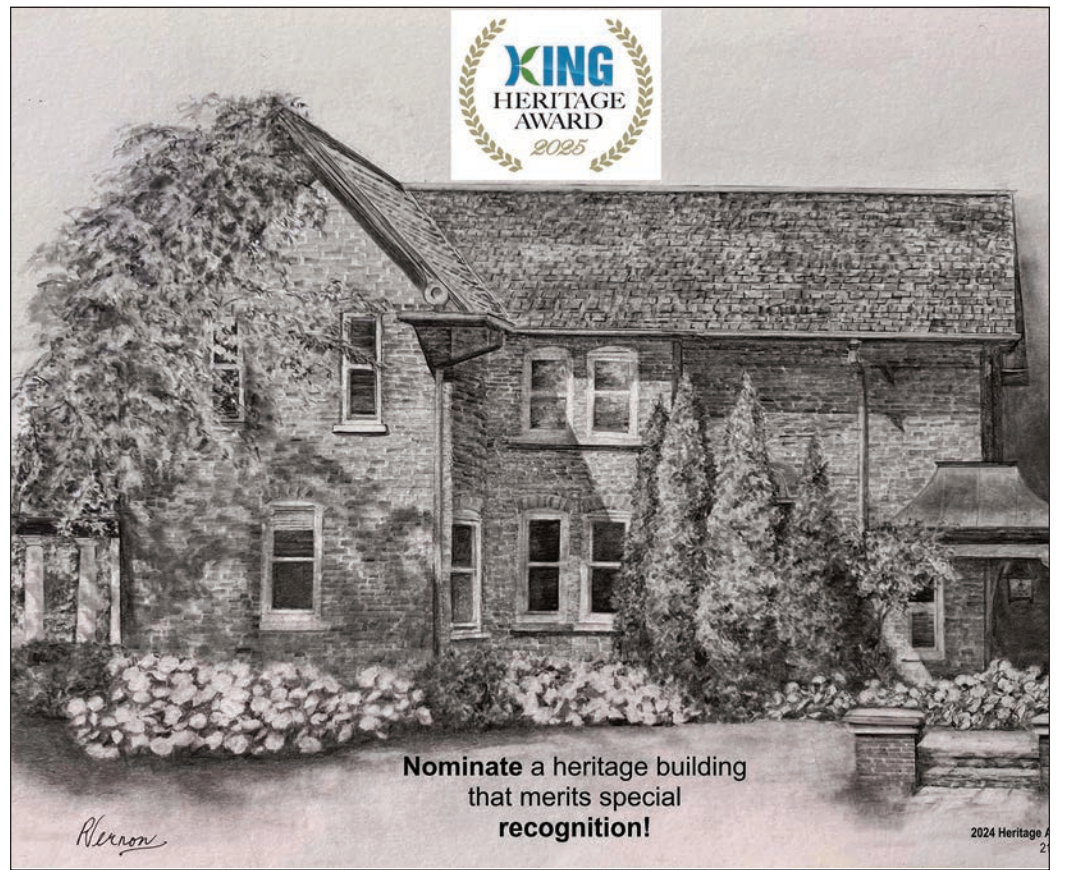
The property was originally owned by blacksmith Henry Kitchen, a descendant of the prominent Kitchen family and is therefore tied to local blacksmithing and business heritage. The property was later owned by the Patton family, who's name now adorns the street along the east side of the property, Patton Street.

You may submit your nomination(s) through to August 18 (ideally, with a photo), to the King Township Municipal Centre online at king.ca/heritage, by email to heritage@king.ca or mail it to Heritage Planning, King Township, 2075 King Road, King City L7B 1A1. The

nomination must be a King Township property. Use the QR code to direct you to the nomination page.

The Heritage Advisory Committee will select the winner using their pre-determined criteria.

"The King Heritage Award is meant to put a spotlight on historic properties that contribute to our unique culture and heritage. This award recognizes excellence in preserving, maintaining, restoring, or enhancing cultural heritage in King Township," Nalli said.



The 2024 Heritage Award winner was 4120 15th Sideroad, Presented to Susan McNerney and Jim Allen.

Schomberg Agricultural Fair, results of Homecraft Division

The Schomberg Fair this year was their 175th.

This historic event was celebrated with many special classes, events, and displays. Organizers thank everyone who contributed to the success of the Fair including all the exhibitors, sponsors and spectators who attended over the Fair weekend. It takes a great deal of effort to organize such an event, and it would never happen without the many volunteers who dedicate a great deal of their time, effort, and talent throughout the year to ensure the Fair is enjoyed by everyone.

The Homecraft Committee extends its appreciation to all participants in the 2025 Homecraft Competitions. They had a great show this year and the entries were outstanding. Here is the list of the Homecraft and Junior Champions for 2025:

Homecraft Champion: Rick Westgarth, Guelph. Runner-up: Myrna Morehouse, Schomberg.

Homecraft New Exhibitor/High Points: Jessica Wright, Stouffville.

Champion Cook: Rick Westgarth,

Guelph. Runner-up: Sheila Lewis, Caledon.

Grand Champion Hand Quilt & Grand Champion Machine Quilt: Gail Farrell, Scarborough.

Amateur Art Hi Points: Rick Westgarth, Guelph.

Antiques Best of Show: Doris McCullough, Schomberg.

Antiques Hi Points: Judy Brown, Schomberg.

Crafts & Hobbies Hi Points: Jan Pinkerton, Schomberg.

Crafts & Hobbies Best in Show: Bob Hitchman, Bracebridge.

Horticulture Hi Points: Rick Westgarth, Guelph.

Doris Hughes Memorial Plaque: Jessica Davies, Alliston.

Horticulture "Specimens" Best of Show: Karen Letwinka, Schomberg.

Horticulture "Best Arrangement": Jessica Davies, Alliston.

Needlework Best in Show: Gail Farrell, Scarborough.

Photography Hi Points: Bev Donaldson, Collingwood.

Photography New Exhibitor Hi Points: A Tie: Jessica Wright & Evelyn

Wright, Stouffville.

Junior Homecraft Champions

Jr. Champ, Age 3 & under: Malakai Sauv  Schomberg.

Jr. Champ: Ages 4 - 5: Josiah Sauv , Schomberg.

Jr. Champ, Ages 6 - 8: Gabrielle Tasse, Schomberg.

Jr. Champ: Ages 9 -11: Isabelle Guzzo, Schomberg.

Jr. Champ: Ages 14 -17: Jessica Wright, Stouffville.

Prizes for Junior Homecraft Champions & Runners-up were provided by the York Region Milk Board, Jack Orr, and the Mike O'Hara family.

Thank you to the various businesses and private citizens who donate "Special" prizes to our Homecraft exhibitors. Your contributions enhance our competition and encourage exhibitors to try new and different classes every year.

Many thanks to all who entered, and congratulations to those who won top prizes. Much time, effort and skill go into preparing for and entering the Fair competitions.

Share moments, not measles.

Measles is a contagious virus and it's spreading.

But there's good news, the measles vaccine is safe, highly effective and can provide life-long protection from measles.

Vaccination doesn't just protect you, it also protects your family and your community, especially at-risk groups like babies or people with weakened immune systems.

Contact your local public health unit to check your vaccination status or book a vaccine appointment today.

ontario.ca/measles

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Evergreen Hospice holds walk in memory loved ones

The Evergreen Hospice held its annual community "Pass the Care Forward Walk and Butterfly Release" in memory of loved ones who have passed.

"Evergreen provides community based supportive programs to individuals and their families in Markham, Stouffville, and Thornhill who are living with life-threatening illness or coping with the death of a loved one."

The Hospice specifically designs these services to meet the needs of all age groups and provides them free of charge.

This year, CEO Laura Lavallee gave heartfelt opening remarks to the over 100 walkers who came together to remember their loved ones and support Evergreen Hospice. For those of us who have lost a loved one, we understand all too well the emotional bond that binds us. The connection between grief for our loss and gratitude for the caregivers that assisted us is unbreakable. That strength could be felt every step of the way.

At the end of the journey, Tricia Stanton, Evergreen's Volunteer Coordinator, shared her very moving story from being an Evergreen client to becoming an integral part of their community. Board member Chris Collucci then released the butterflies in a beautiful ceremony from the Amica Unionville balcony. Amica Unionville hosted

the event, and Beechwood Cemetery was a presenting sponsor. Raffle prize giveaways and a warm lunch concluded the day, as participants shared their emotional goodbyes.

Zalak Padhiyar, Evergreen's Development and Donor Relations Lead also reminded us of the next upcoming event. "Our next big step is launching the capital campaign for The Evergreen Hospice Residence, a dedicated 24/7 facility to serve individuals and families with compassionate end-of-life care."

The bell tolls for all of us. We move from caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly and flutter away. Congratulations to Evergreen for sharing that journey with care and compassion.

If you are interested in learning more about Evergreen Hospice and supporting their work you can contact Zalak Padhiyar at zpadhiyar@evgcares.org or visit www.evgcares.org



York Region cuts emissions and diesel use with electric fleet

York Regional Council received an update on The Regional Municipality of York's 2024 corporate greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs.

"As our communities grow and the demand for Regional programs and services increase annually, our commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 becomes increasingly vital," said Eric Jolliffe, York Region Chairman and CEO. "By continuously implementing electrification and energy-saving initiatives, we are making steadfast progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions."

Highlights of the York Region's 2024 Corporate Energy Update include:

Continuing to trend below pre-pandemic corporate emissions targets set by the Region.

Implementing the Corporate Fleet Electrification Plan, saving 115,000 litres of gasoline and lowering net emissions by 229 tonnes.

Reporting record high York Region Transit ridership, up by 12% to 23.7 million riders, offsetting single vehicle use and reducing traffic congestion; while this led to a 3% increase in transit bus emissions, overall environmental impacts from increased ridership are more sustainable.

Electrifying 14 transit buses and conserving 53,600 litres of diesel fuel in 2024; adding another 50 electric buses in 2025 and another 50 in 2026 to further reduce diesel fuel consumption.

"By prioritizing a 'conservation first' approach, York Region is seeing measurable emission reductions in fleet vehicles and buildings, demonstrating success of current efforts and prudent use of investment in a more sustainable future," said Richmond Hill Mayor, David West, Chair of Public Works - Environmental Services. "Amid growing pressures of climate change, York Region is demonstrating strong cost-effective initiatives towards mitigation and adaptation."

Most corporate emissions are from fossil fuel consumption, including gasoline, diesel fuel and natural gas. Innovations to electrify vehicles and buildings are one of the fastest growing areas of climate mitigation technology and proving to be a dominant path toward York Region's net-zero emissions commitment.

Looking ahead, Canada's Carbon Price legislation repeal is expected to reduce fossil fuel costs in 2025. Recent sustainability initiatives continue to deliver steady and consistent annual corporate greenhouse gas emissions reductions. However, challenges with supply chain delays and tariff impacts, limited heavy vehicle electrification technology and replacing assets too early all need to be managed to continue reducing emissions.

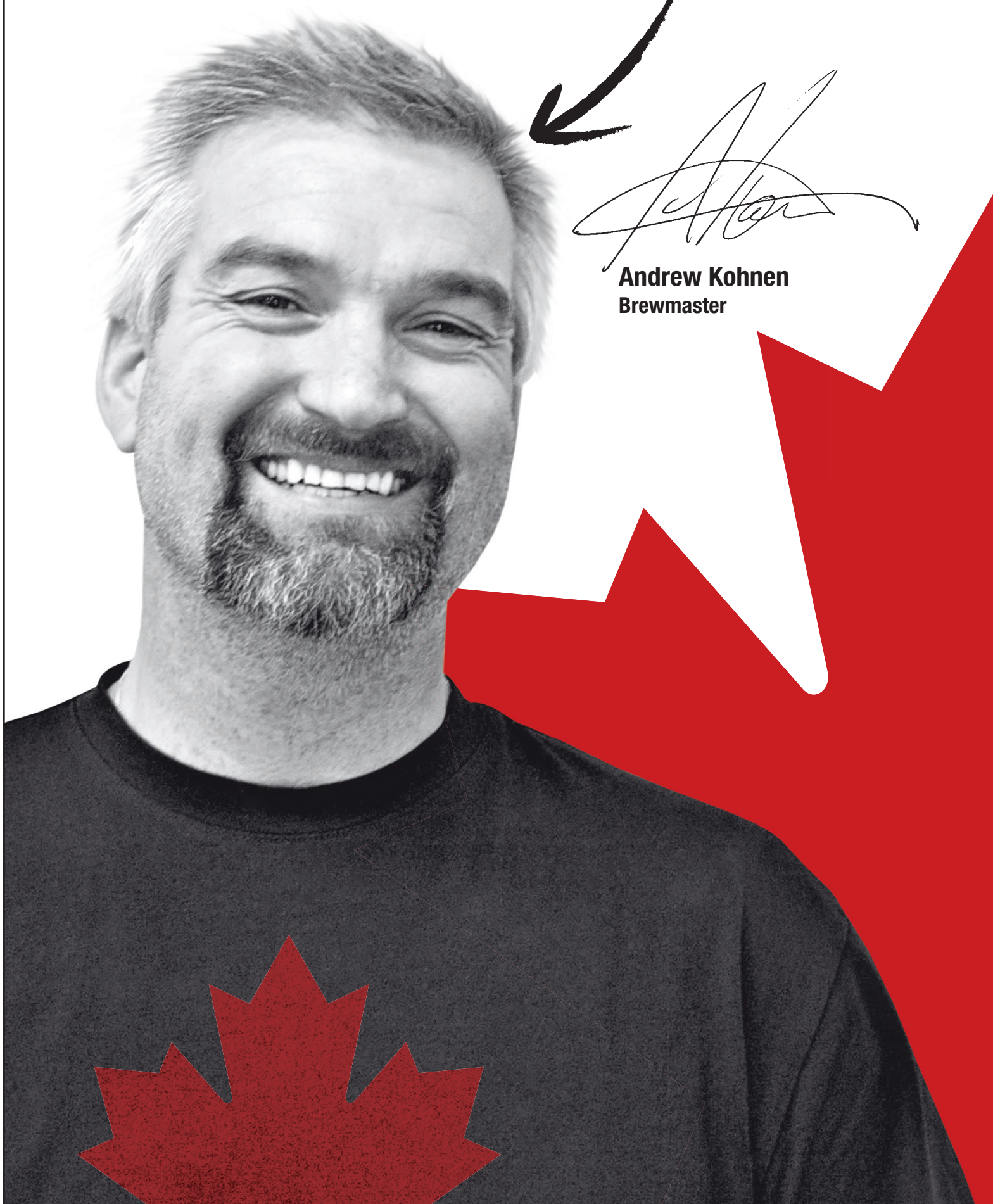
Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan initiatives deliver annual decreases in corporate greenhouse gas emissions toward an 81% reduction by 2050 and support climate change mitigation in the 2022 Climate Change Action Plan. Learn more at york.ca/Energy

Hockley

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Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

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The 2nd annual EmpowerHER Retreat was a huge success! It was a sacred soul nourishing The day began with MP Anna Roberts sharing her journey and inspiring the women.

Annual EmpowerHER Retreat a resounding success at Sherwood Farm

The second annual EmpowerHER Retreat, held at the picturesque Sherwood Farm Retreat Centre June 7, proved to be a transformative day for all the women in attendance.

The retreat, aimed at inspiring, uplifting, and empowering women, kicked off with an inspiring address from MP Anna Roberts, a staunch advocate for women's rights. Sharing a personal story of resilience and determination, Roberts reminded attendees of the importance of community, self-empowerment, and advocating for gender equality.

"The road to success is often paved with obstacles, but it's how we rise that truly defines us," Roberts told the crowd, setting the tone for the day ahead. Her words resonated deeply with the diverse group of participants, many of whom have faced their own challenges.

The day continued with an empowering Release and Renewal Activity led by Coach Natalie, a Nobleton native, where attendees were guided through exercises designed to release emotional baggage and embrace a renewed sense of self.

Later in the day, the group embarked

on a serene Forest Walk, followed by a calming Meditation Circle, which allowed participants to connect with nature and cultivate mindfulness.

This day of empowerment featured an equine therapy workshop which included interactions with horses in the barn. Horses are excellent teachers of boundaries, presence, and emotional regulation.

To wrap up the retreat, a powerful Gratitude Session was held, where women shared their golden nuggets on the day, offering one another encouragement, and heartfelt appreciation.

The EmpowerHER Retreat continues to grow as a vital space for women to bond, heal, and gain the tools needed to move forward with confidence in both their personal and professional lives. Plans for next year's retreat are already in the works, with organizers promising an even more impactful experience.

A tentative second date of Saturday, Sept. 13 has been scheduled. To register or find more information on the EmpowerHER movement and upcoming events, visit www.empoweredlcf.ca or email empoweredlifecoaching25@gmail.com

New state-of-the-art facility will feature the largest teaching hospital in Canada

The Ontario government is marking the groundbreaking of Trillium Health Partners' new Peter Gilgan Mississauga Hospital.

Ontario is investing more than \$14 billion to build the new 2.8-million-square-foot Peter Gilgan Mississauga Hospital, tripling the size of the existing Mississauga Hospital to help provide health care to an estimated 2.2 million people. The new hospital will become the largest teaching hospital in Canada, will create one of the biggest emergency departments in the province and will include the Shah Family Hospital for Women and Children.

"Our government's investment in the Peter Gilgan Mississauga Hospital is an important part of our more than \$200 billion plan to build and protect Ontario," said Premier Doug Ford. "Today's groundbreaking means more beds, more doctors and more nurses right here in Mississauga. It also means good-paying jobs today and a stronger health-care system for decades to come."

Once open, the state-of-the-art hospital will bring 2,400 more health-care workers and approximately 400 additional doctors to the community, significantly increasing Trillium Health Partners' ability to provide more patients and families with timely, high-quality services including cancer care, cardiac surgeries and geriatric mental health resources.

"With this groundbreaking, our government is protecting Ontario's health-care system and ensuring that more people in Mississauga and across Peel Region can connect to convenient care, where and when they need it," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "This historic investment is another example of how we are investing in the health-care needs of growing communities, to deliver the highest standard of care for generations to come."

Once completed, the new hospital will include:

A new 22-storey patient care tower with over 350 new fully private beds, bringing the total number of beds to over 950.

Nine new and 14 enhanced state-of-the-art operating rooms, increasing surgical capacity and reducing wait

times across the region.

A brand-new, 24-7 emergency department that will become one of the largest in the province to connect more people to a wide range of emergency and urgent medical care.

The Shah Family Hospital for Women and Children, which will span over 200,000 square feet and include one of the largest Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU) in the province, designed to deliver specialized, high-acuity care for newborns and their families.

Advanced diagnostic imaging facilities.

A new pharmacy, clinical laboratory and improved infection prevention and control measures.

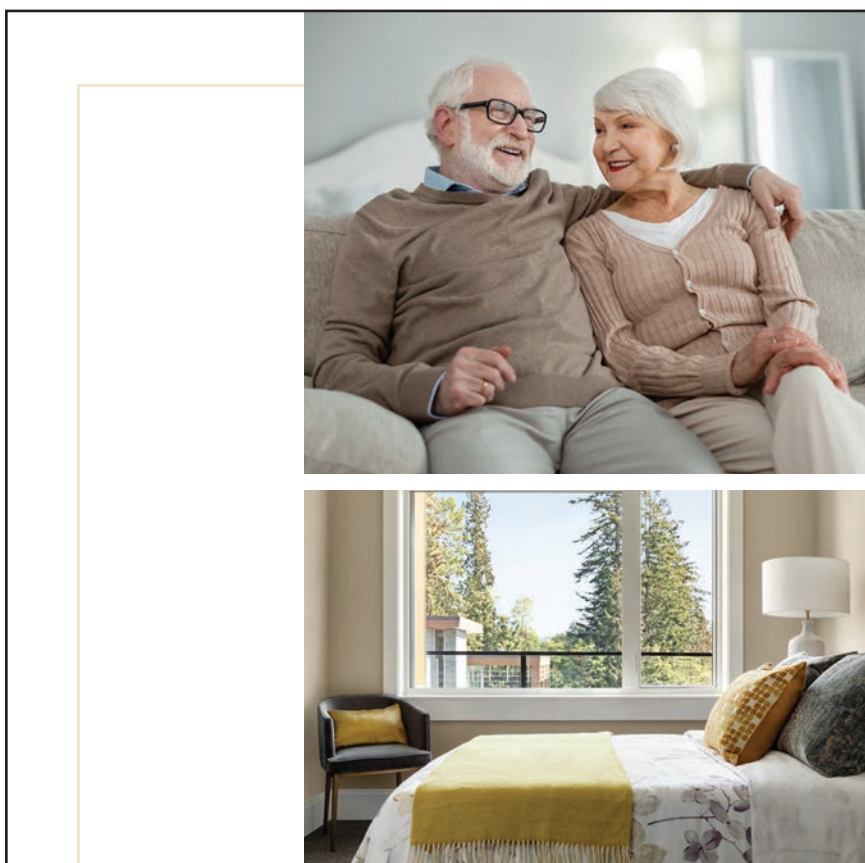
Through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care, the Ontario government is expanding and modernizing Ontario's hospitals, making it faster and easier for people of all ages to connect to the high-quality care they need, where and when they need it.

The number of people Trillium Health Partners serves is expected to increase by nearly seven times the rate of the average hospital in Ontario as the Peel and Etobicoke communities continue to grow.

The province is supporting additional expansion projects at Trillium Health Partners, including the \$1.3 billion contract to build the new Gilgan Family Queensway Health Centre in Etobicoke.

Over the next 10 years, Ontario is investing nearly \$60 billion on major health infrastructure. This is part of the government's plan to get shovels in the ground on more than 50 major hospital projects across the province, which will deliver approximately 3,000 new hospital beds and build a connected, people-first health-care system.

The Ontario government invested more than \$228 million in 2024-25 to support critical infrastructure upgrades and repairs at 129 hospitals and 58 community health-care facilities across the province, a 10 per cent increase from the previous year. This includes an allocation of more than \$5 million for Trillium Health Partners in 2024-25 through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund.



THE WAIT *is* FINALLY OVER!

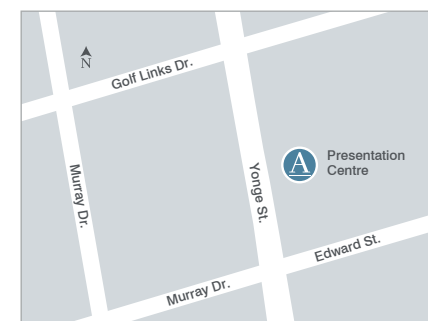
We're thrilled to announce that our model suite is now open for viewing at the Amica Aurora Promenade Presentation Centre.

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Gianluca Zambrotta's appearance at IFC prospect camp attracts multiple generations of Italian soccer fans

By Jim Stewart

It's not every day that young, aspiring athletes can meet an international soccer hero.

Consequently, Gianluca Zambrotta's guest appearance at IFC's soccer camp recently in Maple was a big deal not only for the kids, but for their parents and grandparents, too.

Zambrotta's soccer career is a storied one. A star player with Juventus from 2000-2006, FC Barcelona from 2006-2008, and AC Milan from 2008-2012, Zambrotta's crowning achievement was helping Italy to a FIFA World Cup Championship in 2006. Italy's victory in 2006 evoked wild celebrations across York Region and many of those in attendance recently to connect Zambrotta with the pure joy of that international victory.

Adults at St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School's turf field were clad in vintage #19 Zambrotta jerseys, projected their fond memories of Italy's World Cup triumph in 2006, and seemed in a state somewhere between awe and elation as they met the soccer legend.

Zambrotta — who displayed the patience and countenance of a saint with all the autograph seekers and media questions from multiple outlets — signed jerseys, plaques, t-shirts, and Juventus scarves in a congenial manner. The legendary midfielder of both the Italian national team and the powerhouse Juventus Serie A squad — commented on the talent in front of him as dozens of campers went through rigorous workouts run by the IFC coaching staff. With IFC Multimedia staffer Alf DeBlasis serving as an interpreter, Zambrotta noted that he liked the effort being put forth by the athletes on St. Joan of Arc's turf field: "It's rather difficult to gauge talent in such a small space of time, but I saw that there was lots of passion on the field today and lots of willingness by the players to learn from their coaches."

The international soccer star also commented on the best parts of his quick trip to Canada: "I'm only here for a short time, but I've been able to visit downtown Toronto and took a trip to Niagara Falls. I was also able to visit the Juventus Club in Toronto. I'm very appreciative of everything that the organizers have provided for me."

Zambrotta expressed his gratitude towards the adoring, multi-generational band of Canadian fans he met on Wednesday morning. Zambrotta connected with the fans — young and old — who were clearly big supporters of his club team Juventus, but he also re-lived his World Cup victory nineteen years ago in 2006 while playing for Italy: "I'm very impressed that so many generations of Italians here remember when we won the World Cup — they've also been quite supportive of my career with Juventus. This experience has been so enjoyable for me to share these memories with them."

The experience was enjoyable for his fans, too, especially 94-year-old Angelo Tantalo and his 13-year-old grandson Lucas Galante who was a camp registrant. Galante was thrilled that his nono could meet Zambrotta: "It was a nice experience that my grandfather could meet one of his idols. He's been a Juventus fan his whole life." The Christ the King Elementary School student from Richmond Hill was impressed with Zambrotta's accomplishments: "So many people look up to him. He was able to represent his country and win a World Cup. I'd be very interested in playing for Team Canada some day and represent my country." The national team aspirant also noted that it's a family tradition to watch soccer with his nono: "When we go over to my grandparents on Sunday afternoon for lunch, we watch Juventus when they're on."

Lucas's grandfather — wrapped in a Juventus team scarf and the elation of meeting Zambrotta — expressed his



Gianluca Zambrotta (white shirt in centre) poses with the IFC coaching staff. He took time to sign autographs for his fans.

commitment to his favourite soccer team and its star player: "I watched Zambrotta for many years both on Juventus and especially when he won the World Cup." The spry 94-year-old had a twinkle in his eye after meeting his favourite soccer player and offered his scouting report on Zambrotta's on-field prowess: "He played on the left and the right and was always very fast in the midfield."

Time has flown since Tantalo celebrated Zambrotta's World Cup triumph. The morning session in Maple marked the 19th anniversary of Italy's World Cup victory which was celebrated so vividly in Vaughan — Canada's hotbed of soccer.

Zambrotta's appearance in Maple only deepened the campers' love of the world's 'beautiful game.' Not only did the eighty players in attendance get to refine their on-field skills with IFC's talented coaching staff, but they also had a brush with greatness when they secured Zambrotta's autograph and some encouraging words from a legendary soccer hero.

Over 300 players from across the GTA — ages 5-14 — will participate



in IFC's main prospects camp running through July 21 at the St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School turf fields in Maple.

IFC's Multimedia Professional Alf DeBlasis noted in closing that "Today is a special event" and as the IFC Coaching Staff lined up for a team photo with the soccer legend, their excitement was palpable and measurable as was Zambrotta's impact on three generations of soccer fans.



Skater excels at world event

A skater from the King City Skating Club went and competed at the Adult World Championships in Germany.

Cindy Luk placed 4th in Silver Woman's III Artistic Free Skating, as well as 5th in Silver Woman's III Free Skating.

She is coached by Brenda Tanner-Ferreira and the KCSC team of coaches. She is also the KCSC President, too.

Cindy earned a top element score of 10.36 which is also a personal best for her.

Enterprise Mobility's charity golf tournament raises \$145,000 in Support of Food Banks Canada

Enterprise Mobility celebrated its annual charity golf tournament on Tuesday at the King Valley Golf Club, as stakeholders from the Canadian insurance and replacement industry teed off in support of Food Banks Canada, a key partner of Enterprise Mobility's Fill Your Tank® program. The 2025 tournament turned out to be the most successful yet, with donations and sponsorships, as well as a 50 per cent match from Enterprise Mobility, raising \$145,000 that will support Food Banks Canada's After the Bell program.

The tournament aligns with Enterprise Mobility's broader efforts to address food insecurity through grants for local food banks and food programs in the communities where team members live and work. The event was attended by Enterprise Mobility partners across Canada, with golf followed by a reception and remarks from Enterprise Mobility's executive team.

Since its inception in 2016, Enterprise Mobility's Fill Your Tank program has been dedicated to fighting hunger by providing funding for local food banks and key partner organizations in North American and Europe. To date, the program has granted more than \$90 million USD to over 670 nonprofits addressing hunger and food insecurity, including Food Banks Canada. By 2030, the Fill Your Tank program intends to donate \$30 million CAD to Food Banks Canada to support its efforts feeding Canadians in need.

"Food insecurity remains a critical issue in towns and neighbourhoods across Canada, and often does not get



the attention it rightly deserves," said Jennifer Everett, Vice President of Sales, Replacement & Leisure Division Canada at Enterprise Mobility. "Getting food to those who are in most need of it is the guiding light of our Fill Your Tank program. We're thrilled with the support we've received from our partners and sponsors year in and year out at this event as we look to further our support of Food Banks Canada's overall mission."

Food Banks Canada's After the Bell program provides nutritious, child-friendly food packs throughout the summer when school-centred supports are not available so kids can soar on the swings and splash in the community pool with their friends. Participating food banks receive packs that contain shelf-stable items such as milk, hummus, crackers, cereal, oatmeal, and sunflower seeds. They also receive grant money to supplement the food packs with perishable items such as apples, sugar snap peas, cheese, and yogurt.

To learn more about the Fill Your Tank program, please visit enterprise-mobility.com

King's Corners

King City United
By Sheryl Sinka

King City United wishes everyone a joyful and safe summer. Remember your second language – the language of prayer – and hold all those in our communities and around the world who are suffering and living in fear and despair in our prayers to God.

Sunday worship is suspended in July and will resume on Sunday, August 3 at 10 a.m. at King City United. The worship in August will rotate amongst our partner churches (York Pines and New Hope) with Rev. Bill Fritz presiding. Rev. Andrew is off on a Sabbatical until September 8.

If there are any pastoral emergencies please contact the office.

Please remember the King Township Food Bank in your givings. Year round, for those who use the food bank, support is an expression of kindness and generosity for which so many are grateful. We encourage you to continue to help with donations of food or financial donations for the many needing assistance.

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.

Please visit our website for links and further information: www.kingbiblechurch.com

If you have any questions please email: Lisa Lethangue (lisa@kingbiblechurch.com), Administrative Assistant, King Bible Church, 1555 King Rd, King City, 905-833-5104.

King City Seniors (55+)

By Carolyn Kanitz

Summer events at KCSC:

Summer events at KCSC:

Friday, July 18 – 10 to 11 a.m. – Qigong – Please register at 905-833-6565.

Friday, July 18 – 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Bone Fitness Class – Please register at 905-833-6565.

Friday, July 25 – 10 to 11 a.m. – Qigong – Please register at 905-833-6565.

Friday, July 25 – 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Bone Fitness Class – Please register at 905-833-6565.

Saturday, September 6 - 5 p.m. – Our King City Lions will once again be hosting a BBQ and corn roast for us. We will not only enjoy a great meal with great company, but we will also be entertained by Stephen Craig singing our favourite Golden Oldies. Tickets at \$10/pp will be on sale starting August 5. Mark your calendar as this event sells out quickly.

All regularly scheduled activities at the King City Seniors Centre will continue in July and August.

Monday mornings: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. – Mobility Matters.

Monday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Music and Movement/Cribbage. At 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. Art Class (2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month).

Thursday mornings: 9:30 a.m. – Gentle Motion (similar to Tai Chi). At 10 a.m. – Qigong. This is not a drop-in class. Registration is required each week. Class size is limited to 10 participants.

Thursday afternoons; 1 p.m. – Carpet Bowling.

Friday mornings: reserved for presentations, workshops and special events.

Friday afternoons: 1 p.m. – Progressive Euchre.

You may contact KCSC at 905-833-6565 or kingcity.seniors@gmail.com

York Pines United Church

While Rev. Andrew is on sabbatical, Rev. Bruce is "on call" for pastoral care. Please contact the church at 905-727-8118 or yorkpinesuc@gmail.com if you need assistance.

Hope you're keeping cool! For this reason (no A/C), York Pines is closed in July. Rev. Bill Fritz will lead services in August when we rotate with our sister churches starting August 3 in King City at 10 a.m.

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

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. followed by Holy Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Silent Adoration begins at 3:30 p.m., Holy Rosary Benediction, Celebration of Mass at 7 p.m.

Events:

Summer Bible Camp July 14-18 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. for ages JK to 6 yrs of age. Activities include music, dance, games, arts & craft and more. Cost \$75. To register email npascuzzo@archto-ronto.org

Golf Tournament September 25, at Cardinal Golf Complex West Course. Tee Off 8 am; Lunch at 2 p.m. Sponsors, Donations and Prizes are appreciated. For registration, sponsorship and prizes, contact Church office 905-833-1161 or Paul Rea 416-471-4793.

Save the Date: Sacred Heart Picnic-Carnival, Sunday, September 14.

St. Andrew's

By Kathy Patterson

Welcome to St. Andrew's, King City! Our Sunday Morning Worship Services are at 10:30 a.m. and join us afterwards for coffee time. Our Pastor is the Rev. Alison Agnew will be preaching this Sunday.

Last Sunday we welcomed Christine Samuel, a guest preacher from Newmarket who preached from Hebrews 2:1-4 about the importance of Jesus in our lives and not drifting about unanchored.

Summer at St. Andrew's is a wonderful, busy time with many major renovations within the church and many activities planned! We are also having four "Tuesdays at 2" (p.m.), prayer and devotional gatherings. One more in July (29th). For August they will be August 12 and 26 for everyone. This is an opportunity to come mid-week if perhaps you'll be away for the weekends during the summer.

Also summer fellowship events are planned for two Wednesdays, July 23 when we're having a supper BBQ off-site and August 20 we are going to see the King Theatre's Play at Pine Farms Orchard, Tuesdays with Morrie. by Mitch Albom which starts at 7 p.m. We'll be there at 6:15 p.m. Let us know if you can come to either event and if

you'd like us to order tickets for the play for you.

In August we are planning 2 joint services with the Well, our partnership church, on August 10 and 31. Please note the time: 10 a.m. All are welcome!

Our recorded services are on YouTube. Our website is standrews-kingcity.ca and click on the YouTube frame.

For pastoral care, for the next two weeks, call your Elder or the church office. (905-833-2325).

All Saints Anglican Church

By Kit Woods

At All Saints, we strive to live out the message at the heart of the story of the Good Samaritan, a message of radical compassion, unexpected kindness, and unconditional welcome. Jesus told this parable to show us that love is not limited by labels or borders, and that our neighbour is anyone in need, regardless of where they come from or who they are.

In the parable, it wasn't the religious leaders or the rule-followers who stopped to help the wounded man. It was someone unexpected, a Samaritan, someone who would have been seen as an outsider by the original audience. Yet it was he who truly understood what love of neighbour meant. He didn't ask questions or make judgments. He simply saw someone hurting and stepped forward with mercy.

That's the kind of love we try to embody in our church community. We believe that no one should feel like an outsider when they walk through our doors. Whether you've been away from church for years, are just starting to explore your faith, or have been told that you don't belong, you are welcome here.

Our hope is that people will find at All Saints a place of healing, safety, and joy. A place where neighbours are not just those who look like us, think like us, or love like us, but anyone God places in our path.

When Jesus asked, "Which of these was a neighbour?" the answer was clear: the one who showed mercy. And Jesus said, "Go and do likewise." May we do just that. May we reach out in love, cross divides, and offer care to everyone we meet. That is the gospel in action. That is who we are.

Join us on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. or at 10:30 a.m.



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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. We welcome Adelle Lauchlan who will lead us in worship for the next few Sundays. Adelle's message this week is entitled, "Who do you say I am?" based on Psalm 139:1-12 and Matthew 16:13-20.

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 or on our YouTube channel each Sunday at 10 a.m., or on demand at 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 next Drive-Thru Prayer opportunity will be held Wednesday, Aug. 6 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Come by the church

parking lot at 5750 King Road and let our team of prayer warriors pray for whatever need you have ... you don't even have to get out of your car!

Our annual Bible Fun Camp will be held July 21 to 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. Kids aged 4 to 12 are invited. Our theme this year is "The Waiting Game - Our God Outwits and Outloves." To register just go to our website at www.stpaulsnobleton.ca and complete the application form.

On September 23 you are invited to see a performance of Cambodian dances, culture, and stories by young people from the mission Rescue Cambodia, a haven for orphan and at risk children, families living with HIV/AIDS, and destitute elderly women. To see more information go to the News/Events page on our website.

St. Mary's Church

Join one of our volunteer parish ministries: Altar Servers, Lectors, Ushers, or extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Be part of a wonderful team of volunteers who serve God in our parish community.

Call the office if you are interested at 905 859 5522.

Nobleton Seniors (55+)
By Joanne Bailey
416-706-9375

Regular Educational Thursdays will resume on September 11 in Nobleton. Watch for the upcoming events in August.

For the summer Mobility Matters will continue on Monday and Friday in the Nobleton Arena from 1 pm to 1:45 pm

See you all in September.

Nobleton Lions Club

The annual Community Fundraising Draw is under way. The winners being declared at the Library Gazebo on October 25. First prize is \$4,000, 2nd is \$750, 3rd is \$250. Tickets cost \$20 each or 3 for \$50 and are available now from any Lion as well as in some businesses around town, such as KARS and the Nobleton Dental Clinic.

Proceeds from the Draw go to organizations such as the Mackenzie Health Foundation which provides valuable services to our community. Here is what one patient said, "My wife made a decision that saved my life. She brought me to the Emergency Department at Cor-

tellucci Vaughan Hospital. That day, we met a psychiatrist who gave me a first glimmer of hope. I discovered there were mental health services available right in my own community. And more importantly, I found out that I wasn't alone."

Regular meetings of the Nobleton Lions Club are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to mid-June, and will resume on September 9. 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.

To learn more 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. You may also follow us on Instagram at [nobleton.lions.club](https://www.instagram.com/nobleton.lions.club)



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More Classifieds next page

Nobleton & Schomberg United Churches

By Nancy Hopkinson

On July 23, we are at Nobleton United for another Hymn Sing and Pot Luck. We gather at 5:15 p.m., sing at 5:30 and eat at 6 p.m. Please bring either a main course, a salad or a dessert. Anyone who enjoys singing and eating can join us. We continue to alternate locations with Schomberg United throughout the summer.

Bible study is on Thursdays at 10 a.m. at Nobleton United Church. Everyone is welcome to come. Come and learn how Bible study is actually relevant in today's world. The group will be examining familiar stories learned in Sunday School but with an adult focus.

The next Seniors' lunch is Tuesday, Aug. 12 at St. Mary Magdalene Church. Please arrive at 11:15 a.m.. The program starts at 11:30 am. The meal is zucchini lasagna, Caesar salad, Italian bread, with sherbet & sugar cookies for dessert. The meal can be delivered, if you prefer. Please let Sheila Kelly know

(905-939-2315 or 905-751-5190) if you plan to attend. Space is limited. Although this is a free event, we do appreciate any donations that you are able to make to help cover the costs. We are grateful to the Township of King for some additional financial support this year.

The Schomberg U.C.W. restarts on Thursday, Sept. 11 at 1 p.m. The theme is "Women in the Bible." Everyone is welcome, whether associated with the Schomberg United Church or not.

Messy Church will resume in September.

Did you know that Al-Anon meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Nobleton United Church? If you are family or a friend of an alcoholic, you are welcome to attend and receive some support.

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

Schomberg United Church meets at St. Mary Magdalene Church, lower level, 116 Church St., Schomberg. It is accessible. Nobleton United Church meets 6076 King Rd., Nobleton. To contact our churches phone 905-859-3976.



Officials meet in Alberta

King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce and Premier Doug Ford met with Texas Secretary of State, Jane Nelson, on the margins of the Calgary Stampede, promoting Ontario's critical minerals and nuclear leadership to the world. "FordNation and I extended an invite for the Secretary to visit the G7's first small modular reactor being built in Ontario," Lecce said. "We extended condolences following the tragic flooding at Camp Mystic to our southern neighbours."

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701 COMING EVENTS



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Trinity Centennial United Church

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Saturday, July 19, 2025

from 4:00 to 6:30 pm

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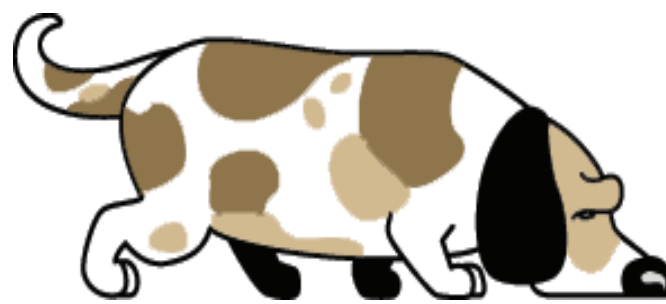


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Scoop from Schomberg

By Susan Heslop

Is it hot enough for you? The age-old question that has been asked way too many times, but you won't find me complaining because I'm a heat loving kind of gal. If you're finding the heat too much, you can cool off at one of the splash pads in King. We have one right here in Schomberg at Hickstead Park, and in Nobleton at Tasca park.

Interested in coin/currency collecting? Wondering how to connect with other collectors? Come out and share your interest and learn from other collectors. The Simcoe Currency Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Cookstown Curling Club (18 Church St., Cookstown) at 7 p.m. Membership is \$25 for the year.

We have exciting draws, auctions, news, and a featured speaker every month. For more information visit our website simcoecurrencyclub.com or call 647-200-7007.

Christ Church Kettleby presents "Songs for Mary" July 26, 6 p.m. at 292 Kettleby Rd, Kettleby.

Eliza-Jane Callander grew up in Kettleby and completed her PhD in Renaissance convent music in the UK. Together with four other professional singers, she will present an evening of music written for and by nuns: "Songs for Mary: Music for Women's Voices, 1140-1640," on July 26, hosted by her home parish of Christ Church Kettleby. This music, though often censored in the church, was a way for these women to express both their devotion and their independence. More information and tickets are available through the Sub Rosa Facebook page.

Tickets are \$25 regular or \$20 for seniors or students. Tickets available online or at the door (cash only).

nights, in the curling lounge and we start at 7 p.m. and play till 9. The cost is \$10 for the evening or pay monthly for \$20. All you need to know is how to play (no beginners please), how to laugh, enjoy an excellent group of people and not take the game or yourself too seriously.

Schomberg 55+

We are taking the summer off and will return with an action-packed lineup September 8, with Dave Lapenta leading us in an exercise "Celebrating Stories and Embracing New Friendships." Please make sure to come out and join if you're over 55 and like having fun and learning new things.

All of our activities, mahjong, ukulele and bridge are now on summer break until September, but there are a few

interesting things happening over the summer, such as the "Raspberry Social" with an exciting twist I'm the KHCC's newly restored King Railway Station, interacting with actors to solve puzzles and discover clues. This is a free event in conjunction with the Raspberry social. Come on out August 9, 10:30 to 2:30 and join in all the fun. Register at www.kingheratigeandcultural.ca/whats-on/events/livehistory-theatre-time-escape-room more details to follow!

We also have a fun event planned for September 11; a cider tasting at Slabtown Cider Co. in Uxbridge, from 2 to 4 p.m. If you're interested in signing up, please email davelapenta1@gmail.com

We have our fall lineup shaping up so stay tuned for updates over the summer here and events and workshops are add-

ed to the calendar.

Weekly Events

Monday and Friday afternoons - 2:15 p.m. - Mobility Matters (Trisan Centre).

Wednesday mornings - 9 to 10 a.m. - Track walking followed by coffee and meet up (Trisan Centre).

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

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

Please reach out with your events, stories of happenings or anything you would love to see here porter5952@gmail.com or 416-460-5952.



MP lauds local businesses

King-Vaughan MP Anna Roberts joined many small business owners at the King Chamber's 2nd Annual Rooftop Sunset Mingle at the Ace Performance Gym in King City. "Congratulations to Michelle and the entire team at the chamber on hosting another successful event!"

Schomberg Euchre Club

Euchre takes place on Thursday

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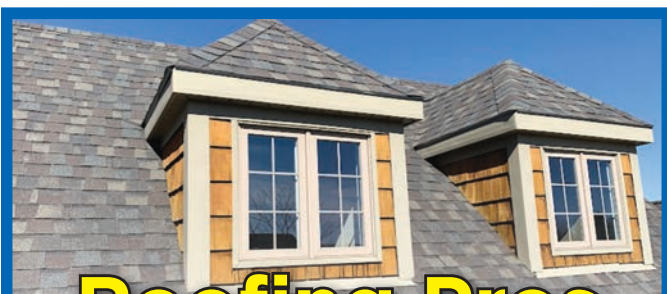
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RESALE HOMES COLLECTIONS

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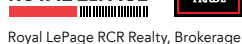
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In the dynamic world of real estate, where global trends meet local nuances, one team stands out for its unique blend of hyperlocal expertise and international reach: **Khalen Meredith and Kim Nichols, with Sotheby's International Realty.**

This article delves into how meredith•nichols leverages the prestige and powerful network of Sotheby's while maintaining an unwavering commitment to the communities of Aurora and King Township, particularly in the specialized realm of country real estate.

For many years, our team has been deeply rooted in the fabric of Aurora and King Township. We've witnessed the evolution of these vibrant communities, from the charming historic homes nestled on tree-lined streets in Aurora to the sprawling estates and picturesque farms that define the King Township countryside. This isn't just our market; it's our home. We live here, we work here, and we've raised our families here, which happens to include many canine and equine members! This intimate connection

fosters a level of understanding that goes beyond market statistics – it's about knowing the best schools, the hidden trails, the local businesses, and the unique character of each neighbourhood.

Our hyperlocal knowledge is particularly invaluable when it comes to country real estate. This specialized segment of the market demands a nuanced approach, far different from urban residential sales. It requires an understanding of zoning bylaws for agricultural land, well and septic systems, conservation authority regulations, and the intricacies of severances and easements. We've spent years cultivating relationships with local professionals who specialize in the understanding of rural properties. This extensive network, combined with our firsthand experience in valuing and marketing equestrian properties, hobby farms, and vast land parcels, ensures that our clients receive unparalleled guidance, whether they are buying a serene rural retreat or selling a multi-acre estate.

While our roots are firmly planted in Aurora and King Township, our reach extends across the globe, thanks to our affiliation with Sotheby's International Realty. This isn't merely a brand name; it's a testament to a legacy of luxury, integrity, and unparalleled service dating back to 1744. For our clients, this means access to a level of marketing excellence that is simply unmatched in the industry. Sotheby's International Realty is renowned for its sophisticated, high-quality collateral, from stunning professional photography and videography to exquisitely designed and captivating digital presentations. Each property, regardless of its price point, is presented with an artistry and attention to detail that truly sets it apart.

The power of the Sotheby's International Realty network goes far beyond beautiful marketing materials. It provides an extraordinary international reach and referral capability that is a game-changer in today's interconnected world. Imagine a discerning buyer in London, New York, or Hong Kong searching for a unique country estate or an elegant family home near Toronto. Through Sotheby's extensive global referral network, their agent can seamlessly connect them with our team. Our listings are showcased on the highly trafficked and award-winning site sothebysrealty.com, a global platform that attracts millions of visitors worldwide, ensuring maximum exposure to a qualified audience. This international exposure is particularly beneficial for our clients selling properties in Aurora and King Township, as it opens up a vast pool of potential buyers who might otherwise never discover these hidden gems.

The strength of meredith•nichols lies not only in our individual expertise but also in our collaborative team approach. With many years of collective experience in the real estate industry, our team brings a unique set of skills and perspectives to the table. This collaborative synergy ensures that every client benefits from a comprehensive and well-rounded strategy, whether they are navigating a complex negotiation, seeking expert advice on property valuation, or needing guidance through the legalities of a transaction. We believe that two heads are better than one, especially when dealing with the intricacies of real estate. Our combined experience allows us to anticipate challenges, provide creative solutions, and ultimately deliver exceptional results for our clients. In conclusion, for those looking to buy or sell real

estate in Aurora and King Township, we provide, along with Sotheby's International Realty, an unbeatable combination. We provide the deep, localized knowledge that only true community experts possess, coupled with the unparalleled marketing prowess, global reach, and referral capabilities of one of the world's most prestigious real estate brands.

When you choose meredith•nichols, you're not just hiring an agent; you're partnering with a dedicated team of experienced professionals who are committed to achieving your real estate goals, both locally and globally.

If a property move is in your future, whether near or far, please reach out to us to discuss how a partnership with meredith•nichols and Sotheby's International Realty Canada can bring about a successful outcome.

Written by: Khalen Meredith

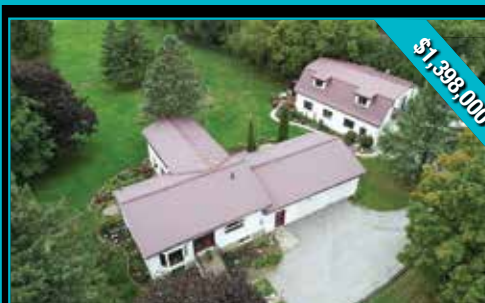


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AMAZING ACREAGE - BONUS SHOP & APT.!!



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Brand new built and never lived in - don't miss this amazing and stunning 2865 sq. ft. Executive 4 bedroom home on a generous lot backing onto trails and river!! Beautiful neutral decor throughout with lovely hardwood on main floor with 9 ft ceilings, huge family size kitchen open to wonderful great room w/fireplace overlooking back yard and treed areas! 3 ensuite bathrooms on 2nd level plus bonus office on main floor! Wow - call today to view!

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RESALE HOMES IN KING CITY: A market of opportunity and distinction

In the heart of York Region lies King City—a community known for its natural beauty, estate-style homes, and refined small-town charm. As the real estate market evolves, one segment continues to shine with both value and long-term appeal: resale homes.

While new builds may grab headlines, resale properties in King City offer an irreplaceable combination of mature neighbourhoods, custom craftsmanship, and established community feel. And for today's buyers, that makes all the difference.

WHY RESALE HOMES STAND OUT

Resale homes in King City are anything but typical. These are homes built with care, often custom-designed on expansive lots that can't be replicated in newer subdivisions. From sprawling bungalows to two-storey family estates, these homes boast character, space, and architectural variety that's hard to find elsewhere.

They also offer the advantage of location—many nestled in peaceful pockets close to top-rated schools, parks, and local amenities. Mature trees, landscaped gardens, and quiet streets are hallmarks of the area's most desirable resale properties.

A MARKET OF QUALIFIED BUYERS

The demand for resale homes in King City continues to come from a mix of families upsizing, professionals moving out of the city core, and downsizers looking for quality over quantity. Many are drawn to the blend of rural tranquility and urban accessibility that King City offers.

Today's buyer is informed and intentional. They know what they're looking for, and many are specifically seeking out well-maintained resale homes that offer immediate value—especially those with finished basements, upgraded kitchens, or income-generating potential.

THE ADVANTAGE FOR SELLERS

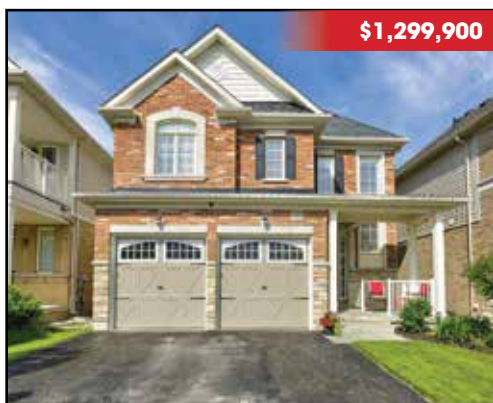
If you're a homeowner in King City, now is an ideal time to consider your position in the market. Well-presented resale properties are selling at strong prices, and with limited inventory, sellers are often benefiting from shorter days on market and quality offers. The Michele Denniston Real Estate Team brings years of local experience and a deep understanding of King City's unique property landscape. We help homeowners showcase the features that today's buyers value most—positioning your home for maximum return.

LET'S TALK RESALE STRATEGY

Our team doesn't just list homes—we create strategic marketing plans that highlight your property's value and attract serious, qualified buyers. From professional staging and photography to targeted online and community exposure, we ensure your home makes a lasting first impression.

King City's resale market is thriving—but it's also nuanced. With the right team and the right strategy, your home can stand out in all the right ways.

If you're thinking of selling—or simply want to understand your home's current value—connect with us today. We're proud to serve King City with local insight, proven results, and a commitment to excellence.



\$1,299,900

In the TreeTops area of New Tecumseth rare custom finished by builder 2940 sq ft total finished living space two storey home with an in-law suite in basement with walkout to private patio area 4+1 bed, 4 bath is a must see. TreeTops features activity park. Elementary school, walking paths and nearby golfing.



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



\$875,000

Located in the POTL community of Kingsmere this 2115 sq ft total finished living space Bungalow has 5 bedroom 3 bath bungalow has a Primary bedroom suite and open concept kitchen, Family room, laundry and den on main floor. the Kingsmere pond with walking path and benches is a value added extra.



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



\$998,900

A custom finished inside and out 2100 sq ft total living space bungalow in Alliston Shows 10+ and is a walk-in ready home has a legal apartment in the basement. Within walking distance to 2 schools, churches and west Alliston shopping complexes.



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



\$950,000

A Raised Bungalow with three car garage with almost 3000 sq ft of total living space on a very large lot in the quiet village of Everett has potential for multi family living. Close to Alliston, Barrie, Camp Borden and Wasaga beach.



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\$1,579,000

Versatile commercial property with 15'10" clear height, spacious warehouse, and five sunlit office spaces. Includes a large boardroom, kitchenette, and loft for added functionality. Office area features air conditioning; warehouse equipped with heaters and man door. Ideal location near 400-series highways. Six dedicated parking spots and strong lease income in place.

Located in Aurora Heights, this bright and inviting home features hardwood floors, crown moulding, and a cozy family room with brick fireplace. Enjoy a renovated kitchen with walkout, spacious primary suite with custom closet, and a finished basement with rec room and office. The private backyard offers lush gardens and a multi-level deck—perfect for entertaining.



Incredible Lake Wilcox Retreat

\$2,398,000



Elegant Ravine-Backed Home

\$4,690,000

Set on over half an acre backing onto waterfront, this charming 3 bed & 3 bath Oak Ridges home offers bright, spacious rooms with hardwood floors and ceiling details. Family room features a floor-to-ceiling brick fireplace and pond views. Kitchen includes eat-in area. Primary bedroom boasts a balcony and ensuite with jacuzzi tub. Additional bedrooms are flooded with natural light. Lower level awaits your finishing touches—renovate or rebuild!

Over 4,500 sq. ft., this 4-bedroom, 7-bath home backs onto a ravine with pond views. Features decks, walkways, and space for pool and cabana. Classic Bordeaux style with tile mosaics and LED walls. Includes two offices, sensor cabinets, and butler's pantry. Primary suite with ensuite and heated floors. Lower level with wet bar, theater, sauna, and gym. Triple garage and smart controls.



Modern Vaughan Allegra Condo

\$739,800



Luxury Custom Stone Home

\$4,200,000

Offering 914 sq. ft., this stylish 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo features open-concept living with porcelain tile and engineered hardwood floors. The kitchen boasts stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, and walk-out balcony with city views. Building amenities include rooftop garden, fitness centre, piano lounge, and party room. Includes 1 parking spot and 24-hour concierge.

Over 8,000 sq. ft. of living space on 1.2 acres with western exposure. Features traditional finishes, solid oak doors, and Marley roof. Spacious rooms include cherry wood kitchen, elegant living and dining with marble floors. Primary suite with walk-ins, balcony, and spa ensuite. Resort-style grounds with pool, tennis & bocce ball courts, patios, and decks. Finished lower level with wet bar, sauna, and storage. Four-car garage and circular driveway with ample parking.



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**RESALE
HOMES
COLLECTIONS**

SUMMER

renovation projects that
can add value to your home

(NC) Summer is a time to stretch your legs and enjoy the warm weather with your family and friends. During this time, many people are also looking to make upgrades to their home.

Whether you're looking to add more value to your home, make a few eco-friendly improvements or simply maximize your enjoyment, there's a renovation project for everyone. Give your home a breath of new life with these summer renovation projects that can add value to it.

1 UPDATE THE INTERIOR

- If you're looking to undertake some bigger projects, first consider whether you have the necessary skills and experience to execute the project or if you should hire a professional. If you need to hire a professional, be sure to do your research beforehand and choose a contractor you feel comfortable with.

- If you plan on starting with the kitchen or bathroom, items like kitchen tiles, custom cabinets or countertops could take months to arrive, so make sure to order these in advance if you are on a tight timeline. Use quality materials and make upgrades consistent with the rest of the home.

- Repainting the interior in more neutral tones can go a long way. Cleaning up any scuff marks or filling small holes can bring your walls back to life.

- Consider updating your decor such as the lighting, fixtures and countertops and replace or refinish worn flooring to modernize your home.

2 SPRUCE UP THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME

- Summer is the best time to replace any shingles on your roof that are broken or loose to avoid water leaks. Have a maintenance professional inspect all walls for any cracks that need to be sealed to keep water out and avoid major damage.

- If you're tired of seeing a sad-looking fence, it might be time to explore waterproofing or staining.

- Install exterior lighting to brighten up walkways and the front of your home.

3 ECO-FRIENDLY CHANGES

- Invest in new insulation and draft-sealing to help save on the energy you're using to heat or cool.

- Make the switch to LED lightbulbs throughout your house. On average they last about 10 years and are around 85 per cent more energy efficient than incandescent bulbs.

- Install energy-efficient windows to save on heating and air conditioning, while also increasing your home's long-term value.

4 MAXIMIZE ENJOYMENT

- Complete that unfinished basement and dedicate the extra space to something you love, like working out or hosting trivia nights with your friends.

- Consider starting your own herb garden or picking up some houseplants – not only can they help improve the air quality in your home, but they can also boost your mood.

It's important to inform your insurance company when you're planning a renovation to ensure your policy remains in effect. There may be additional insurance implications if certain work is not done by licensed professionals, such as electrical work or plumbing. Renovations that increase your home's value may change the classification of your policy, so whether the project is big or small, be sure to get a quote for any new coverage. Companies like Belairdirect can provide a quote in minutes and help you along every step on the road to renos. Learn more at belairdirect.com.

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1/4 ACRE RAVINE LOT

Exceptional 1/4 acre premium & private treed ravine lot tucked away in coveted Aurora Highlands. 15x15 ft covered pergola set on 700 sq ft of maintenance free Trex decking is a perfect Entertainer's paradise in a lush backyard retreat overlooking perennial gardens & sunset vistas. Tastefully renovated boasting lrg principle rms with hrwd flrs, 24x24 porcelain tile & custom built in features. A beautifully crafted custom white maple kitchen features a centre island, Cambria stone counters, built in appls, dbl wall mount ovens, pantry, family sized breakfast rm framed by floor to ceiling windows offering panoramic South & West views. 4 lrg bdms with hrwd flrs & renovated baths, fully finished lower level complete with rec rm, games rm, 5th bdrm & 4 pc bath. Park 6 cars or more **\$1,890,000**



4502 SQ FT RESIDENCE

Nestled in desirable Aurora Highlands, situated on a south facing 150 deep lot, this elegant 4052 sq ft residence is ideal for growing or extended families offering 5 bdms & mn flr office! Hrwd flrs thru-out, renovated kitchen boasts centre island, granite counters walk in pantry & a huge breakfast rm overlooking a lounge area perfect for morning coffee. Expansive primary retreat offers generous sitting area, fireplace, w/out to private balcony, spa inspired 5 pc ensuite. 4 additional spacious bdms each with shared ensuite baths. Open concept fin. bsmt features rec rm, games rm with bar, exercise area, 3 pc bath & lrg unfin. storage space. Perennial grdns, patios with 2 pergolas, new stone w/way & repaved drive, parking for 6 cars. **\$1,995,000**

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5 TIPS to spruce up your home this summer



(NC) Summer is a perfect time to enjoy the warm weather with family and friends, and it's also an ideal season for home improvements. Whether you're looking to increase your home's value, make eco-friendly upgrades or simply enhance your living experience, here are a few handy renovation tips to consider.

SEAL THE GAPS

Summer heat can drive up energy costs, so focus on making your home more energy efficient to keep it cool and reduce air conditioning costs. Have a maintenance professional inspect all walls for any cracks that need to be sealed to keep water out and avoid major damage. Upgrade insulation and seal any drafts to prevent cool air from escaping and replace any shingles on your roof that are broken or loose to avoid water leaks.

UPGRADE YOUR LIVING SPACE

If your budget allows, consider updating your kitchen, bathroom or living spaces. These are high-traffic areas that significantly impact your home's value. Even small changes like new cabinet hardware, recessed lighting or a stylish new backsplash can transform a space.

GET OUTDOORS

Take advantage of the warm weather by enhancing your outdoor spaces. Start by power-washing your deck or patio to remove dirt and grime. Consider staining or sealing the wood to protect it from the

elements and give it a fresh appearance. Adding some comfortable outdoor furniture, colourful cushions and a few potted plants can transform your backyard into a cozy retreat.

INSTALL ENERGY-EFFICIENT FIXTURES

Replace old incandescent light bulbs with LED bulbs, which use less energy and have a longer lifespan. Consider installing a programmable thermostat to better manage your cooling system and help save on energy bills. Ceiling fans are also a great addition to keep air circulating and reduce the need for air conditioning. These simple upgrades can lead to significant savings and increased home comfort.

IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Start by changing the air filters in your HVAC system to ensure better airflow and air quality in your home. Consider adding houseplants, which naturally purify the air and add a touch of greenery to your decor. Plants like spider plants, peace lilies and snake plants are especially good at removing toxins from the air.

Don't forget to turn on the exhaust fan in your kitchen and bathrooms to reduce humidity and prevent mould growth.

If you're thinking of starting some bigger projects this summer, it's important to let your insurance provider know to ensure your policy remains in effect.

There may be additional insurance implications if certain work, like electrical or plumbing, isn't done by licensed professionals.

Additionally, renovations that increase your home's value may also affect your insurance. Whether the project is big or small, be sure to get a quote for any new coverage.

Companies like Belairdirect can provide a quote in minutes and help you along every step of the way.

Learn more at belairdirect.com.

www.newscanada.com



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Summer moves: Tips for buying a new home this season

(NC) There's something about summer that makes it feel like the perfect time for a fresh start—and for some, that means buying a new home. The longer days, warmer weather and flexible schedules make it easier to explore neighbourhoods, schedule viewings and manage the logistics of a move.

But before you fall in love with that front porch or start dreaming about backyard barbecues, it's important to have a plan. Here's how to make the most of your summer home search and how you can protect your investment from day one.

START WITH A CLEAR BUDGET

Before you browse listings or tour open houses, get pre-approved for a mortgage and understand your full financial picture. Remember to factor in additional costs like closing fees, property taxes and moving expenses.

KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

Make a list of your must-haves and nice-to-haves. Think about location, layout, commute time and even how much yard work you're willing to take on. Summer is a busy time for the real estate market, so having a clear idea of what you want helps you move quickly when the right property comes along.

INSPECT WITH A SUMMER EYE

In the summer, it's easier to spot issues like poor air conditioning, pests or drainage problems after a rainstorm. Take advantage of the season to carefully inspect outdoor features like roofing, siding, decks and landscaping.

PLAN YOUR MOVE STRATEGICALLY

Summer is a peak time for moving companies, so book your movers early and try to avoid weekends and the end of the month if you can. If you're handling things yourself, rent your truck well in advance and stock up on supplies.

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS

Your new home is more than just four walls—it's your sanctuary, your investment and your future. Home insurance from providers like Belairdirect help protect your physical property as well as your belongings.

From fire and weather damage to theft or liability coverage, having the right policy in place means you're prepared for the unexpected. And if you bundle your home and auto insurance, you may even qualify for extra savings—something every new homeowner can appreciate.

Buying a new home is exciting, but it also comes with plenty of moving parts. By starting with a clear plan and making smart choices along the way, you'll set yourself up for a smooth summer move.

www.newscanada.com



MARKET UPDATE – JULY 2025

AURORA

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$1,329,557

AVERAGE 29 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

59

206 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

98%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-8.01%

KING

AVERAGE SALES PRICE

\$1,921,342

AVERAGE 32 DAYS ON MARKET

NUMBER OF SALES

30

93 NEW LISTINGS

SALE TO LIST RATIO

94%

YEAR OVER YEAR % CHANGE

-6.47%

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

Ownership housing affordability continued to improve in June 2025. Average selling prices and borrowing costs remained lower than last year's levels, as all areas of our trading market were down year over year. We saw some month over month momentum, with sales volume increasing slightly and Buyers starting to come off the sidelines, as showing levels remain consistent. In an evolving market, strategic partnering with your real estate advisors remains imperative to garnering the best results. Opportunities exist in the current landscape for Sellers and Buyers alike - whether it is leveraging tax free dollars into other investments, capitalizing on the downward trend of pricing in auxiliary markets, moving up with more favourable rates and days on market or simply buying your first home - Key Advantage is here to help.

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



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\$3,998,888

KING HOBBY HORSE FARM! ARENA W/12 STALL STABLE! 4+1 BR DUPLEXED HOME! 7+ ACRES



Have it all just 5 minutes to aurora! Great potential income or move out to the country and fulfil your horse lovers dream! Well kept 2600 SF 4+1 BR 4 Bath country home w/one bedroom lower level 'inlaw suite' w/ separate entrance! 60x130 Ft Arena - 5 Run-in Sheds - 3 paddocks - 2 Fields - small riding ring - lounge - viewing area - Loads of parking! 568 ft frontage on Dufferin Street paved road access.

\$2,998,888

PICTURESQUE PRIVACY 3.1 ACRE 3105 SF 'MANOR' HOME AURORA



Scenic private at the end of an exclusive court in demand southwest Aurora! 4 car garage 3+1 parking or gardeners delight detached building! Hardwood floors! 2 stone fireplaces! Huge principal rooms! 4 spacious bedrooms! Bright prof fin w/o lower level could be inlaw suite with big rec room, 3pc bath, sauna and more!

\$2,398,888

3300 SF AURORA SHOW STOPPER W/FIN WALK-UP BSMT!



Wow Simply Sensational new build! Soaring 11 ft ceiling ground floor! 10 ft 2nd floor & bsmt! Hwd plank! 'Open concept' plan! Main floor den! 'Gourmet' Chef's centre island kitchen w/ quartz counters & butler's pantry! Huge fam room w/ custom gas fp & palatial wdws. Primary br w/enticing ensuite & organized his & hers w/i closet! Ensuite baths & organized w/i in all bedrooms! Bright prof fin 'open concept' lower level w/u bsmt with inlaw potential!

Inquire

"GATED" PRIVACY! END SUITE! FIN BSMT! BACKS TO RAVINE!



Aurora's sought after exclusive gated community 'Stonebridge Estates'! Stone & Brick! 'Open Concept' plan! 9ft-22ft ceilings! Vaulted ceilings! Plank floors ground and second floor! 'Gourmet' centre island kitchen 'open' to entertaining sized dining & great room with custom fireplace all overlooking ravine! Professionally finished 'open concept' lower level and much more!

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Projected timelines for popular renovation projects

HOMEOWNERS often find it beneficial to hire professional contractors when they have work to be done around the house to ensure the job gets done to code and to their satisfaction. Timelines for home remodeling projects vary depending on a number of variables, including the size of a crew as well as the scope of the project.

Once a project commences, the timeline can feel endless. The following are estimates of timelines for top remodeling projects to give homeowners an idea of how long their renovation projects may last, courtesy of Renofi, a company that provides a lending platform leveraged by credit unions nationwide to offer loans to consumers.

• **KITCHEN:** There are a lot of moving parts to a kitchen renovation, involving the services of electricians, plumbers, structural experts, and even interior design professionals. Not to mention the needs of craftspeople who can make custom cabinetry and countertops. Kitchen remodels can take anywhere from six to 12 weeks.

• **BATHROOM:** The process of a bathroom renovation typically involves demolishing the old bathroom, removing old fixtures and starting from the ground up. As with a kitchen remodel, bathroom jobs require the services of different professionals. That is why homeowners can expect three to 10 weeks for a bathroom, depending on the scope of the project.

• **FINISHING A BASEMENT:** Finishing a basement can add valuable living space to a home. Establishing a home theater space or man cave may require installing framing, insulation, utilities, drywall, flooring, and any additional needs if the finished basement will have a bathroom or necessitate additional plumbing. A finished basement project can last one to two months. But the good news is that typically the rest of the house is livable while the work is being done, so residents will not be disrupted.

• **WHOLE HOME REMODEL:** Hogan Design & Construction says that a whole house remodeling project can take anywhere from 16 weeks to 24 weeks. More involved projects can take longer.

Remodeling a home often involves a considerable investment of time and money. Knowing how long a homeowner will be inconvenienced by the work can help the household plan accordingly.



Create a **DOCK** with composite decking

(NC) If you own a home by the water, you understand that a dock is much more than a base for your boat. It's a sundeck, a diving platform, a fishing perch and a year-round spot for stargazing and enjoying sunsets.

Compared to wood and PVC, composite decking offers a variety of colour options for incredible design flexibility.

RAILING

Enhance stability and style with a railing. Layer on convenience by installing multi-functional drink railing. This clever design uses a deck board for the top rail, creating a handy surface for holding snacks and beverages while you're taking in the sunset or welcoming the crew back from a day on the water.

EASY MAINTENANCE

To maximize leisure time, opt for durable products that withstand the elements with minimal upkeep. Aluminum and composite are particularly well-suited for water applications. These hassle-free materials won't splinter or rot and never need to be sanded, stained or refinished—just a simple soap-and-water cleaning is all it takes to keep them looking like new.

Learn more tips for building a decked-out dock at trex.com/docks.

www.newscanada.com

Choosing the right materials can make all the difference in your dock's appearance, comfort and longevity. Here are five things to consider:

WATER RESISTANCE

Docks are constantly exposed to water, UV rays and fluctuating weather conditions. That's why a material that resists rotting, warping, fading and insect damage is crucial. Marine-grade composite decking is designed to be 100 per cent submersible, making it an ideal choice for salt and freshwater environments.

HEAT MITIGATION

On sunny days, the surface can become uncomfortably hot underfoot—no matter what material is used. For optimal comfort, look for something made with IR reflective properties, like Trex decking, which is engineered to keep cooler than traditional composites even in peak summer heat.

COLOUR

Whether you want your dock to stand out or blend in seamlessly with the natural surroundings, there's a composite decking shade for every preference and setting.

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THE RISE OF “House Catfishing” and why I’m here to save you from it



By **Julien Laurion**
Real Estate

So let’s talk about catfishing. No, not the kind involving a guy in his mom’s basement pretending to be a 23-year-old yoga influencer named Skylar. I’m talking about house catfishing.

It goes like this: You’re sipping your oat milk latte, scrolling through listings, and suddenly—BAM—a house pops up that looks like Ryan Gosling personally designed it between shooting movies. Gleaming countertops. Sexy pendant lights. A rainfall shower that practically whispers sweet nothings to your soul.

Except... you show up for the showing and realize Ryan Gosling was most definitely not involved. The place smells like 17 wet dogs and possibly a disgruntled ferret. The “hardwood floors” are peel-and-stick vinyl from aisle 9 at the dollar store,

bubbling up like week-old pizza cheese. And the “spa bathroom”? More like a biohazard zone where mold colonies are plotting world domination.

Folks: you’ve just been house catfished. And let’s not kid ourselves—it’s happening more than ever.

Now, before you start blaming the sellers—or me, your friendly neighbourhood realtor and contractor—let’s get real. The market’s been absolutely bananas. Interest rates whiplashed. Inventory dried up. Buyers became choosier than a toddler in a broccoli aisle. So sellers—and some realtors—get desperate. A little Photoshop here, a conveniently cropped photo there, and suddenly that broom closet looks like a walk-in wardrobe worthy of the Kardashians.

Listen, I’m all for making a home look its best. But there’s a fine line between marketing and straight-up deception. And a lot of people in this business? They’re happily skipping across that line like it’s Coachella weekend.

Here’s the truth nobody wants to say out loud: there are agents out there selling illusions, not homes. And some homeowners are all too eager to play along. Why spend money on real renovations when a few digital edits can hide the mildew and make your shoebox look like a palace?

Well, because that’s how you end up with buyers feeling conned—and deals falling apart faster than a dollar-store door handle.

This is why my two businesses go hand in hand. As a realtor, I’m in the trenches every day, hearing what buyers actually want—and what sends them sprinting

back to their cars. As a contractor, I know how to turn “meh” into “hell yes!”—for real. No digital smoke and mirrors. No catfishing.

I’d rather tell you the truth—even if it’s uncomfortable—than have your house become “that listing” everybody laughs about over beers.

Want to sell your home for top dollar without resorting to sketchy tactics? Here’s my “Don’t Be a Catfish” playbook:

- **FIX THE FIRST IMPRESSION.** Your house has about five seconds to charm people. Cracked steps? Faded door paint? That’s the real estate equivalent of a shirtless bathroom selfie on Tinder. Let’s replace it, patch it, and make your home swipe-right-worthy.

- **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION.** Smart renos—and smart lighting—make small spaces feel big and luxurious. But it has to be real, not CGI-level fakery.

- **HONESTY SELLS.** If there’s mold in the basement the size of Manitoba, don’t crop it out. Let’s either fix it—or price accordingly.

- **SHOWCASE THE GOOD STUFF.** Have an epic kitchen? A killer backyard? Let’s feature that—not hide it under some generic wide-angle shot.

But let’s be blunt: some agents and sellers will keep catfishing, because it “gets people in the door.”

Sure, it does. But you know what else it gets you? Angry buyers. Broken deals. Reputation hits. And in this digital age, news travels fast. Your listing might become a viral meme for all the wrong reasons.

If you want the opposite of catfishing—real value, real renovations, and real results—that’s my lane. My name’s Julien Laurion. I’m your local realtor and contractor, and my tagline says it all: “All About Homes.” I’m swinging hammers, pulling permits, and negotiating offers. I’m the guy who makes sure your house actually looks—and smells—like the photos in your listing.

So, if you’re thinking of selling—or just tired of being lured into showings that smell like a hamster cage gone wrong—call me. Let’s make your home irresistible for all the right reasons.

Because the only thing worse than house catfishing... is realizing those peel-and-stick floors are peeling before you’ve even unpacked your moving boxes.

Julien Laurion
Realtor. Contractor. Local Dad.
All About Homes.
Serving Aurora, King City, and the
communities in between.

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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