

# Acton business first to take advantage of landscaping grant offered by town

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GEO Foundations Contractors Inc. in Acton just went through a landscaping makeover with a little help from the Town of Halton Hills.

The company, which recently expanded its operation in Acton with additional acreage and a larger building, is the first Halton Hills company to take advantage of the new Landscape Improvement Grant program offered through the town.

Having grown a lot since moving to Acton in 2004, the company employs roughly 130 people. Next year, GEO Foundations says it will change its name to Keller, with the Acton location set to become the company's Canadian head office.

"GEO Foundations has been growing at almost 20 per cent per year and we were looking for other locations outside of Halton Hills. However, with invaluable assistance from the town we were able to purchase five acres adja-

cent to our property," said GEO Foundations president, Todd Edmunds, in a town release Dec. 4.

"That help continued through the site plan and building process. The landscape grant was very welcomed to complete all the site works and we are very proud of our expanded new facility," he added.

The Landscape Grant is part of the town's Community Improvement Program (CIP), which provides a \$150,000 fund to help local businesses make improvements to their facades and properties.

The \$150,000 represented the amount made available in 2017, but according to a town release sent Dec. 4, the program has resulted in \$322,000 being invested since the program's inception.

"The CIP has been described as a "tool box" of programs that encourages local businesses to make investments in their properties. Initially the program was restricted to specific areas in Halton Hills and provided funding for façade and building rehabili-

tation. In 2016, the Landscape Improvement Grant was offered for the first time," wrote the town in the release.

Local businesses can apply for funding to cover half of their planned improvements up to \$12,500.

"To be eligible, properties must be located in either the Acton or Georgetown Industrial Parks. Items covered under the grant include costs of fencing, landscaping and planting. Both new buildings and existing properties qualify for the program," added the release.

"I am pleased to see GEO Foundations expand in Acton and the enhanced landscaping provides a beautiful buffer between the roads and the neighbours," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "This project clearly demonstrates the value of the CIP and I invite other industrial business owners to consider making improvements to their properties."

Visit [haltonhills.ca/CommunityImprovementProgram/index.php](http://haltonhills.ca/CommunityImprovementProgram/index.php) for more information.

## COMMUNITY

# Georgetown Hospital Foundation appoints new executive director

**KATHRYN BOYLE**  
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The Georgetown Hospital Foundation (GHF) has announced Sandra Taylor as the foundation's new executive director.

According to a press release, Taylor is an accomplished executive with an impressive track record and more than 18 years of development experience in both the nonprofit and private sector at both the local and national level.

"Sandra is a seasoned and innovative development professional who brings expertise in organizational development, major gift fundraising, donor relations and volunteer management to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation," Marc Henein, Georgetown Hospital Foundation board chair, said. "I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Sandra. The Georgetown Hospital Foundation is very fortunate to recruit someone of her calibre, experience and commitment."

Taylor comes to Georgetown Hospital from Ketchum Canada

Inc. (KCI) where as senior consultant, she partnered with a variety of organizations to help them elevate their fundraising results and increase their operational effectiveness. She previously worked in leadership roles at the Canadian Liver Foundation, Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Easter Seal Society of Ontario.

Before moving into the nonprofit sector, Sandra worked in communications, marketing and event management at the Canadian Football League and Canadian Interuniversity Sport.

Taylor holds a bachelor of commerce degree from Laurentian University and certification in change management.

"I am very excited to be joining the Georgetown Hospital Foundation," Taylor said in the release. "It will be a tremendous privilege to support the vital role of this community hospital. I look forward to acquainting myself with Georgetown Hospital and its supporters, and building on the wonderful successes of the Foundation."

**DR. ANOOP SAYAL & ASSOCIATES**  
*Family and Cosmetic Dentistry*

Dr. Sayal and staff want to thank our family of patients for all their support with our Annual Food Drive. Over the last 20 years we have raised thousands of dollars and many thousands of pounds of food. As is our tradition, in lieu of Christmas cards, a donation has been made to the Georgetown Bread Basket.

Lori Brading of The Georgetown Bread Basket along with Dr. Sayal and his staff

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