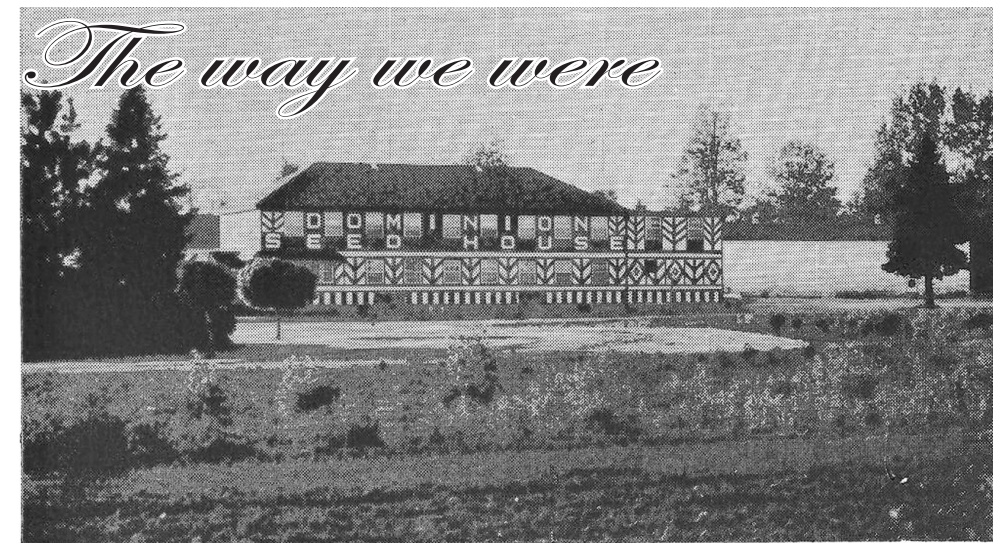


COMMENT



HISTORICAL SITES
GEORGETOWN, ONTARIO
CANADA.

Dominion Seed House

With the official arrival of spring just a few days away, gardeners are wishfully thinking of the growing season ahead. Dominion Seed House played a big part in the lives of many Canadian gardeners, with new varieties of plants, bulbs and seeds, going on to become one of the country's largest mail order suppliers. While the building was demolished in 1999, today's Dominion Gardens Park pays tribute to this landmark business.

Photo courtesy of Esquesing Historical Society/Text courtesy of Heritage Halton Hills

From our readers



SPRING MELT

Spring arrives officially on March 20, at 12:30 a.m. but the Spring melt has already begun.

Photo by Rein Pater

Have a photo you want to share? Email — with details — to c3amble@theifp.ca.

Praise for Dufferin Aggregates

The Town of Halton Hills has recently received international and national recognition for sustainability and environmental initiatives.

I recently had the pleasure, along with Premier Kathleen Wynne, Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr, Regional Councillor Clark Somerville and local Councillor Bryan Lewis to congratulate Dufferin Aggregates, a division of CRH Canada Inc.

The company received the world's first responsible aggregate certificate (Cornerstone Standards) for the Acton Quarry.

By working proactively with the Town to address environmental and social impacts, the Acton Quarry has been able to incorporate sustainability principles into its ongoing operations and after uses.

The Acton Quarry willingly agreed to participate in the Halton Joint Agency Review Team (JART). JART is a successful process used in Halton Region to ensure effective review of aggregate applications.

I have advocated to the Province that all quarries should come under this scrutiny. The Acton Quarry has certainly raised the bar for quarries. I hope every quarry would follow their lead.

The Halton Hills Public Libraries are doing their part for sustainability and the environment.

They have introduced the first bar-coded wooden library card in Canada, doing away with the plastic one. There is a \$2 fee to exchange your old plastic one for the wooden card. This has received national media recognition. Congratulations to both Dufferin Aggregates and the Halton Hills Public Libraries for putting Halton Hills on the map for sustainability and the environment.

Staying with the theme of sustainability and the environment, our Halton Hills

Hydro will be having an electronics waste collection on Saturday, March 19, to be held in their parking lot on Alice St. in Acton.

Speaking of Halton Hills Hydro, ever wonder about your hydro bills and how they are set? Halton Hills Hydro rates are set by the provincial regulator, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). For every dollar you pay on your bill, only about 19 per cent stays with Halton Hills Hydro.

This covers 52 employees, capital costs (poles, conductors, tree trimming, transformers, trucks, computing equipment, fleet maintenance, etc). The other 84 per cent of your bill is the commodity, regulatory and transmission charges and they are paid either to the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO) or to Hydro One. Halton Hills Hydro collects the funds and passes them on to the IESO and/or Hydro One.

In 2014, Halton Hills Hydro received the prestigious Performance Excellence Award from the Electricity Distributors Association.

For the past three years Halton Hills Hydro has been ranked in the top category for efficiency in a report produced by the OEB.

We do also support Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnett's efforts in petitioning the government to take action to stabilize hydro rates.

Congratulations to: Sterling Dental on their recent grand opening in Georgetown.

Keeping it real! I can be reached at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342 or by email at mayor@haltonhills.ca or read my blog at www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com. You can also follow me on twitter at: @Rick-Bonnette1



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