

# One Brick at a Time

## Rotary supports Town Hall Centre project

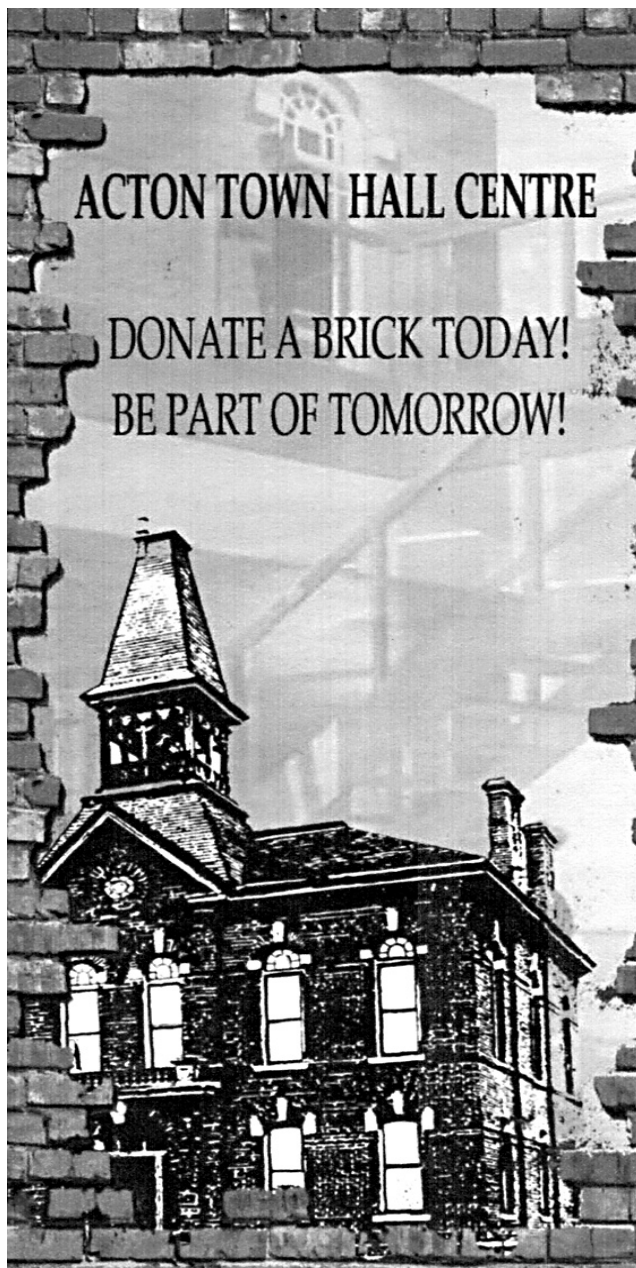
Authentic engraved town hall bricks will form a commemorative wall in the expanded Acton Town Hall Centre. Heritage Acton and the Rotary Club of Acton launched a "Buy a Brick" donation campaign on Tuesday, looking for \$150,000 to complete expansion of the heritage building, built for \$6,000 in 1883, to include an elevator and a Citizens Hall, using the bricks in an interior wall.

Supporters are asked to buy bricks – Bronze support is \$100, a cornerstone is \$10,000 – which will be engraved with a name or short dedication. Along with the anticipated \$150,000 brick campaign, Heritage Acton has a \$150,000 Trillium Foundation grant and \$40,000 from the Town, to complete the \$340,000 renovation/rehabilitation/expansion of the Town Hall Centre, once the hub of law, entertainment and Acton government.

Heritage Acton chair Ron Birrell, who found a builder who had saved hundreds of bricks when part of the old town hall and stage were removed to make way for the fire department, said they have enough money to build a shell, and will break ground within weeks.

"We have the ability to put the building up and put the elevator in place and get open to that extent," Birrell said on Tuesday, adding the \$150,000 is needed to relocate the existing lady's washroom, put a kitchen/servery on the main floor and build storage on the first and second floor in the addition.

"The key is to get in the ground – the architect



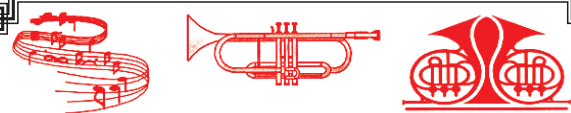
is about 85 per cent complete on drawings, the sub-consultants are well on their way... and we have a formal presentation to make to the Halton Heritage Committee on June 15 and once we're by that, we should be in a position to get a permit to break ground."

Rotary President Robert Bedard said they were well aware of the need to make the building accessible – Rotary was forced to find a new place to meet recently when it became too difficult for some members to use the stairs. As well, Rotary liked the idea of a Citizens Hall, where Rotary Citizens of the Year could be recognized.

"We've made a commitment to provide significant funding over the next five years," Bedard said on Tuesday, adding that includes \$20,000 now and the balance over four years. "We see this project as having a huge amount of value to the community, as it is used for youth dances, plays, weddings and dinners," Bedard said.

Heritage Acton member Kathleen Dills said the Buy a Brick campaign is a way to raise money without going to the same local companies and people who already donate.

"So, we're appealing to the town of Acton and its population to buy a brick for the wall which will become a part of the history of Acton," Dills said on Tuesday, adding other features of the Citizens' Hall will be the original Acton train sign, and the historical painting depicting Acton that hung in the old library.



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**2:00 p.m.**

at

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All proceeds will go to the Primate World Relief and Development Fund. (The Primate is the Anglican Archbishop of Canada).

The money is used for projects in Canada and around the world.

For inquiries, please phone  
519-853-0133 or 519-853-1047