



An artist's conception of the murals to be mounted on the Mill St. wall of Branch 120 of the Royal Canadian Legion, Georgetown.

Concept by artist Robert Johannsen

Georgetown Legion's wall mural campaign seeks fundraising boost

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

Donations have been coming in, but the Georgetown Legion/BIA Mural committee is shy of its goal for the mural planned to beautify the Legion building on Mill St.

To date \$23,000 has been raised of the \$30,000 target and committee members are hoping more donations will come in so the mural can be completed and installed for Remembrance Day on November 11.

The mural is being done by artist Robert Johannsen of Mississauga, whose previous work includes a mural completed in 2004 depicting the Niagara Escarpment, Bruce Trail and Limehouse Kilns on a building on Wesleyan St.

For the Legion project Johannsen is working in his studio on four separate 8ft. wide by 16 ft. high paintings, consisting of four panels each. Once complete, the panels depicting the Town's military history in all arenas of war as well as peace keeping missions will be installed on the exterior wall of the legion building.

"They wanted something that would be removable," said Johannsen. He added removable panel murals have "become a trend of the last decade or so."

Johannsen has been a painter/artist/illustrator since about 1985 and much of his work is now done on the computer,

but he said it's "been a great opportunity to get back to my roots" for the legion mural project.

He's using exterior latex paint for the mural. All the paint and material has been donated by Dulux Paints on Guelph St.

The mural on panels will be the first of its kind in Georgetown said Wendy Farrow-Reed of the Georgetown BIA.

The Legion was expecting to do some repairs on the wall before the mural was installed but in preparing the wall for the installation Farrow-Reed said the Legion discovered the repairs needed are more than originally thought.

She said the cost to fix the wall will be in the \$5,000 to \$8,000 range so additional funds are now required for the mural project, as the Legion doesn't have funds to draw on for the repairs.

Monetary contributors to the project have included the Town of Halton Hills, Legion Ladies Auxillary and Royal Canadian Legion, BIA members and some community members.

Anyone interested in making a donation to the project is asked to send a cheque to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120, 127 Mill St., Georgetown, ON, L7G 2C7 or to BIA-Attention Wendy Farrow Reed-87 Main St. Georgetown, ON L7G 3E5. For more information call 905-873-4970, email georgetownbia@cogeco.net.

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