

Queen's Jubilee Medals for Hurst & Helson

Jubilee Medals awarded to two Halton Hills citizens who 'helped build the Canada of today'

"Hi Ma, I'm so glad you're here." Receiving a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal was decidedly a family affair for Acton Councillor Jon Hurst, whose mother Nan Hurst joined proud family and friends as her son was honoured at Town Council on Monday night, along with former Georgetown

lawyer and philanthropist Fred Helson.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, on behalf of Governor-General Davis Johnston, said he was asked to supply names of candidates who helped build the Canada of today, people whose achievements make them highly respected in the

community, and he decided to enlist the help of the municipal councils in the riding to come up with the names of leading citizens.

In announcing the medal for retired lawyer Fred Helson, Mayor Rick Bonnette said Helson's long history of community involvement and "legendary" generosity extended to many community groups including board positions with the Georgetown Hospital, North Halton Golf Course, the Friends of Devereaux House, Globe Productions, Georgetown Little Theatre, and the Choral Society. "Most recently

he donated \$1-million to the (Georgetown) hospital expansion," Bonnette said, adding Helson has volunteered his time, expertise and finances.

Helson, 90, who said he'd been "lured" to the Civic Centre under the ruse that the mayor was getting an award, received a standing ovation from the large crowd. He said it had been a "pleasure" to work with the municipality since he came to Georgetown in 1948, and hopes for more years.

Mayor Bonnette, who jokingly called Councillor Hurst "Saint John," detailed the character-

istics that led to Hurst's selection for the prestigious medal. Bonnette listed the organizations that Hurst, a former Acton Citizen of the Year and Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow, quietly donates his time and talent to, including Habitat for Humanity, the Terry Fox Run, and the Acton youth centre. "I can't think of a better humanitarian than Jon Hurst," Bonnette said as he led the crowd in another standing ovation.

Surprised by the honour, Hurst said he knew that "something was up" when he saw a row of his family members in the council chambers. After acknowledging his mother, who happily smiled and waved, Hurst said he felt "a little bit funny" accepting the medal, and also humbled, adding it should be shared with

everyone in Halton Hills who volunteers.

He said he appreciated that his family and friends were there to help him celebrate, and wistfully said there was one more person he wished was there, alluding to his late wife Maxine Hurst. "That's where I got my inspiration early on," he said, adding as a stay-at-home mom, his wife volunteered with many local organizations and "she taught me the joy of volunteering and the rewards you get from doing it," Hurst said while he volunteered, his wife was by his side, helping in the background, and "was a part of this."

Helson and Hurst received a medal, a lapel pin, a certificate signed by the Governor-General, and protocol information about wearing the medal.



SUMMER STAFF: This group of summer camp leaders can't wait for eager kids to begin Town summer programs. The leaders met potential campers and played some games on Saturday at Prospect Park. — Ted Tyler photo

Seatbelt and cell phone checks

The excuse that he had to be in Toronto in 30 minutes held no sway with Halton Constable Sarah McCullagh as she issued a ticket to a male motorist with his cell phone in his hand at the corner of Main and Mill Streets last Thursday afternoon. He was issued a \$155 ticket.

For several days last week and the week before, Constable Jason Lyons, joined by Constable McCullagh last Thursday, stood beside Halton Hills Furniture and carefully checked for seatbelt and cell phone

compliance by passing motorists. Last week five tickets were issued — four for cell phone use and one seat belt infraction (\$240 fine and two points) — and at least 10 "finger wave" warnings to drivers who managed to drive away when the light changed.

Constable Lyons said while they are visible to drivers heading west and northbound, he still had one driver, so intent on his cell phone call as he waited to make his turn, that he did not see the officer standing not 50 feet away.



Michael Chong

Member of Parliament,
Wellington - Halton Hills



Happy Canada Day!  **Happy Dominion Day!**

On July 1st, 1867, Canada was born when the three colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick united to form a new nation called the "Dominion of Canada".

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