



David Smith

# CAO Smith coming to Halton Hills

David Smith has won the job as the Mayor's right-hand-man and top staffer at the Civic Centre. He takes over as CAO of Halton Hills on October 1, replacing Dennis Perlin who retires September 28 after seven years at the helm. Smith is currently Waterloo's Deputy-Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager of Community, Culture and Recreation Services.

Search committee member Mayor Rick Bonnette said Smith has the expertise, broad background and knowledge of the area and is best able to carry

out the will of Council and deal with staff. Prior to Waterloo, Smith had a 25-plus year career with the City of Mississauga in recreation and parks and the library system. Off-hours, the rural Hillsburgh resident coaches minor sports and builds dry-stone walls.

With applications from 60 Canada-wide candidates, six were short-listed for interviews and three chosen as finalists. Bonnette said they heard good things about the Town from candidates, including that "we punch above our weight," and the Town

is a desirable place to work.

With a large number of issues on the plate – arena expansions, library and cultural centre renovations, the Strategic Plans and Sustainability – Bonnette said we need a seamless transfer in the CAO's office. Smith will earn \$175,000 and benefits.

### AMO convention

When municipal leaders from across the province gather in Ottawa next week for the annual AMO – Association of Municipality of Ontario – convention, Regional/Acton Coun-

cillor Clark Somerville is looking forward to speaking directly with Cabinet Ministers about local issues. "This will be even more interesting because of the by-elections in Vaughn and Kitchener – the Premiere always speaks and we can sign up for meetings with the various Ministers," Somerville said on Sunday, adding he wants to talk to several ministers about the government's announced plan to end the slots-at-racetracks program which will hurt the horse industry in the province, including in the Acton area.



### Good and bad luck

The Blooms Away Flower delivery van was stolen and then recovered in downtown Acton last week. At the start of the business day last Wednesday, the van – a 2002 Dodge Caravan – was parked at the side of the building, but at the end of the day it was gone, including \$1,750 worth of tools in the back.

Two days later, the van, undamaged and with all of the tools, was recovered from behind Wares (Napa) Automotive. Two white males were seen in the vicinity of the van. They are in their early 20's and

"lanky." One was wearing light coloured shorts and top with a baseball cap worn sideways. The other was wearing dark shorts and top. Anyone within information can call Halton police 905-878-5511, ext. 2415.

### Smoke complaint

Responding to a call of smoke spotted behind the Halton Hills Hydro building on Alice Street, Acton fire fighters found it was coming from an unattended fire burning behind a Willow Street North property. The homeowner did not have the required Burn Permit and the fire was extinguished.

Report from

## PARLIAMENT HILL

By Mike Chong

MP Wellington/ Halton Hills



The Government of Canada remains focused on creating jobs and economic growth by implementing Budget 2012. Since the end of the recession in July 2009, the government's Economic Action Plan has helped create nearly 760,000 net new jobs, and we maintain the strongest fiscal position in the G-7.

We recognize that the future of growth and prosperity in Canada is dependent on getting more people into the labour force, including Canadians with disabilities. Building on a commitment made in Budget 2012, the government recently announced the creation of the Panel on Labour Market Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities.

Over time, society's understanding of the term disability has broadened to include physical, mental and intellectual, visible and invisible, permanent and episodic disabilities, as well as disabilities of gradual and sudden onset. People who experience these various types of disabilities may require appropriate support and accommodation to ensure that they can fully participate in the workplace.

Many Canadian businesses have already adopted innovative approaches to the employment of people with disabilities that are both effective and affordable, and it is important to build on this experience and expertise.

The mandate of the Panel on Labour Market

Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities is to identify private sector successes and best practices with regard to labour market participation of persons with disabilities. In addition, the Panel will identify barriers and disincentives to their employment.

The Panel is interested in hearing about the various ways employers have recruited and supported employees with disabilities at various stages in their careers, and how these best practices have benefitted their businesses. The Panel would also like to hear about the challenges that businesses may have faced in trying to hire or retain persons with disabilities.

Mr. Kenneth J. Fredeen, General Counsel with Deloitte & Touche LLP, will serve as Chair of the Panel. Other members include executives from the Neil Squire Society, Loblaw Companies, and Megleen Inc. (operator of Tim Hortons

franchises).

An online consultation process will start in early September, and the Panel encourages Canadians to participate. They can be reached at panel@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca. The Panel has already begun to meet, and it will prepare a report on its findings by December 2012.

This initiative will allow the government to work with our partners to remove barriers and improve the quality of life for all Canadians. Creating inclusive and accommodating workplaces also enhances the government's plan for jobs and growth across Canada.

For more information on Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, including the Panel on Labour Market Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, please visit <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca>. You can also contact me by phone at (866) 878-5556 or by email at michael.chong@parl.gc.ca

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