

Tour and cheque presentation at Acton Town Hall Centre

*\$600,000
addition
includes
elevator*

Acton Rotarians who delivered a \$50,000 ceremonial cheque to Heritage Acton on Saturday morning got to see how their money would be spent during a tour of the \$600,000 expansion of the Town Hall Centre on Willow Street.

The exterior of the expansion – which will mirror the existing Italianate style of the heritage building – is built, and now interior work is underway. Led on the tour by Heritage Acton Chair Ron Birrell, the Rotarians, members of the Georgetown Little Theatre and Heritage Acton members were told the project is at an “interesting” point as the focus shifts from the building trades to the finishing trades.



JUST IMAGINE: Heritage Acton Chair Ron Birrell (right) led a tour of Acton Rotarians, and members of Heritage Acton and the Georgetown Little Theatre through the addition at the Acton Town Hall Centre on Saturday morning. – Frances Learment photo

“With in the next two weeks we’re going to see floors poured, drywallers in here and the elevator contractor in here to do the finishing up of the facility,” Birrell said as he pointed to where the new double doors would come on the ground floor of the expansion into a Citizens’ Hall with an “antique-look” elevator making

the facility accessible, and floating stairs to a mezzanine.

With brick approved by the Ontario Heritage Trust, and soaring windows to mirror those on the existing building, Birrell asked people to imagine “walking into the space here – you can appreciate it will be nice and bright with lots of

windows – a Citizens’ Hall where we can tell some of our community’s stories,” Birrell said. (Following the tour, some Heritage Acton members marked where electrical outlets are needed for future display cases.)

Both the elevator and a set of floating stairs will lead to the upper level mezzanine. Pointing to what was the southerly

exterior brick wall of the Town Hall Centre, Birrell said an “ugly” door would be removed, a window location shifted and the brick would be cleaned as required by heritage officials.

Noting that all kinds of Acton memorabilia has been donated included the original Acton train station sign, which could become part of the facility’s box

office, an anxious Birrell said that kind of details are future dreams.

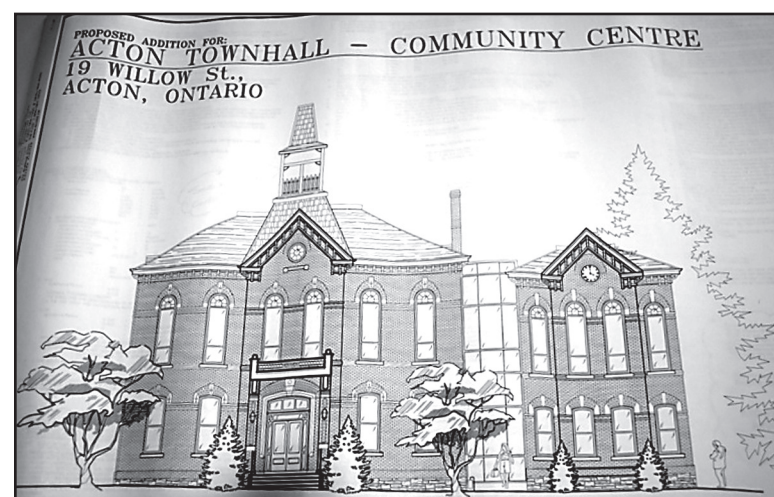
The tour also included a new electrical room, furnace room with its energy-efficient hot-water heating system, and foundation for a future storage area expansion.

Although the large ceremonial cheque from the Rotary Club of Acton read \$50,000, in fact, Rotary gave Heritage Acton \$20,000 with the promise of the balance over the next few years. “Rotary likes to do project international, nationally and locally, and this was a project we recognized this as a development opportunity in the community,” said Robert Bedard, who is Rotary treasurer and a Heritage Acton member. He said the project was worthwhile and Rotary was proud to help.

For the Georgetown Little Theatre, the expansion is an added bonus to the lure of the heritage facility and lovingly-restored stage for its productions. “We open February 8 with *Frozen Dreams*, a comedy about three homeless people in Toronto,”

said publicity director Pam Niesiobedzki.

She said while they looked at churches and high schools to stage their productions, the “clincher” at the Town Hall Centre was finding “partnership with a community of people who match our mindset.”



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ACTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting to be held on
Saturday, January 19th, 2013
starting at 9:30am in the boardroom of the
Dufferin Rural Heritage Community Centre.

The first part of the meeting is open to the public and anyone who might be interested in becoming a new member.

Come out and see what we are all about.

After the break, the meeting is open to current members only. The purpose of the second half will be to receive the Financial Statements for 2012 and for the Election of Officers and Directors.

Jill Medland
Secretary/Treasurer
Acton Ag Society

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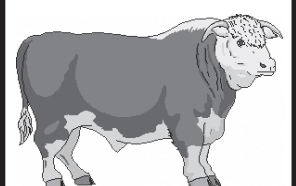
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What's Your Beef?



*Put it in a
letter to the
Editor!*

Deadline is Tuesday
at noon