

Come Celebrate!

The Official Grand Opening of the Halton Hills Library & Cultural Centre

Saturday, January 26, 2013

9:30 am - 5:00 pm

9 Church Street, Halton Hills, ON

A fun-filled day for the whole family

Special Highlights include:

Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11:00 am

Author Visit by
CBC Hockey Night in
Canada commentator,
Gord Stellick



Meet and Greet Event
with Paws to Read
Therapy Dogs

Special Performances by:

- Gaudeamus Children's Choir
- Children's Entertainer, Cousin Molly
- Rhiannon and Henry Carter
- Georgetown Children's Chorus

- Real-time mural artist, Rasa Morrison
- Scavenger Hunts
- Teddy Bear Sleepover
- Make and Take Crafts
- Prizes including a KOBO eReader and iTunes gift cards.

For more information
about the grand opening events,
please visit our website at www.haltonhills.ca.

HALTON HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
A World Within Our Doors



'Disruption and confusion' for some Acton parents



LAST-MINUTE SCRAMBLE: Many students at Robert School would have preferred to have had the day off on Friday, but a labour board ruling cancelled the teachers' unions planned day of protest, so Mom Melanie Fox (left), with son Connor Hope and his friend Gregory Barrett, joined Logan, Angela and Melissa Butcher at the school doors. — Frances Learment photo

Court bans teacher protest - schools open

Friday was like a snow day at Acton's two public elementary schools — many parents — surprised to find Halton schools open when they awoke — scrambled to change plans made to deal with the teachers' day of protest which was deemed illegal in a 4 a.m. Friday Ontario Labour Relations Board ruling.

Teachers were directed to report to their schools, and by 7:30 a.m., the Halton District School Board used its notification system and website to "welcome" parents to send their kids to schools, apologizing for the "disruption and confusion."

With just 30 minutes notice Town crossing guard Diane Torraville was asked to "get to my post" at Main Street and School Lane, but by 9 a.m. she'd escorted just three Robert Little School students across the busy intersection.

Both Logan, 6, and Angela Butcher, 8, were disappointed when dropped off by mom Melissa Butcher at Robert Little School. The Grade one and three students were looking forward to a "play date" but mom had other ideas. "I want my kids to be in school," Butcher said.

Laying blame for the labour unrest with the

teachers' union, Butcher doesn't think the contractual bickering has affected her children's education, but noted her daughter's class didn't have a Christmas concert and Angela missed being in the school's acclaimed extracurricular Everybody Dance Club.

An unofficial Board directive and professionalism keeps the labour unrest out of the classrooms said Robert Little Principal Carolyn Reist. "There's such a close knit staff here and everybody is dedicated to what they are doing that we'll manage," she said as the bell rang. Thanking a supervisor, who is also a crossing guard, for being on "fast alert" and smiling, Reist said "it's knee-jerk right now for what our directives are, but I appreciate...the smile — that's what the kids need to see, too."

At McKenzie-Smith Bennett School, Principal Lisa Serebrin said students continued to trickle in after the bell and some classes have a lot of students and some have a few. She said despite the labour unrest, the atmosphere was "very good, (and) very positive" and during the day it is regular business. Asked about extracurricular programs affected by the labour unrest, Serebrin directed all questions to the Board.

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