

Acton's bountiful garden shed project blooms

Students get hands on experience and help the Community Garden

Seven Grade 12 Acton High School Construction Technology students measured twice and cut once as they assembled a wooden garden shed in the Acton Community Garden earlier this week. The project was collaboration between the school, Town and local businesses for the cooperative Garden, now in its second season, growing and providing food for anyone who needs it.

The 10 by 10-foot shed's walls, doors, windows and trusses were built at the school and delivered to the site off Elizabeth Drive for assembly on Friday, a day late because of rain. The metal roof was attached on Monday when the doors and windows were installed.

The shed project replaces the Garden's former primitive watering system – two barrels which required weekly deliveries from the Town – and it gave the class a hands-on project for the benefit of the community, all under the watchful eye of teacher Terry

Roesch who started the project – initially they built decks and sheds – 16 years ago to “get the kids involved in the community,” Roesch said on Friday at the site.

He said Community Garden committee member, Acton Councillor Jon Hurst was impressed with the garden shed the class built for him last year and approached the school last fall. In April, following several weeks of safety instruction, the students did estimating, scheduling and surveying assignments and then began the hands-on construction.

“This project gives the students a chance to help the community and use the skills they've learned,” Roesch said, adding each student had a hand in all aspects of the construction process, and the project is half of the semester's work.

Community Garden committee member Jon Hurst said Roesch was “gung ho” when approached by the committee to involve the class in the project. Hurst said the roof

overhangs on two sides so they can catch rain-water to irrigate the gardens, many which are sprouting. “It is a sustainable opportunity to lessen the burden on the town as far as having to deliver water,” Hurst said. He noted the two new 275-gallon tanks came from a donor who wants to remain nameless, and Acton's George Forbes helped haul the shed parts to the site.

Allison Jones, Community Garden spokesperson said many people and businesses deserve thanks for their generosity including Dufferin Aggregates, which donated 10-tonnes of gravel, Dufferin Concrete, which donated four yards of concrete for a pad, and Leathertown Lumber for “excellent pricing and terrific customer service.” She said Leathertown would also supply the cedar they use to build wheelchair accessible beds. She said the approximate cost of the shed, without donations, was \$2,000.



CONSTRUCTION CREW: Grade 12 Construction Technology students from Acton High school built a garden shed for the Acton Community Garden as a class and community project. The crew included: from left: teacher Terry Roesch, Mitch Gendron, Matt Goodfellow, Nick McKay, Nigel Buttivant, Ryan White, Braden Johnson and Jacob Lawrence. – Frances Learment photos




TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, and Town of Halton Hills By-law 2003-0032 regarding the following temporary road closure for the purpose of the following community event:

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE DUE TO EVENT

<p>Acton Farmer's Market</p> <p>Thursdays from June 13th until October 10th 1:00PM - 8:00PM</p> <p>Organized by: Acton BIA</p>	<p>Willow St. S from Mill to Church</p>
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If you require any additional information regarding this road closure, please contact the Recreation and Parks Department 905-873-2601 ext. 2269.