

Town disputes condition of skatepark some users called 'dangerous'

Town inspection found 'no major divots or holes'

Some kids might find the Acton skateboard park "dangerous" and "scary", but they continue to use the popular facility, avoiding the bigger cracks and holes, and warning others to do the same.

"It's not that dangerous, but (it) depends on the person that goes down and what they're riding – it could be really dangerous," Brandon Miles, 10, said, a sentiment echoed by several other riders at the park last Thursday afternoon, including one who called a large hole at the base of a ramp are "scary."

In an email yesterday (Wednesday) Warren Harris, the Town's Manager of Parks and Open Spaces said an inspection on Monday "found some cracking which will be treated later this summer, but no major divots or holes." He said cracks, many as a result from BMX bikes, were repaired in 2009, and last year with a transparent epoxy filler, and while cracks may be visible, "voids are filled." An older teen, who did not want to be identified, or bothered by a reporter, said a "huge, two-inch" hole



CRACK CONCERNS: Users of the Acton skateboard park, including Acton's Eric Mackenzie, 12, know to avoid the many patched cracks and holes at the seven-year-old facility at the Acton arena/ community centre. – Frances Learment photo

at the bottom of a ramp is "unsafe" and earlier repairs didn't work. "They fix it and it just gets broken again..." the teen said as other casual

users, and 30 participants in the Town's Epic Sports Camp, whizzed by.

Acton's Eric Mackenzie, 12, avoids the worst cracks

and holes after he saw two riders, one on a skateboard and one on a scooter, hit cracks at the bottom of a ramp and fall onto the grass

beside the cement, unhurt but shaken.

He is not concerned for his own safety. "I know the park well and know

where all the defects are," Mackenzie said on Monday, adding he really likes the Acton facility because it is a challenge, adding he warns riders about the worst cracks and shifting cement pads that jar riders.

The 3 Musketeers skateboard park, constructed of specially mixed cement designed to withstand the wear and tear of tough sports, opened seven summers ago by the arena, and continues to be popular with skateboarders, scooter riders and BMX bikers.

Spurred by then-McKenzie-Smith Bennett special education teacher Linda Bowen, a committee of parents/boarders and boosters approached the Town, which endorsed the park with \$298,000. Family and friends of three Acton teens killed in a train/car collision in 2000 – the 3 Musketeers memorialized by the facility – raised \$30,000 with annual golf tournaments.

The park's stairs, hubba ledges, rails, fun box, hips, banked corners and a straight ledge are based on results of surveys sent to Acton area schools which resulted in a linear layout with a circuit system.



NOT THAT DANGEROUS: Acton's Brandon Miles, 10, knows to avoid this previously-repaired crack and hole at the 3-Musketeers skate park. – Frances Learment photo

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

Acton Leathertown Festival	
Sunday, August 11 th , 2013 7:00AM - 7:00PM	Mill Street between Main Street to Eastern Avenue
Organized by: Acton BIA	

If you require any additional information regarding this road closure, please contact the Recreation and Parks Department 905-873-2601 ext. 2269.

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2
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Knox Presbyterian Church



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Acton, Ontario L7J 1W2
(519)853-2360
knox-acton@hotmail.ca

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

In a world of change, come and worship
the unchanging God.

Sunday, August 4 - Patrick Gushue
Sunday, August 11 - Rev. Don Boyd
Sunday, August 18 - Patrick Gushue
Sunday, August 25 - Patrick Gushue

TED ARNOTT, MPP
Wellington-Halton Hills

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