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Acton Community Garden becomes even more accessible

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Even though the Acton Community Garden was designed to be wheelchair-accessible, some work was done recently at Rotary Park to make the site even more inclusive for people with disabilities.

The ACGs organizing committee partnered with the Town of Halton Hills to replace grass surfaces with pathways to enable gardeners better access from the sidewalk on Elizabeth St.

Founding leader Allison Jones said it s the only community garden of its kind in Halton Region in that it operates to the same standard of accessibility and framework of sharing.

Because the garden is located in close proximity to a seniors residence, we want to make sure that we maximize the usefulness of it, so people can come sit and garden with the pedestals.

Started up by a group of residents six years ago, the garden truly is a co-operative, community effort, Jones said.

The seeds for the garden come from stu-

dents at local elementary schools and in a program at the Acton branch of the Halton Hills Public Library.

Councillor Mike Albano helped co-ordinate the most recent work done on improving the wheelchair accessibility and Dufferin Aggregates donated approximately 38 tons of limestone screenings.

The wheelchair-accessible pedestal bed was installed by local youths in 2015 as part of the Halton Regional Police Service's Random Acts of Kindness Program.

Staff from the Town completed work on the pathways and will be reimbursed by Acton Community Garden's organizing committee with grant money received three years ago from the Halton Hills Sustainability Fund.

This garden belongs to everyone, Jones added.

If you grab some herbs on your way home from work for your dinner, that s the proper use of the community garden.

During the summer months, a harvest is held each Wednesday at the community garden, with vegetables donated to the Food-4Life pick-up Thursday mornings.

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