

Blue Parrot Night Club shooting: Acton-raised DJ at the same festival where a Canadian bouncer was killed

By: Harry Rudolfs

Five people including one Canadian were killed when gunmen exchanged fire in the Blue Parrot nightclub in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico on the morning of Monday, January 16.

Kirk Wilson of Hamilton, Ont, was working security at the club and was among those slain. The event was a venue for the BPM Festival which runs for 10 days in the Mexican resort town south of Cancun. The festival has been an annual event since 2008, and was co-founded by a pair of Canadians.

The altercation has a local connection, as Jonathan Coe, born and raised in Acton, was performing as a DJ during the festival. The 43 year old artist had performed at the Blue Parrot six days earlier.

At the time of the

shooting, Coe was with another artist and his crew of friends at the Jungle—a venue located at the outskirts of the city. “We were verbally informed of an incident while sipping tequila in the artist hospitality area...Shortly after this, the staff shut down the music and production and announced that the party had to end for safety concerns.”

Although Coe did not witness the carnage, he knows friends who did. “I was never in any danger, but close friends were right next to the incident. People I care about saw other people die in front of them. They told me directly what they saw. It is upsetting; to myself it is a real thing that happened, not just some news story.”

Coe travels extensively and has attended many similar festivals.

He thinks it’s wrong to assume that the world of electronic music is dangerous and attracts this kind of activity. “Dance music has always been about community and welcoming others. Violence is rare or non-existent. Cartels are to blame; those who died were ones who were positioned to keep everyone safe. That needs to be remembered—they were protecting us, and lost their lives doing so.”

Coe admits that his Acton roots have shaped the person he has become. “Growing up in a small town made me want to discover the rest of the much bigger world,” he said. The web-designer and DJ now makes his home in Toronto, and sometimes Berlin. But he still gets back to Acton twice a year to visit his parents Rick and Linda Coe who still reside here.

MAYOR’S CORNER

By: Rick Bonnette



Happy New Year and welcome to 2017

There is a lot of excitement and anticipation that Canadian owned Vancouver-based Futura Properties Limited has purchased 55 acres of industrial land in Acton. This will result in full time jobs for local residents. The first phase will be a 150,000 sq ft. building to be completed by late 2017 or early 2018. This 55 acre site will be developed over the next few years. Overall, this will be a \$30 million investment in our town.

At the Halton Hills Cultural Centre, there is a fascinating exhibit of archival photos covering 100 years of Canadian/Chinese relations. Canadian’s in Chengdu (China) is a gift to Canadians from a group of Chinese historians, artists and corporate donors. The exhibit is being displayed at the

Helson Gallery until February 26.

January is Crime Stoppers Month. The theme this year is See something, Hear something, Say something. Throughout the years, callers to Halton Crime Stoppers have provided tips anonymously that have led to the solving of homicides, break-ins, assaults, sexual attacks, animal abuse and robberies in Halton Region. Last year tips to Halton Crime Stoppers led to the arrest of 36 individuals, the recovery of \$40,630 in stolen property, and the seizure of illegal drugs with a street value of \$87,600.

There are three ways to submit anonymous tips:

Phone: 1-800-288-TIPS (8477) – calls are not displayed, traced or tracked

Text: CRIMES (274637) your text is encrypted to protect your

identity

Online, visit the website: haltoncrimestoppers.ca/submit_tip.php

You could be rewarded up to \$2,000 if your tip leads to an arrest.

On behalf of myself and council, thank you to Graeme Goebelle for his great work as Chair on the Halton Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) board. It has been a pleasure working with him and he will be missed.

Congratulations to Shumaker’s shoe store on their recent grand opening at the Georgetown Market Place.

Keeping it real. I can be reached by telephone at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342 or by email at mayor@haltonhills.ca or read my blog at www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com. You can also follow me on twitter at: @RickBonnette1



TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Town of Halton Hills is inviting applications for appointment of new members to the Board of Directors for Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation and affiliates.

Persons interested in being a Director on the Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation Board and affiliates must reside in and have a good knowledge of Halton Hills and, a reputation for personal integrity and honesty. Candidates will be appointed based on the following criteria:

- Experience in energy policy;
- Experience in management and operation of regulated assets, such as electricity distribution and generation;
- Experience in dealing with government and regulatory agencies;
- Experience in corporate finance and accounting;
- Experience in human resource management; and
- Experience in corporate structuring.

In order to express your interest in a position on the Board of Directors for Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation and affiliates, please submit your confidential Letter of Interest with background and qualifications by February 24, 2017 to:

Renée Brown
Council and Committee Services Coordinator (Deputy Clerk)
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2
Or
renee@haltonhills.ca

Applicants must ensure that no conflict of interest will exist with this appointment.

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