

# Canada Day tulips

*Red and white  
or marshmallow  
multi-colour?*

By: Jane Dougan

Rockwood's Kellie Joyce spent her flower garden budget last year on hundreds of limited-edition Canada 150 tulip bulbs distributed through Home Hardware stores in partnership with the National Capital Commission (NCC), the Netherlands, and Communities in Bloom. The jaunty image on the boxes promised that bulbs planted last fall would bloom red-and-white this spring, Canada's 150th, in homage to the

Canadian flag.

"I live on the main street of Rockwood, I wanted to be patriotic, I wanted a nice show," Joyce explains. Joyce planted 500 bulbs throughout her front garden. "It was hard work." This spring, she was surprised when bulbs of all different colours started blooming; purple, yellow, orange ... not variegated red and white, as she expected. "I thought, this is starting to

look like a bag of coloured marshmallows." So far, just one Canada Day tulip has emerged from amongst the pack.

Joyce contacted Home Hardware's head office. On Monday, the local distributor of the bulbs from



Kellie Joyce

Holland drove out from Niagara to look at her garden and agreed that there must have been a distribution problem.

"There are about 40 complaints from the 519 area. He told me to look at the leaves—the Canada 150 bulbs have a white rim

around the edge." Later in the day, Home Hardware's head office emailed to confirm that they would fully refund her money. "That's my real takeaway – how great everyone has been. The Head Office said they really appreciated that I'd got in touch with them.

And Paul, locally? I can't say enough good things about his customer service. He's a sweetheart; his smile makes it all worthwhile just to go into his store." Joyce laughed. "Maybe all the colours reflect Canada's diversity more than just red and white."

## 2017-18 school year calendar approved

The Halton District School Board has received official approval from the Ontario Ministry of Education for its 2017-18 school year calendar.

The calendar's proposed dates were approved by Trustees of the Halton District School Board at the April 5, Board meeting. Calendar dates are

always subject to ministry approval.

These dates have been provided to schools to be shared with students and parents, and are also posted on the Board's website at [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca) (refer to Calendar on the home page).

The school year calendar is developed with input from the School

Year Calendar Committee consisting of representatives from interested and affected groups, including parents. The 2017-2018 school year calendar is aligned with the Halton Catholic District School Board calendar to save resources on school bus transportation, which is shared between the boards.

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