Committee 'totally blown away by the response'

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To get the flags needed to participate in the challenge, the committee bought the fabric, dowels and clips to create them, using sponsorships from community businesses, and assembled 10,000 flags. Doing it this way cut costs and made the challenge affordable and appropriate for everyone. When they sold out, the group ordered another shipment, and by July 1, assembled 23,000 flags. Hundreds, if not thousands, of volunteer hours were put into production.

The flags were then delivered to 11 different distribution places within Halton Hills to be purchased for \$2.

"It was quite a significant effort," Lawlor said. "It wasn't just a matter of filling the chamber of commerce back room with flags and then sending them out."

By July 1, the exact number of flags flying proudly in Halton Hills in time for Canada Day was 57,073. Statistically, Halton Hills has an average of two flags per household - beating Thorold.

"We are totally blown away by the response," Cardon said. "It just captured the hearts of the spirit of the town."

Now that the project is over, Cardon said there is money left over, the committee plans on using it for a legacy project commemorate the efforts the community, though that idea has not been decided on yet.

Achieving the number could not have been reached without the hard work of each resident, committee member, and business owner.

"You guys rock!" Cardon laughed. "We're really seeing the sense of community that's here. When we gave the community this challenge, they took it up with so much enthusiasm and pride, and that became abundantly apparent when everyone got behind this and they were talking about it and buying more and more flags."

"There's so much pride in this town, and it's so visible now," she said. "We knew this town had heart, we knew it was proud of living in Halton Hills, but this gave them a very visible, tangible way of demonstrating their pride in their community and their pride in their country."

For more information, or register your flag, visit haltonhillscanada150.ca.





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