

Habitat for Humanity home almost ready for occupancy



By: Harry Rudolfs

It's almost finished. The fully-accessible Habitat for Humanity home at 92 Mill Street West should be ready for its new residents at the end of March.

"All the construction is done," according to Eric Wickham, communication specialist for Habitat for Humanity Halton-Mississauga. "What's left to do is some landscaping, fen-

cing and grading, and the driveway has to be done after the snow melts."

Part of the delay was bureaucratic, added Wickham. "There was a moratorium on in-fill redevelopment in Halton Hills. And because of the redesign of the house, compared to the original building, we had to work around certain regulations."

The Bett-Knowlton Build—named after two long-serving volunteers, Chris Bett and Austin Knowlton—has been several years in process. The project is unique in that it's being co-partnered by Community Living North Halton and Habitat for Humanity. CLNH actually holds an interest-free mortgage on the property.

"This is the first partnership of this kind that we've done," said Wickham. "We love the idea of working alongside

other non-profit organizations."

Most of the work on the house was done in a flurry of activity last summer. Large groups of volunteers from Whirlpool, Genworth Canada and Sobeys—the major sponsors, among others—arrived weekly for "team days" and tackled most of the framing work.

"We're using integrated partners, not just financial donors," said John Gerrard, CEO for HFHMH. "It's really part of what being Canadian is about—providing safe and affordable housing to those less fortunate. We look forward to building more homes in Acton. The people of Acton have really taken this project to heart."

If everything goes according to plan, the four autistic men slated to move into the house, should be living in their new home by April 1.



Halton Hills Transit Service Strategy

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1

The Town of Halton Hills in collaboration with WSP Canada Group Ltd. is developing a Transit Service Strategy. The study will evaluate service alternatives and explore opportunities for a made-in-Halton Hills transit solution to meet the current and future mobility needs of the community.

DATE: **Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

TIME: **6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** (Presentation at 7:00 p.m.)

LOCATION: **Town of Halton Hills, Council Chambers**
1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown, ON

Since the commencement of the study, the consultant team and the Town have been working together to review current policies and best practices, establish an understanding of the current context and existing transit conditions, and initiate a comprehensive consultation and engagement program with key decision makers, local businesses, stakeholders, technical agencies and residents.

To initiate the first round of consultation, we will be hosting a **public open house session on Wednesday, February 21, 2018** between **6:30 p.m.** and **8:30 p.m.** The public open house session will be a drop-in style with a formal presentation being held at 7:00 p.m. Members of the study team will be available to answer any questions you may have and interactive display materials will be available for you to provide your input. The purpose of these sessions will be to:

1. Inform you of the objectives and purpose of the Transit Service Strategy study, and of work completed to date; and
2. Consult with you on the issues, challenges and opportunities associated with transit in the Town of Halton Hills.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

If you are unable to attend either of the session noted above, there are still other ways you can get involved!

- Find out more about the study and provide your input using the project website: <http://haltonhills.ca/TransitServiceStrategy>
- Contact one of the study team members and provide your input and ideas via email or telephone.

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If you require this information in an alternate format please contact the Town of Halton Hills representative.

Halton Hills Cultural Round Table holds Symposium

By: Alex Hilson

The Halton Hills Cultural Round Table (HHCR) had its Symposium on Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27. Both their Annual General meeting and a gathering of the Halton Hills Cultural community, speaker Rick Boersma delivered the keynote: "Make Innovation Work for You".

Boersma, who, according to a release, is part innovator, part artist/illustrator, founded Juice Inc., one of Canada's most successful consultancies focusing on boosting organizational energy and innovation, with Brady Wilson. Juice Inc. started in 1999 and has "helped countless organizations create refreshing cultures where it feels good to work, and is easier to get results".

The event was emceed by Ashley Beaumont and organized by Beatrice Sharkey, the Executive Director of the HHCR. "We were very pleased with attendance and the reaction to Rick's talk," Sharkey said. "Arts and

Culture play a huge part in the day-to-day lives of many people in our community and when you see the variety of organizations represented at events like these, you can understand why."

Attendees also learned about the Town of Halton Hills' new "Economic Development, Innovation and Culture" division from Manager Damian Szybalski and Cultural Co-ordinator Catherine McLeod. They shared a recent survey of Halton Business leaders identifying "Quality of Life" as the number one reason for choosing a location for their business.

According to their site, the HHCR is a community non-profit organization, funded at arm's length by The Town of Halton Hills. They provide support to organizations, individuals and businesses in the arts, heritage, culture, and volunteering.

To learn more about the activities and services available from Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable, readers can visit www.helpingculturegrow.ca