



NEW STORE: Acton's new Dollarama opened last Wednesday, March 28 in the Market Place Plaza at 372 Queen Street. - Dawn Brown photo

Report on State of Halton Hills' Economy

By: Vivien Fleisher

Economic Development and Corporate Policy Advisor Damien Szybalski walked Halton Hills Mayor Bonnette and council through the highlights of a March 19 report on the state of the local economy, devoting a good part of it to the perceived bad press coming out about downtown Acton. Saying town staff has been working closely with the BIA and new manager Dianne Gowland—who was in attendance—Szybalski rhymed off the list of tasks underway aimed at revitalizing the downtown, such as completion of the strategic plan, re-branding, new logo, a soon to be launched website, marketing plan and streetscape. This multi-pronged effort is a bid to revitalize the downtown and remedy the vacant store issue, with short-term actions designed to drive traffic and investment into the area. He explained there has been significant public interest, describing the efforts as “a solid foundation that has been laid for the downtown area including the strategic plan approved late last year, and this plan is being implemented very actively by the BIA and by the town. New businesses are starting to invest in the area, injecting new positive energy, and some of those vacancies are starting to be filled and there’s

more coming.” Szybalski added that it’s complimented by significant investment in the surrounding area, including the Futura investment at 340 Main St. North, as well as the residential development at 125 McDonald Blvd. As well, the private-sector-funded Community Improvement Program downtown has had significant uptake, and since its inception, the town has allocated \$300,000 in funding. In conjunction with the Purity Life expansion, Acton has seen significant industrial investment in the past year to the tune of 34 million dollars altogether. The overall outlook in the Region of Halton was positive, with three-billion dollars in construction activity in 2017.

At the end of the presentation, Councillor Mike Albano complimented Szybalski on the committee’s hard work on behalf of not just Acton, but all of Halton Hills. Further, he added, “For the past couple of weeks... the press have painted a negative picture of our downtown Acton, but

what the press omitted to print are all the positive (things) that you just talked about and all the hard work that staff and the BIA have undertaken for the past couple years. Yeah, sure, we’ve experienced some vacant stores, but were not alone and I’m sure other communities have experienced the same issues.” Albano attributed some of the losses to online shopping but expressed confidence that an extensive plan is well underway via re-branding and the new logo and website, and that the Town was working to address vacant stores but did not provide details. He said the goal of making Acton a destination could not be achieved “when there’s an opposition being done... If all the negatives being printed could be turned into positives, then everyone could benefit.” Councillor Somerville agreed, noting it was interesting to track online suggestions by residents, but that the BIA was really moving forward. Mayor Bonnette was pleased at the very positive report.

Halton Region announces enhancements to its Blue Box recycling program

Halton Region is enhancing its Blue Box program to make recycling easier for residents, reduce neighbourhood litter on windy days and contribute to regional waste reduction.

Starting the week of April 2, all Halton residents, businesses and facilities are able to recycle plastic bags (e.g., grocery bags, newspaper bags) and plastic overwrap (e.g. packaging on cases of pop or bathroom tissue). Residents in single family households also have more options for curbside recycling collection. Starting the week of April 2, residents can choose to place recyclables in clear plastic bags, continue to use the Blue Box only, or use a combination of both. This will not only provide more options to suit your household, but help to reduce recyclables that become

litter on windy days.

“By providing more curbside recycling options and adding more acceptable items, Halton is keeping our neighbourhoods clean and reducing community waste,” said Gary Carr, Halton Regional Chair. “Investments in customer service and program enhancements ensure that resident needs are met and that Halton is sustainable for future generations.”

Halton Region is encouraging residents to consider these tips when managing household recycling:

- If continuing to use the Blue Box only, bundle all clean plastic bags and overwrap into one bag and tie shut before placing with other recyclable materials. This will help prevent plastic bags littering neighbourhoods on windy days.

- All recyclable plastics should be rinsed, clean and dry.
- Plastic bags and overwrap should be free of receipts, newspapers, cardboard or food before placing in the recycling.
- There is no limit to the number of plastic bags or Blue Boxes collected each week.

To learn more about curbside recycling collection programs or acceptable items, visit halton.ca/bluebox.

You can also manage your waste collection services online or through your mobile device. Visit halton.ca/waste or download the OneHalton app to sign up to receive weekly waste collection reminders—email, phone or Twitter—use the Put Waste in its Place online sorting tool or sync your schedule to your personal calendar.

Acton Denture Clinic
Tracy Mitchell, DD

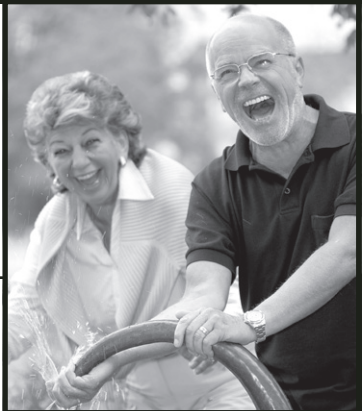
Our Services Include:

- Full & Partial Dentures
- Precision BPS® & Implant Retained Dentures
- Repairs & Relines in our In-House lab

The denture that fits their lifestyle. Present, Past & Future



130 Mill St. E. Unit 103 Acton
519-853-0079



DE MELO CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS CENTRE

Dr. Dave de Melo, Chiropractor
Amanda Pickering, Reg. Massage Therapist

- SAFE, GENTLE CHIROPRACTIC CARE
- EMERGENCIES & WORKERS COMP ACCEPTED
- NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

25 Main Street North, Acton
Across from Giant Tiger Plaza
519-853-3460

No Referral Necessary

DEMELOWELLNESS.COM

50th Wedding Anniversary



for
George & Barb Forrest

Acton Legion
15 Wright Ave.

Friday April 20
7 p.m.

Please join us along with friends and love ones for a light lunch, refreshments and fond memories.

Best wishes only

Please drop in to help us celebrate
Shirley (Kentner) McKeown's

90th Birthday

Sunday, April 8, 2018
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Acton Legion - 15 Wright Ave.

No Gifts Please - Just Well Wishes