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# BBQ

**ATTENTION  
ALL CONTRACTORS  
You're Invited**

**Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>  
12 - 5 pm**  
Food • Prizes  
Vendors • Demos

**RONA** 348 Guelph St.,  
Georgetown

**4 Generations  
of Halton Hills  
Families enjoy their  
FREEDOM  
because of our local  
VETERANS**



You are invited to pay tribute to their sacrifices  
& achievements both at home & overseas  
**Thurs. May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**  
**Our Silent Walk begins  
at 7:00 p.m. at the  
Legion Br. 120, Georgetown  
127 Mill St.,  
Georgetown**  
**Come & shake a veteran's hand.  
Thank them for your freedom.**  
Candles will be available at the legion after 6:00 pm for \$5.00  
*Keeping The Memory Alive*

## Region worried about impact of Big Move on local property taxes

Continued from pg. 5

Halton's regional transportation master plan and plans on how the community grows are based on the Metrolinx's projects being completed and the Province's growth plan for the area.

Regional Chair Gary Carr said it feels like the rug is being pulled from underneath them. The Region is doing its part in attracting residents and businesses to Halton communities, but it can't continue to grow without putting the proper infrastructure in place, he said.

Bonnette expressed disappointment because he said a lot of the Big Move projects are not necessarily new service for new population, but to service the current population.

He complained about a lack of transparency in the plan, saying the costs of individual projects aren't broken down. He also wonders if the cost of the Big Move has been underestimated and that's why projects are being delayed.

Committee members also expressed concern about the plan as a whole, strongly opposing the use of any investment tool that impacts Ontarians property taxes. They're worried, as well, that regional commuters will be paying for a disproportionate amount of Metrolinx's \$2 billion annual regional transit expansion.

## Derelict Exchange Hotel evades demolition... for now

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money. There is no obligation with any finances here. I'm just asking that this building be put on the Heritage Register, which gives us 60 days to explore all the stuff that has been mentioned tonight...and in meantime this is out in the public that we're looking for a savior to come along, and there might be someone out there."

Chief Administrative Officer David Smith warned that the Town would need to spend money on a structural engineer to determine the viability of moving the structure—something that was not recommended by HHH's own conservation architect, Ian McGillivray. He stated in his report, "Moving the building of the site would have a negative impact on the building's heritage value and is not a good option."

Issue on April 22nd  
council agenda

Johnson said HHH has money in its budget to hire consultants.

Halton Hills council voted 6 to 3 to allow 60 days to investigate the possibility of moving the pre-Confederation part of the building only off the property to the Town-owned unopened road allowance on Union St., still visible from the Georgetown train station. This decision, however, needs to be ratified at the April 22nd council meeting, when staff may present updated information that could change minds.

Voting for the 60-day reprieve were Johnson, Mayor Rick Bonnette, and Councillors Jane Fogal, Jon Hurst, Bob Inglis and Dave Kentner. Voting against were Lewis, and Councillors Mike O'Leary and Joan Robson. Councillor Ann Lawlor was absent and Councillor Clark Somerville was chairing the meeting.

## Lend a hand and 'Buy a Brick'

For those who haven't noticed, there's been a dramatic transformation going on at Acton Town Hall Centre.

The last phase of the restoration/renovation, the Citizens Hall, is coming to a close, as the elevator is nearly completed and the clean-up begins to be ready for the May 5 grand opening.

I was at the Town Hall earlier this week for an 'elevator inaugural' shot, where the four original committee members who decided to save the old landmark from demolition, and in doing so, started the restoration ball rolling back 1977, assembled in the elevator. Kathy Sanford, Stella Brunelle, Ted Tyler and Dr. George Elliott are the four founding members of Heritage Acton, who are still actively working towards seeing the project to fruition.

From the outside, the new addition is a bit hard to visualize with all the scaffolding and construction materials in front.

But once inside, I was blown away with the layout and downright classy design of the new addition, complete with an elevator to give handicap access to the second floor and main hall.

One of the faces of the clock off the old Acton Post Office will grace the brick column of the elevator, and some artifacts from Acton's history will be on display.

It's my understanding the Acton sign from the old train station is to be hung there as well.

Full handicap access is the big advantage here. Now all aspects of the building are accessible to anyone in a wheelchair, walker, or someone who doesn't handle stairs very well.

### Ted Brown



The committee members, under the leadership of Ron Birrell, have done an outstanding job making it happen. They've slaved for hours helping with the project, and now the focus is to get the place cleaned up and staged for the grand opening to be held May 5.

With every project, there seems to be a core of volunteers who take care of the grunt work. Right now, I don't think they'd turn away any extra helpers.

There is another need for projects like this— money. As the Town Hall project is closing in on its culmination, there is a need

for funds to finish it off.

The committee has been working hard with both the physical work and fundraising, but there comes a time when they require a little financial nudge to wrap it up, and throw open the doors to host the myriad of events that have started to take advantage of the beautiful facility.

Campaign chair Kathleen Dills said anyone wishing to help financially can take part in the Buy a Brick Campaign. They need about \$100,000 to complete the hall.

During the past year, the facility has been attracting numerous groups while John Elliott Theatre in Halton Hills Cultural Centre has been closed for construction. Local theatre/musical groups like Georgetown Bach Chorale, Georgetown Little Theatre and Georgetown Globe Productions have taken full advantage of the stage in the main hall.

Other events like the Absolutely Acton Speaker series and the Mayor's Masquerade Ball— not to mention numerous concerts— have also graced the fine old hall.

But until now, there has been no handicap access, so the facility will be even better with the new Citizens Hall addition.

Sunday, May 5, from 2 to 4 p.m., everyone is welcome to celebrate the opening of Citizens Hall. Organizers would love to have the financial commitments collected by the time the ribbon is snipped.

So I'm putting it out there. If you have a few extra bucks kicking around, and want to donate to the campaign, call 519-853-5302 or email info@actontownhall.com, open your cheque book and Buy a Brick.

When you see the finished project, it will make it all worthwhile.

