

# COMMENT

## Then and Now



In 1898 McBean and Co. was located on the southwest corner of Main and Young (Mill) Sts. in Georgetown. On the corner now is the CIBC, while John McDermid's Star Grocery next door became Goodlets Hardware Store, and is now The Shepherds Crook.

Text courtesy of Heritage Halton Hills/Then photo courtesy of Esquesing Historical Society, Now photo courtesy of Amy Douglas, Heritage Halton Hills



## From our readers



### A WALK IN THE WINTER WOODS

Ross Pezzack sent in this photo he took during a walk near Speyside as the temperature hovered around -10C.

Have a photo you want to share? Email — with details — to [cjgamble@theifp.ca](mailto:cjgamble@theifp.ca).

## Halton welcomes everyone with open arms

Halton is a place where we welcome, respect and celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of all residents, while connecting people to the services they need most. I'm proud of the work Halton Region and our community partners undertake as we work together to make Halton a welcoming, inclusive and supportive community where newcomers can prosper.

When newcomers choose Halton as their home, there are many tasks ahead of them and our community has many resources to help newcomers establish themselves. Halton's Newcomer Portal ([www.welcometohalton.ca](http://www.welcometohalton.ca)) outlines resources for arriving, living, working and going to school in the region and is one of the most comprehensive resources for newcomers to Halton.

Other helpful newcomer supports can be found online at:

- [halton.ca/housing](http://halton.ca/housing) – provides a range of services including access to affordable market housing, subsidized housing, housing with supports, an emergency shelter program, as well as one-time financial assistance for low-income individuals and families experiencing difficulty with housing costs.
- [halton.ca/newdoctor](http://halton.ca/newdoctor) – provides a listing of family physicians that are also new to Halton and currently accepting patients.
- [haltonjobs.ca](http://haltonjobs.ca) – provides free programs and services to help people search for a job or train for a new career.
- [halton.ca/haltonparents](http://halton.ca/haltonparents) – offers a variety of free parenting programs and parenting and health information from health professionals

- [halton.ca/childcaresubsidy](http://halton.ca/childcaresubsidy) – provides information on how to apply for childcare subsidy for eligible families.

- [halton.ca/immunization](http://halton.ca/immunization) – provides information about immunizations needed for school attendance and the recommended immunization schedule in Ontario.

- [hmcconnections.com](http://hmcconnections.com) (formerly known as the Halton Multicultural Council) – provides a variety of services to help newcomers adjust to life in Canada, including counselling and settlement information, help connecting with the community, employment supports, English language training and housing supports.

While there are many services for newcomers to Halton, there are also opportunities for current residents to offer their support.

The Halton Newcomer Strategy ([haltonnewcomerstrategy.com](http://haltonnewcomerstrategy.com)) is an advocacy team that engages the community to empower newcomers to Halton and they're always looking for passionate volunteers to help create welcoming neighbourhoods. Halton Region also currently provides specific information for Syrian refugees on its website at [halton.ca](http://halton.ca) to help them make a safe and healthy transition into our community.

By continuing to work together, our communities can greatly benefit from the talent, education, experience and commitment newcomers bring to the region. Newcomers make a difference in keeping Halton a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

— Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region



GARY CARR

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• awarded readers choice 26 times •