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NEWS



Herb Garbutt / Metroland

In celebration of 175 years since the naming of the town, Heritage Acton will be selling Acton flags that residents can fly. On hand for the kickoff were (front row, from left) Peter Rowe, Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, Jack Carpenter, Councillors Jon Hurst and Mike Albano, Anne McIntyre, Councillor Clark Somerville (back row, from left) Andrew Hilson, John Brooks, Lloyd McIntyre and Kevin Hazzard.

ACTON'S FLAG TO FLY AGAIN TO MARK 175TH ANNIVERSARY

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It was designed in 1972 for the upcoming 100th anniversary of being incorporated as a village, but Acton's flag never really got its time in the sun.

Within two years, Acton was amalgamated with Georgetown and the Township of Esquesing to form the Town of Halton Hills.

But with the name Acton celebrating its 175th anniversary this year, the flag is set to fly again.

Jack Carpenter, who came up with the design, is looking forward to seeing the flag on display around town.

"It still has a history after more than 40 years and I think it will continue to be an interesting design," Carpenter said.

The flag has three large red circles, with three smaller blue circles toward the middle.

Carpenter has been told the design looks like a shamrock, though he ad-

mits that was not the intent. His original design was upside down compared to the finished product, which makes sense when he explains his inspiration.

Carpenter and Hartley Coles were looking at a map of Ontario. Cities over 50,000 were marked with large red circles, cities over 20,000 were marked by smaller blue circles. Carpenter noticed a pattern.

To the west, east and south, there were three large cities (Kitchener, Toronto and Hamilton). There was also a smaller city in each direction (Guelph, Brampton and Oakville). Right in the middle was Acton.

When Carpenter started manipulating the map, the circles converged and he noticed the intersecting lines

of the blue circle created a trillium, the provincial flower of Ontario. To complete the design, two green and white lines were added representing the Niagara Escarpment in summer and winter.

Carpenter made one last change, flipping it upside down, for the simple reason that he thought it looked better that way.

"(The flag) was very popular in 1974 and I think it would have the same effect," Carpenter said. "I'd like to see it flying on the entrances into town. It would give us our own personality."

Residents will have the opportunity to fly the Acton flag as well. Flags can be purchased from Heritage Acton. For more information, contact info@acton-townhallcentre.ca.

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