

5 THINGS TO SEE AS ACTON OPENS ITS DOORS

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Acton will be opening its doors Sept. 29.

As a part of Doors Open Ontario, visitors and residents will be able to tour the town's historic buildings. Doors Open Ontario works with communities across the province to provide access to unique cultural sites so that visitors can learn about the unique aspects and histories of these buildings.

"Our focus this year is Acton's outstanding heritage homes and commercial buildings," said Doors Open committee chair Ann Lawlor.

The buildings on Acton's Doors Open tour range from humble yet grand workers' houses, to factory owners' mansions

and one of Canada's few remaining 19th century town halls.

"They don't build homes with this craftsmanship anymore," Lawlor said. "It's a real treat that the owners are sharing their special properties for this event."

Most of the Acton sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Here are five places you can visit and learn about during the Acton's Doors Open tour.

1. THE HIDE HOUSE (10 a.m. to 6 p.m.). In the early 1900s, the building was the shipping and receiving warehouse for Bearmore & Co., the largest tannery in the British Empire. But it was also used for the production of military uniforms during the Second World War.

2. MACKINNON FUNERAL HOME (10 a.m. to noon). The house was built for Acton's first reeve, Wil-

liam Storey, the owner of a glove factory. It housed First World War veterans for a time and then sat empty, until being refurbished and converted to a funeral home in 1937.

3. ACTON TOWN HALL CENTRE (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Since being built in the 19th century, the building has served from everything from a dance hall to jail.


4. SYNDICATE HOUSING (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.). One of 10 homes with elaborate brickwork, tall windows and architectural detail built in 1882 because of the need for workers' housing in Acton.

5. DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR (11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.). Led by a born and raised Acton resident who knows all the stories that built the town's small-town character. Tours begin at the Acton Town Hall.



Esqueving Historical Society.

MacKinnon Funeral Home in Acton was originally the home of Acton's first reeve, William Storey. The home was built for Storey, the owner of a glove factory, in 1878. It is one of the sites to visit Sept. 29 as part of Doors Open Acton.



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Q: Are my children at risk for Gum Disease?

A: It's a sad fact. Children are affected by gum disease just as adults are. For some, it's a matter of neglecting proper care of the teeth. For others, it's a matter of the parents not understanding the importance of oral hygiene in their children. Gum, or periodontal, disease is a serious business. It's made even more dangerous by the fact that it is often painless. It is caused by plaque. This sticky film produces toxins which can damage the gums. As a parent, you should make it a point to check your children's teeth periodically for the signs of gum disease. Look for redness, tenderness and swelling at the gumline. Diseased gums bleed easily and may lead to persistent bad breath and loose teeth. Encourage your child to brush at least twice daily. Flavoured children's toothpaste can help encourage this habit. Teach your children to floss regularly, it's possible even at young ages. Model a good diet by balancing it with a broad variety of foods and placing limits on sweets and between meal snacks.