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COUNCIL



Bryan Myers/Torstar

The Town of Halton Hills has unveiled the town's first rainbow crosswalk, a symbol of inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community.

TOWN UNVEILS RAINBOW CROSSWALK

BRYAN MYERS
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Halton Hills just got a little more colourful... and inclusive.

The Town of Halton Hills has unveiled a rainbow crosswalk at the intersection of Market and Church streets by the Halton Hills Public Library.

The idea for the rainbow crosswalk was pitched to Coun. Jane Fogal by

Georgetown resident Ola Jiskra, owner of Generations Physiotherapy.

"How much could it possibly cost?" Ola Jiskra, also the crosswalk's first sponsor, said she had asked herself. "More than I'd initially thought."

With a price tag of \$7,500, nearly half of the project was paid for by sponsors.

"It's incredible to live in a community that immedi-

ately reacts," she said.

When the crosswalk was discussed at council, it passed unanimously.

"Love is love," Jiskra said. "I don't think we should need to have big acts like this, but it's the world we live in."

The crosswalk represents the town's commitment to embracing diversity and inclusion and shows support for Halton Hills' LGBTQ+ residents.

"What we're trying to show is that this community is becoming more and more diverse and inclusive," Mayor Rick Bonnette said. "We want everyone to be safe and feel safe in this community."

legal matters | ESTATES & TRUSTS

Challenging a Will because of "Undue Influence"



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The basic purpose of a Will is to allow individuals to set out their final wishes and instructions as to how their affairs should be handled after they pass away. Therefore, the Court will not set aside a Will lightly.

Often when a Will is challenged "undue influence" is one of the primary grounds. Although it may seem obvious to the Will challenger that the testator was influenced by an ill-intentioned friend or relative, because a Will challenge takes place after the testator has passed away, the testator is unable to say what really happened.

Understandably then, the threshold for establishing a Will was the product of undue influence is high. In *Banton v. Banton* the Superior Court of Ontario stated it must be "...established on the balance of probabilities that the influence imposed by some other person on the deceased was so great and overpowering that the document reflects the will of the former and not that of the deceased."

Although the facts of each case are unique, there are certain indicators of undue influence which have been noted in the case law, including:

- The testator is depending on the beneficiary for emotional and physical needs;
- The testator is socially isolated;
- The testator has experienced recent bereavement; and
- The testator has made a new will not consistent with prior Wills.

Simply showing there was opportunity or motive to unduly influence a testator, however, is not sufficient to prove undue influence.

Considering the high threshold and evidentiary hurdles for challenging a Will, those considering a Will challenge should evaluate their options by consulting with a lawyer experienced in estate litigation.

Call us we can help.

Sweatman

LAW FIRM*

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