

WE MUST ALL REMAIN VIGILANT

EVERYONE'S CONTINUED RESOLVE NEEDED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19, WRITES RICK BONNETTE



RICK BONNETTE
Column

On March 24, I declared a state of emergency — and I am not looking to end this any time soon.

Through this declaration, under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, municipalities may take certain actions and issue orders considered necessary and lawful to implement the Town's emergency plan. We do this to keep the community safe.

I want to be clear and send the strongest message possible about the need to adhere to the health and safety precautions as directed by public health.

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Wear a mask or face covering in public places.
- Practice physical distancing.
- And most importantly — adhere to the latest social gathering numbers as directed by the Province

On Sept. 19, Premier Doug Ford announced the new gathering limits are 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.

We are all in this together, and I am asking for this community's co-operation. This includes behaving

respectfully and responsibly in public parks; when children are using play equipment; when entering a facility or business. I urge everyone to do their part so the numbers in Halton Hills do not rise.

We also have a COVID-19 page on our website, and staff keeps it current. It has contact information and links to other resources.

Visit the Town's website at www.haltonhills.ca or visit Halton Region's website at www.halton.ca.

Public health is a regional responsibility and we follow the direction of the local medical officer of health.

BEAUTIFUL ADDITION TO OUR TOWN

Kudos to all the volunteers of Halton Hills for planting butterfly-friendly gardens. The David Suzuki Foundation has recognized the Halton Hills Butterflyway as only the 11th in Canada to be recognized.

The Butterflyway includes private yards and gardens, as well as the Town Hall, Old Seed House Garden, Lucy Maud Montgomery Garden, Willow Park Ecology Centre and McNabb Park in Norval.

PLENTY TO BE THANKFUL FOR

These are uncertain times, and I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving under these trying times. Many in our community may not have been as fortunate.

Please remember to give to our many charities in town.

Rick Bonnette is the Mayor of Halton Hills. Follow him on Twitter @RickBonnette1 and Instagram rick_bonnette1.

TO LEARN HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR OWN CONTENT VISIT THEIFP.CA

SNAPSHOT



Roksolana Lobur photo

A squirrel scales a fence in a backyard in the south end of Georgetown. Do you have a great local photo you'd like to share? Send it to sleblanc@metroland.com, along with a brief description.

WILL U.S. ELECTION AFFECT STOCK VALUES?

HISTORY SHOWS THE ELECTION OUTCOME SHOULD NOT INFLUENCE THE MARKET, WRITES PETER WATSON



PETER WATSON
Column

Will the U.S. election outcome affect the value of your U.S. stocks?

This is a question that investors are asking these days, as the Nov. 3 election quickly approaches. Add in the unpredictability of President Donald Trump, and it

is easy to understand those that might be nervous.

Based on the last 90 years of data, we should predict the election outcome will not affect that country's stock values.

Shareholders that invest in these companies made a prediction that they will be rewarded based on the success of companies they invest. They bought the companies, not a political party.

The real question is: Will the next president potentially impact market returns? If so, then yes. But so are thousands of other variables.

The theory of investing is that all available market information is incorporated into the price of the stock. This was the finding of Professor Eugene Fama in his thesis during the 1960s, and helped contribute to him winning a Nobel Prize for economics.

If you look at a graph dating back to 1929, you see a relatively stable increase in stock values. Stable over intermediate and long-term periods with lots of short-term volatility is very normal for stock markets. This information comes from the Fama/French Total US Market Research Index.

During that long period of time, the Democrats and Republicans have traded the presidency 10 times on what visually looks like a fairly regular back-and-forth.

What can we observe from this information? Political parties have not historically influenced the stock market.

Peter Watson, of Watson Investments MBA, CFP®, R.F.P., CIM®, FCSI offers a weekly financial planning column, 'Dollars & Sense'. He can be contacted through www.watsoninvestments.com.

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Web: www.mediacouncil.ca



newsroom@theifp.ca
IndependentAndFreePress
@IFP_11

WHO WE ARE

- Publisher**
Kelly Montague
- Regional Managing Editor**
Catherine O'Hara
- Managing Editor**
Karen Miceli
- Distribution Representative**
Ioulia Polara
- Real Estate**
Kristie Pells
- Regional Production Manager**
Manuel Garcia
- Halton Media General Manager**
Jason Pehora

CONTACT US

The Independent & Free Press
280 Guelph Street, Unit 77
Georgetown, ON L7G 4B1
Phone: 905-873-0301
Classifieds: 1-800-263-6480
Fax: 905-873-0398

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Delivery
For all delivery inquiries, please e-mail lpolar@miltoncanadianchampion.com or call 905-234-1019.

