

EMBRACING 'A LEATHER REVIVAL'

ACTON STORE OFFERING UP WIDE VARIETY OF CUSTOM LEATHER DESIGNS

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One may say Zina Pallister set up shop in just the right town.

The local woman opened the doors to Concept Leather Company this past summer in Acton's downtown core, giving a nod to the area's hide heritage and Leathertown fame.

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"I love this location — it's right in the middle of everything," she said. "When people are walking by, they stop in to chit-chat and ask great questions. I've never felt more welcome, ever."

Pallister has worked in the horse industry her entire adult life, previously doing horse blanket cleaning and repairs.

With customers often asking if she could repair their tack, too, she began learning the ropes of leather.

"I thought, 'How hard can it be?' Never say that," she said with a laugh. "It sort of snowballed from there."

After essentially teaching herself, Pallister is now creating a wide variety of handmade leather products, from horse equipment and jackets to motorcycle gear, handbags, wallets and more.

CONCEPT LEATHER COMPANY

Address: 18 Mill St. E., Acton
Phone: 705-790-9376
Email:
conceptleatherco@gmail.com

She also takes custom orders, noting that she loves a good challenge.

While opening in the middle of a pandemic can be trying, the new store owner reports that business is booming.

"I was worried about it (the pandemic), but this is busier than I've ever been in my entire career," she said, adding others in her industry are finding the same thing.

"There seems to be a leather revival going on right now."

For more information visit facebook.com/conceptleather.



Zina Pallister, owner of Concept Leather Company in Acton.

Melanie Hennessey/Torstar



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