

# NEW YOUTH CENTRE OPENS IN ACTON

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Acton's new youth centre, offering an expanded range of services, opened earlier this month.

The new centre, located at 19 Willow St., provides a place for youth to socialize, collaborate and access local services.

"I come here a lot to do crafts, hang out with friends, play some games or some pool tournaments," said Emily, who has been going to centre for three years.

Work on the new centre began late last year and officially opened Oct. 5, replacing the previous youth centre that was on Mill Street

The features of the new centre include:

- a patio
- a lounge with a pool table and entertainment pods
- uniquely designed conversational pods with computer stations for homework or small group work
- two community rooms for independent work, counselling and meetings
- a kitchen with access to food
- shower and laundry services
- access to community services for youth

"To be able to construct and open this centre, during a pandemic, is a testament to our community's resilience and strength," said Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette. "The Acton Youth Centre has been set up as a one-stop shop for youth that supports and enhances recreational opportunities,

mental health, and other services that support youth in navigating community resources."

Donations from the Rotary Club of Acton, the Halton Hills Service Club Collaborative and the S.A.W. Memorial Golf Tournament helped with construction and providing amenities for the centre.

Halton Hills operates two youth centres — the other at Gary Allan High School (96 Guelph St., Georgetown).



Town of Halton Hills photo

The new Acton Youth Centre opened earlier this month, featuring a lounge, pool table and entertainment stations.

Both centres are operated by trained staff in partnership with social service agencies, including Reach Out Centre for Kids (ROCK), ADAPT and Support House.

The youth centre services are provided free of charge to youth between the ages of 12 and 24.

"This fully accessible facility offers a variety of recreational opportunities and amenities to support and encourage youth to thrive," said Steve Hamilton, manager of facility capital projects for the Town of Halton Hills.

"I've been going to the youth centre for about five years," said Tristan. "It's a great place to hang out and meet new people. That's my favourite part, but they also have really good games and fun stuff to do."

Located in the old Acton Town Hall, the town worked with Heritage Acton to preserve heritage features of the building.

The sentence should have read: While governments aim to convey a sense of purpose, opposition parties usually say the effort falls short and overlook the province's most urgent problems.

The IFP regrets the error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

## CORRECTION

A column by Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott that appeared in the October 14 Georgetown/Acton Independent and Free Press contained an editing error. The error changed the writer's intended meaning in a sentence concerning opposition parties' reaction to a government's vision for the next Parliament.

The sentence should have read: While governments aim to convey a sense of purpose, opposition parties usually say the effort falls short and overlook the province's most urgent problems.

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