

# WE MUST STAND WITH UKRAINE

PLENTY OF WAYS TO HELP THOSE IN CRISIS, WRITES RICK BONNETTE



**RICK BONNETTE**  
Column

I think we are all saddened, disgusted and disturbed by the deplorable brutal act of war by Russia's President Vladimir Putin in Ukraine.

We have seen the images, from the comforts of our homes, of Ukrainian children and families huddled in the subways and bomb shelters — some being killed.

Bombed-out buildings. Fathers saying goodbye to their children as they board the train, as they stay to fight.

We have all admired the leadership of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who has been a beacon of hope and strength. We admire the resolve of the Ukrainian people taking arms to protect their homeland from this ruthless dictator.

We have many Ukrainians who immigrated to Canada, and many right here in Halton Hills. As a matter of fact, there is a Ukrainian summer camp outside of Acton — Camp Veselka — which was established in 1954.

I know we are feeling helpless about what we can do. At our last meeting, council unanimously supported a resolution in condemning this illegal war.

We let the federal government know we support the strictest sanctions possible on Russia and Belarus, its partner in this crime, against humanity.

We told the federal government that we support any aid it can give Ukraine — and that we stand with Ukraine.

Millions of refugees, mostly women and children, have already fled Ukraine to neighbouring Poland, Romania and other countries.

We call on the federal and provincial governments to assist in welcoming those fleeing the war into our country.

Lastly, for those who can afford it, please donate to the many organizations supporting the people of Ukraine, including the Canadian Red Cross and the Canada-Ukraine Foundation.

We also have a group of local artists who will be donating proceeds from the sales of their art to support Ukrainian relief efforts. Works may be purchased from exhibitions at Young's Pharmacy beginning March 20 and the Gellert Cultural Centre's Sissett Lobby from April 3 to May 1.

*Rick Bonnette is the mayor of Halton Hills. Follow him on Twitter at @RickBonnette1 and Instagram at @rick\_bonnette1.*

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## SNAPSHOT



Anne Philpott photo

A barred owl visits a backyard on Hamilton Crescent. Do you have a great local photo you'd like to share? Send it to sleblanc@metroland.com, along with a brief description.

## PANDEMIC WILL CONTINUE TO CHANGE HOW WE WORK

COVID HAS IMPACTED JOB SECTORS IN WAYS WE WOULDN'T HAVE EXPECTED, WRITES PETER WATSON



**PETER WATSON**  
Column

Work has changed as a result of the pandemic. Change has occurred in sectors that seem logical, but changes are also happening in areas that were not directly affected.

Restaurant employment has seen a mass exodus of workers. Attrition from these jobs seemed logical.

Surprisingly, law firms are having difficulty retaining staff as well as attracting new talent, according to the 2022 Report on the State of the Legal Market.

Lawyers are well-trained, work in offices and have work environments fairly similar to other professions and many other occupations. The pandemic caused us to take a strong second look at how we live our lives, with the conclusion that a change is needed.

According to the report, a strategy used by law firm employers was to increase salaries and offer retention bonuses. That should work. Money can be a great motivator. Surprisingly,

that did not solve the problem.

When the pandemic started, office staff shifted to working at home. That offered greater flexibility. Start work early, then walk the dog. Work through lunch and stop working earlier than normal.

Technology has evolved. You can now be plugged into your office without actually being there physically. That has completely reshaped how work can get done.

The significance of the report is that the changing attitude toward employment has not just occurred in the areas we anticipated. This is a good time to be alert to the changing employment environment.

Times are changing.

*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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