THE ACTON Tanner

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We need answers: A conversation with Mayor Miller

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The Acton Tanner

Some questions just never seem to go away. And with a local election planned for this fall, we thought we would give Actonites some political *food for thought* to digest over the summer holidays.

Candidates for this year's municipal election are reminded that election day is Nov. 14.

Eligible candidates for the 21 elected positions must file a "Notice of Registration" with the Clerk of the municipality, who is responsible for conducting the election for that office.

Candidates may file nominations on Oct. 11, 12 and 13 between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm and on Oct. 14 between 9 and 5.

In a four-part series, *The Acton Tanner* will update readers on the views of present council members and where they stand on issues most important to Actonites.

We begin this week with Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller. Councillors Rick Bonnette, Norm Elliott and Gerald Rennie will follow in upcoming editions.

We asked Mayor Miller for his political action plan on the following nine issues facing our community. His direct responses follow.

The Acton Tanner: What are your thoughts on stalled residential development in Acton?

Mayor Russ Miller: "The Councillors and I are anxious to get something happening. We want to keep the studies flowing as quickly as possible, and hopefully we'll move ahead."

Tanner: What about the lack of an adequate arena in Acton?

Miller: "We're buying the land this year, but development is holding us up. It's Council's decision to build it in Acton East. We're probably looking at a couple of years."

Tanner: The depressed retail economy in Acton?

Miller: "It's happening to a lot of small towns. Small businesses are being overrun by those outside of Acton."

Tanner: What's your feeling concerning the lack of jobs in Acton?

Miller: "That's something that's been experienced across Ontario. I've talked to industrialists over the years and have tried to convince them to come to Halton Hills.

"We have to work together to try and get industrialists to take to Southern Ontario. It's hard to sell industrial land in Acton."

Tanner: The proposed landfill south of Acton?

Miller: "I've been opposed to that for the last 25 years. It's a Provincial decision and we've spent a lot of money to fight it."

Tanner: How do you feel about the need for a new Village Constable's office?

Miller: "With the trend today of foot patrol, a new office would be nice, but there are other things more important that have been put off too long."

Tanner: The decrepit state of the Acton YMCA?

Miller: "That's personally a shame because I used to go there as a teenager. But it's not owned by the Town; it's owned by the YMCA. We hope someone will purchase the building and turn it into something."

Tanner: Many Actonites are concerned about the future of the Acton indoor pool.

Miller: "The pool is important to the town. If we can't come up with an agreeable lease, we'll have to take some steps to keep it running."

Tanner: Your thoughts on the loss of train service in Acton?

Miller: "I don't think there is anything that hasn't been done by Town Council to try and restore it. There's nothing more we can do, because it's not our decision.

"But I can see it coming back in a few years."

LOVELY LINE-UP!

The Acton School of Dance held its 10th annual year-end recital on Saturday at Acton High. From left are Linda Larose, Cassandra McBride, Kate Zions, Katelyn Price, Alexandra Neill and Stephanie Mendes doing the *Lets Dance* ballet number. Some 65 members performed jazz, ballet, character and modern dances. *(Lori Frechette photo)*