

Mayor's Golf Tournament



Milton Mayor Gord Krantz with Hockey Hall of Famer and former Toronto Maple Leaf net-minder Johnny Bower arrived by helicopter to kick off the Mayor's Golf Tournament for the United Way at Granite Ridge Friday.



Milton town councillor Cindy Lunau and town employees Angela Janzen and Anne Dawkins make their way to the club for the Mayor's Tournament for the United Way at Granite Ridge Friday.

PHOTO BY PETER C. MCCUSKER

Strengthening the strategy

BY RON BONNETT, PRESIDENT OF THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Piece by piece, elements of what Ontario agriculture needs to succeed in the future are coming into place. Just recently we received a letter from Hon. Leona Dombrowsky, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for Ontario, thanking me for my willingness to serve on the advisory committee set up following the Premier's Summit on Agri-Food.

This will be an opportunity to provide direction and help plan for profitability of the Ontario Ag sector. We have ideas that could make the future of agriculture, here in Ontario, more predictable. Suggestions are coming from the province's horticulture sector, the grains and oilseeds organizations, and the livestock groups.

It will be important for agriculture's representatives to speak as one when talking to governments, both provincial and federal, as planning proceeds to bring stability to the industry.

Included in what we're asking for are predictable risk management and production insurance programs. For those to work long into the future, our governments will need to commit long-term, adequate funding as well as making a commitment to design programs that address current risks. Farmers need to be able to make long-term plans for the future success of their industry.

Continuing low commodity prices, forced down by high subsidies from governments in the United States and European Union, are threatening the future of Canada's

farmers. Farm organizations are preparing to launch a campaign to make our federal and provincial governments aware of the need for predictable and permanent risk management programs as well as an immediate need for funding to survive this situation.

We need our governments to renew and revitalize the Agricultural Policy Framework that was first introduced by the Chretien Government earlier this decade. Some of the problems with the APF have been repaired, and some are still being developed. We liked the concept the APF introduced, and we need that to be continued.

We need to do more than talk about safety nets. We need to ask key questions: how can agriculture address health concerns of Ontarians? Does high-priced crude oil present an opportunity for farmers to be producers of energy? What changes need to be made to our regulatory regime to ensure that we are competitive? And finally, how can farmers be sure that we have marketing structures and industry connections so that we can profit from emerging opportunities?

There are problems in the farm community today. We must acknowledge that, and as stated earlier, design support programs that respond when needed. The Premier's Advisory Committee also gives us the opportunity to do much more.

If our young people are to stay on our farms, and if our rural communities are to prosper because of the economic activity of the ag industry, we must seize this opportunity.

Considering a career? Consider policing.

BY CHIEF EAN ALGAR, EXCLUSIVE TO THE HALTON COMPASS



I think that being a police officer is the best job in the world. I've been in law enforcement for 37 years, and I can tell you from first hand experience that the sense of accomplishment derived from serving the community is second to none.

The Police Services Act describes four key areas of responsibility for a police constable: preserving the peace; preventing crimes and providing assistance to others in their prevention; assisting victims of crime; and apprehending and charging offenders as well as executing warrants.

If you are considering becoming an officer, there are some minimum requirements. You must be at least 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen or legally eligible to work in Canada, and a high school graduate or the equivalent. Most of our successful applicants, however, have completed post-secondary education programs and have also acquired work experience. You'll find more details about these and other requirements on our website at www.hrps.on.ca. I'd add that there's another equally critical component that's not included on the official requirements list. In my experience, officers typically are people who care deeply about the people they serve and protect. I'll give you an example.

In July a platoon from our Burlington division responded to a fire that nearly destroyed the home of a young couple expecting their first child. Our platoon members took up a collection amongst themselves with which they purchased a

gift certificate from Toys "R" Us for the couple to use while they waited for the insurance claim to be settled. In August, the very proud new dad came in to thank the officers, and brought with him a picture of his newborn daughter.

In Halton Region, policing has a very definite community orientation. We're a recognized leader in implementing the community policing approach. In addition, our officers are very active in the community, as volunteers, fundraisers, coaches, and leaders. I'm extremely proud of our members' commitment to Halton Region.

A police officer's career can encompass a wide range of duties over the years. We all start out on road patrol. Once an officer has several years of experience, they can choose various career options. In my career, I went from uniform patrol duties into drug and criminal investigations. There are currently at least 30 areas of specialization within Halton Regional Police Service. That's a lot of career choice within one organization.

No two policing careers are ever alike, and no two days as a police officer are ever the same. There's constant variety, challenge, and opportunity. Police work is also demanding. Constables must work shifts, including evenings, nights and weekends, at all times of the year. This is not a job for everyone, but if it's for you, you'll know it.



A NEW ELEGANTLY DESIGNED BANQUET FACILITY



Accommodates 140 Guests
Nestled into the foothills of the Escarpment

- Weddings • Banquets • Retirements • Birthday Parties
- Anniversaries • Company Functions • Classroom Facilities
- Outdoor Marquis Functions

Customized Menus, Decor & Entertainment Packages

Book Your Christmas Party Now!



Visit Infusion at

www.infusioncatering.com • 905-847-6809

Visit the Bob Rumball Centre at

www.bobrumball.org • 905-878-4932

