



**FLIPPIN' BIG BANG:** A collision at the corner of Queen Street and Acton Boulevard sent one person to hospital and flipped a car on its roof on last Saturday at 2:01 p.m. According to police, Joel MacDonald of Erin Township was driving north on Acton Blvd. and attempted to cross Queen St. when his 1997 black Honda CRV collided with a blue Pontiac driven by Norman Humphreys of Acton, driving west on the highway. Arlene Humphreys of Acton was injured in the collision which left the Honda on its roof. Above right, paramedics from the Acton station of the Halton Hills Ambulance answered the call. — Ted Tyler photos



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# Chip and tar road only temporary

By **MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY**  
 The New Tanner

The chip and tar surface recently applied to a portion of Willow Street North and St. Alban's Drive is only a temporary solution to smoothing out the road surface, says Acton councillor Norm Elliott.

"I haven't heard any suggestion at council or in any of the committee meetings about any change to the road maintenance policy. There's no way that would be an acceptable solution for the long term on any of the streets in Acton or Georgetown," Elliott says. "I think that's an attempt to mollify some of the residents in the area who have been complaining about the condition of the road."

Willow, along with several other Acton streets, is in the long term maintenance budget but Elliott couldn't say exactly where they sit on the priority list.

Town works manager Ted Drewlo makes no bones about it being the cheap solution, but is less definite about how long the "temporary" measure may be expected to last.

The town couldn't afford to hire a contractor to put down the full two-inch asphalt layer usually expected for road repairs. Instead, town staff used their own grader to put a shallower layer of asphalt over holes and cracks in the pavement, then covered it with a layer of tar onto which gravel was spread. This gives the road a bit of structural support while the surface treatment gives it a good finish.

Drewlo says the surface

treatment, known as chip and tar, puts a better cover over the layer of asphalt patching. With a couple of weeks of hot weather the tar will seep up and seal around the stones creating a "good, smooth riding surface."

"We use this mostly in the rural area," Drewlo agrees, "but many municipalities use it in urban areas. I don't know where it is used on any Acton streets but we use that on Lamb Street and

Carruthers Road, for instance, in Georgetown."


Drewlo says there is no other way the town could afford to keep up with its road surfacing program. Other Acton streets were slated for the treatment but they were cut from this year's budget.

The contractor-laid asphalt costs about \$50,000 per kilometre to put down while grader asphalt with chip and tar surfacing costs about \$8,000 per kilometre.

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