

Grade 5 students quiz the pros at career day

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The love of life-long learning was evident as Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson addressed a group of Grade 5 Acton students during a career day at Robert Little school on Friday.

The Mayor gave the 150 students a quick course in municipal government 101 with the help of a computer presentation—a program that she had just learned.

"Education never stops and you always have to keep learning. I've never made a presentation like this before using the computer, so it just goes to show you that no matter what job you have, every day is a new day and you always have to learn something new," Serjeantson said.

While none of the students had any political aspirations before the mayor spoke, politics seemed even less inviting after Serjeantson detailed her jam-packed schedule of meetings and community events, mounds of paperwork and non-stop phone calls from citizens.

Serjeantson showed off her heavy chain of office and answered most of the students' questions—except how much she makes, adding the most interesting part about being mayor is that she never stops learning.

With the help of staff and a parent volunteer, the Grade 5 class at Robert Little staged career day, inviting Grade 5 students from St. Joseph and McKenzie-Smith Bennett schools to hear nine professionals talk about their careers.

Surprisingly, a lot of students had a clear idea of a career after university or community college, including McKenzie-Smith Bennett student Marissa Kidd, who wants to be an illustrator.

Kidd was happy to ques-



CAREER COP: Peel police officer Russell Fox was one of nine professionals invited by the class to its career day on Friday.

tion national award winning book illustrator Karen Reczuch of Acton, and even happier after learning it is possible to earn a comfortable living illustrating books.

"I really think this career day is neat. I really want to be an illustrator and I got to ask Mrs. Reczuch all of my questions," Marissa said, adding

the professionals "opened up the eyes" of students who didn't know what it was like to be a vet or a policeman or a business owner.

Participants at the career day included a vet, financial analyst, educator, politician, stone mason, dairy farmer, police officer, lawyer and illustrator.



I WANT TO BE: The Grade 5 class at Robert Little school staged a career day last Friday and invited nine professionals to talk about their careers to Grade 5 students from McKenzie-Smith Bennett and St. Joseph school. The organizers include, front, left to right: Jordan LaRose, Sebastian Mena Diaz, Dylan McPhail, Megan McCluskey, Megan Gillberry, Sara Fox, Ryan Mussnug

and Julia Niblock. Middle: Matthew Hanselman, Caila Simpson, Caitlin Bowen, Matthew Eaton-Kent and Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson. Back: Kyra Malcolm, Dallas Leppard, Melisa Vivian, Desta Frey, Amber DeBruyn, Carolyn Diegel, Sonya Barbie, Hjoerdis Stockinger and Jennifer Grierson.

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