

LOTS OF BIKES: Over 100 cyclist rolled into Acton on Monday morning as part of the Sea to Sea ride in celebration of 100 years of the Christian Reformed Church in Canada.- Danielle McIsaac photo.

Bethel welcomes 100 cyclists including Acton's Al Leferink

by Danielle McIsaac The New Tanner

Early Monday morning, Acton Bethel Christian Reformed Church welcomed home Al Leferink, a member of the congregation, as he and over 100 other cyclists rolled into Acton to mark the beginning of the third and final stretch of their 7,125km coast-to-coast bike ride across Canada to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Twenty six year old Leferink stopped at the church just long enough to say goodbye to mom and girlfriend once more before moving on to Woodbridge for the night. Leferink, who started the tour at the beginning in Vancouver on June 23, had only one word to describe his experience up until this point - "awesome."

Over 150 cyclists from



QUIET MOMENT: Carlie Rauwerda, left, steals a quiet moment with boyfriend and cyclist, Al Leferink. - Danielle McIsaac photo.

all over Canada are participating in the 61 day ride including guest cyclists and others that join in various areas to be part of the monumental marathon.

Averaging 118 km per

day, the grueling trip had the athletes facing torrential rain, blistering heat and an uphill ride in B.C. to the 4,500 foot summit of Rogers Pass.

Vince VanderVeen from

says "It's incredible, we feel like celebrities. People are cheering for us and the reception we got in Guelph was amazing."

Terrace British Columbia

The group stopped in Guelph on Sunday for a special celebration rally which drew more that 6,000 supporters.

Participants are asking for pledges along the way to fund the trip and to reach a fund raising goal of \$3million, which will also be used in part to build new churches throughout Canada.

The riders are expected to finish their journey on September 3 in Halifax.

Three new officers...

Continued from page 1

Region. He graduated from the Police Foundations Course at Mohawk College on the Dean's Honour list and is working towards a Social Sciences degree at McMaster University. Kyle has been working almost fulltime while in college and university in order to pay for his schooling. He has also been very active with the Canadian Forces Reserve on the HMCS Star of the Naval Reserves.

Erik Van Vliet - Erik was born and raised in Mississauga. He completed his Bachelor of Arts, General Classical Studies, in 2004 from the University of Waterloo. Erik has been regularly employed since high school, working in a variety of environments including sales, shipping and receiving, horticulture and as a residence supervisor at university. His volunteer experience includes charity events and coaching boys' baseball.

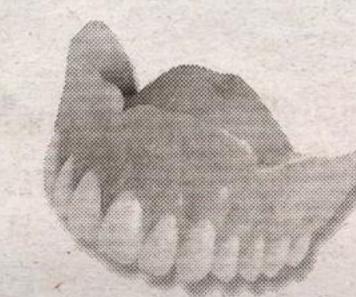
Three other constables were assigned to Oakville and one to Burlington.

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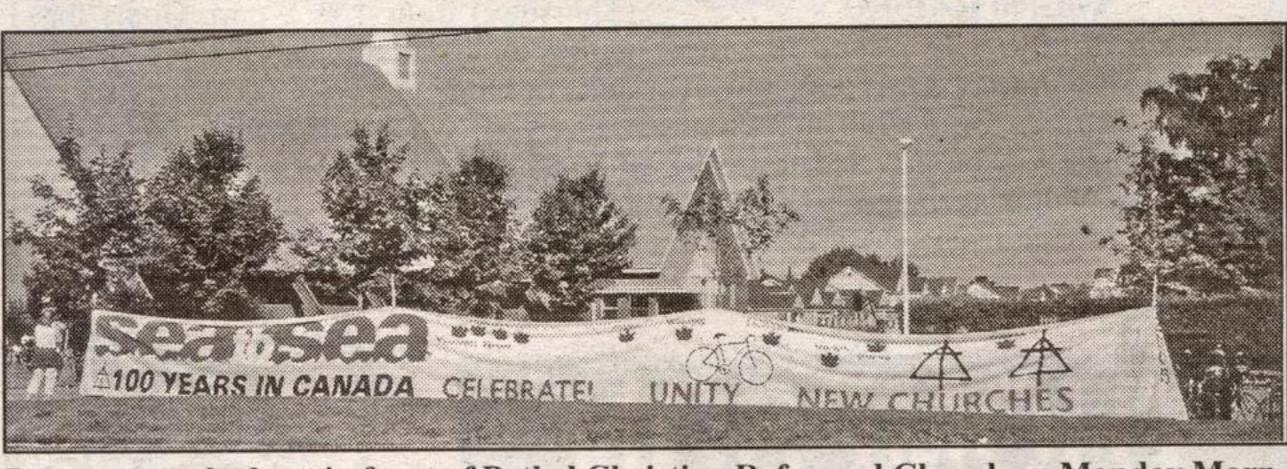
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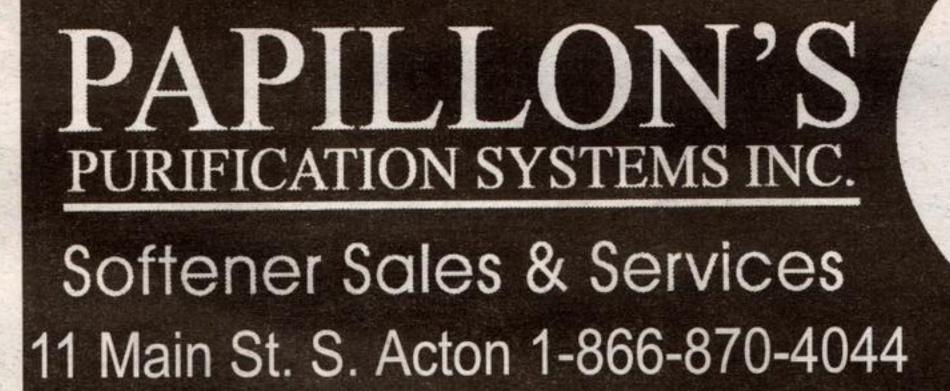


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Banner stretched out in front of Bethel Christian Reformed Church on Monday Morning.-Danielle McIsaac photo







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