

# Thank a farmer, real quick

Before Wednesday, I'd never crawled out of bed at 3:30 a.m. to cover an assignment.

But in the wee hours of Wednesday, before the crack of dawn, I headed to Ottawa.

At the invitation of Halton Federation of Agriculture member Peter Lambrick of Campbellville, I found myself crammed into a minivan at 4 a.m., en route to join a busload of more than 40 Halton and Peel farmers heading to Ottawa to make their concerns known to the federal government, more specifically Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

I've covered political rallies before, but they were always on the grounds of Queen's Park in Toronto. Never in Ottawa—this was a first.

After a breakfast stop in Kingston at 7:30 a.m. we landed in the nation's capital shortly after 10 a.m. to assemble for the demonstration.

Ottawa Police officers were quite accommodating with the 150 farm tractors lining four blocks of Wellington Street in front of Parliament Hill. The assembly was already underway, in spite of the fact the speeches weren't slated until 12:30 p.m.

I wandered about, talked to various people from our bus and shot photos as the protesters arrived to take part.

By 11:45 a.m., I climbed the steps to Parliament Hill to survey the grounds. It wasn't what I would consider a huge turnout—in fact, it bordered on pathetic.

Thoughts of the unpredictable quality of any rally shot through my mind as I sympathized with the protesters who had braved the early morning hours and long bus ride to be there.

As the long hands on the Peace Tower clock approached the noon hour, I saw a sprinkling of protesters walking in, but it still wasn't outstanding. The tractors were in place, the signage was up—where were the protesters?

Another look at the clock—12:15, the speakers were assembling by the podium. I had taken my place beside it, so I could have a good vantage point when things happened.

So far, I didn't have a lot of competition from other media. National television news teams have their permanent positions on the Hill, so the only ones are the print journalists and any wannabe shooters who wander in.

I looked up again—12:20 p.m. Nothing much different, except I noticed across the throng of people a bunch of white placards making their way up the sidewalk to my left, at the far corner of the Hill. A cheer rang out, and everyone turned to look in that same direction.

I watched, almost mesmerized as the placards, banners, flags and sandwich boards poured into the grounds.

## Ted Brown



Thousands of men, women and children marched up the street, carrying signage, and I suddenly realized what I was seeing.

The Quebec farmers had arrived.

The grounds around Parliament Hill swelled to overflowing as the group's numbers rose to an estimated 10,000. At the same time as the Quebec farmers were advancing into the ground like an army, there was a smaller flow of farmers—mostly from the West I later learned—walking in from the other side.

It was truly a meeting of east and west, Anglophone and Francophone—and they came together, appropriately, on the grounds of Parliament Hill.

When the rally started 10 minutes later, I had no doubt in my mind of its success. Prime Minister Stephen Harper would be hard pressed to ignore the force that assembled on the Hill that day. It was a huge success, organizers agreed.

As a card-carrying member of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, I have an interest in what happened on Parliament Hill Wednesday. It's not a huge, life-altering interest for me—my job here provides me with an alternative.

But others who joined me that day don't have that safety net. Their entire being centers around the farm industry and they're suffering for the lack of programs to protect them.

Canadian farmers produce the safest food in the world—our laws demand it.

But for food outside our borders, the same laws don't apply—consumers can be buying food with pesticides, herbicides and other trace chemicals that are a threat to their health.

The theme of Wednesday's protest was 'Farmers Feed Cities'.

It's time we pressured elected officials to implement programs to help and protect our farmers. And above all, we must buy Canadian.

If you ate today, thank a farmer. But thank him real quick. Because unless there are changes made soon, there may not be too many left to thank.

—Ted Brown can be reached at [tbrown@independentfreepress.com](mailto:tbrown@independentfreepress.com)



### ROAD CLOSURE

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, and Town of Halton Hills By-law 2003-0032 regarding the following temporary road closures for the purpose of the following community events:

#### TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

- A. Good Friday Procession**  
Friday, April 14, 2006 12:45 to 2:15 p.m.  
Organized by Maple Avenue Baptist Church  
Route proceeding southbound on Main Street, from James Street to Maple Avenue, easterly on Maple Avenue to Baptist Church (just west of Guelph Street)
- B. Good Friday Procession**  
Friday, April 14, 2006 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Organized by Queen Peace Croatia Franciscan Centre, Norval  
Route proceeding from the Rector Entrance of the Croatia Centre south on Winston Churchill Blvd and then exit at the Main Entrance of the Croatia Centre.

This information is presented as a courtesy notice to motorists, pedestrians and area residents. If you require any additional information regarding the temporary road closures, please contact Kelly Withers at 905-873-2601, ext. 2330. 50

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**AQUATIC COORDINATOR**  
Posting No. 200619  
(Contract Position - approx. 1 year)

The Recreation & Parks Department invites applications for the contract position of **Aquatic Coordinator**. The successful candidate is responsible for the planning, administering, promoting and supervision of aquatic programs and services for the community. This includes recreational, instructional aquatic programs, aquatic leadership development and rentals.

#### Responsibilities:

- Management of large work unit of part time staff and volunteers
- Ensure that all program staff work in compliance with governing legislation and the Town of Halton Hills Health and Safety Policy to ensure staff and participant well-being
- Monitor maintenance procedures and facility inspection of all pool amenities
- Seek the cooperation of and work closely with other Municipal Departments, Boards of Education, local Aquatic Clubs, agencies, groups or individuals whose activities have bearing upon the Department's objectives.
- Perform all administrative tasks associated with the management of aquatic services
- Monitor and control aquatic operating budget
- Maintain an awareness of latest trends, local graphics and quality standards for aquatic programs and services to ensure they are appropriate and of the highest caliber
- Must be available to work evenings and weekends for program management purposes

#### Qualifications:

- University Degree in Recreation or related field or equivalent
- Minimum of 3 years supervisory experience in a municipal aquatics setting
- Current National Lifeguard Service Award, LSS Instructors, Aquatic Supervisory Training Instructor, Standard First Aid, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, Lifesaving Society Examiners, Pool Operators certifications
- Knowledge of aquatic standards, qualifications, legislation, water safety equipment and awareness of new trends of aquatic program services and facilities
- Computer literacy in Microsoft Office Suite
- Strong supervisory and organizational skills
- Knowledge of workplace Health and Safety, WHMIS, and related employment legislation
- Experience working with community groups, the media and the general public
- Valid Ontario Driver's License (Class G) and access to personal vehicle

**Salary Range:** The hourly rate of pay for this full time one-year contract position is \$24.97-\$29.72

Qualified candidates may submit a detailed resume in confidence quoting **Posting No. 200619**, to the undersigned by **4:30 p.m., Friday, April 28, 2006**

Ms. Jacqueline Kerr  
Manager of Human Resources  
Town of Halton Hills  
1 Halton Hills Drive  
Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2  
Fax: (905) 873-1431  
Email: [humanresources@haltonhills.ca](mailto:humanresources@haltonhills.ca) 51

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 (S.O. 2001, c.25) and will be used to select a candidate. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager of Human Resources. Only those persons being interviewed will be contacted.

#### AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

### NOTICE TO TENDER

#### CONTRACT P-2006-C-04

Sealed tenders, clearly marked as to the contents, will be received by the Finance Department at the Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown), until 2:00 p.m., local time,

Thursday, April 27, 2006

For the construction of 130 cubic meter Armour Stone Retaining Walls (College Street, Georgetown).

Plans, Specifications and Form of Tender may be obtained from the office of the Town's Finance Department upon payment of \$70.00 (GST included), non-refundable deposit.

A certified cheque in the amount specified in the tender documents must accompany each tender.

Inquiries relating to the project should be directed to Ms. Teri Moore, C.E.T., at 904-873-2601 ext. 2309. Tenders will be opened at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, April 27, 2006 at the Civic Centre. Those submitting tenders are invited to attend.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. 52

#### CONTRACT P-2006-C-26

Sealed tenders, clearly marked as to the contents, will be received by the Finance Department at the Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown), until 2:00 p.m., local time,

Thursday, April 27, 2006

For the Reconstruction of Eastern Avenue and York Street (Acton). The major items of construction are:

• Earth Excavation	2,630 m <sup>3</sup>
• Granular A & B	4,600 t
• Concrete Curb	880 m
• Concrete Sidewalk	380 m <sup>2</sup>
• Hot Mix Asphalt	800 t
• 300 mm Watermain	345 m
• 300 mm Sanitary Sewer	260 m
• Topsoil and Sod	2,400 m <sup>2</sup>

Plans, Specifications and Form of Tender may be obtained from the office of the Town's Finance Department upon payment of \$75.00 (GST included), non-refundable deposit.

A certified cheque in the amount specified in the tender documents must accompany each tender.

Inquiries relating to the project should be directed to Ms. Teri Moore, C.E.T., at 905-873-2601 ext. 2309. Inquiries relating to the watermain and sanitary sewer should be directed to Mr. Rick Rinalli, Region of Halton at 1-866-442-5866 ext. 7619. Tenders will be opened at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, April 27, 2006 at the Civic Centre. Those submitting tenders are invited to attend.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. 53

### PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

**Date:** Tuesday, April 18, 2006  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (presentation at 7:00 p.m.)  
**Place:** Georgetown Public Library (Gallery)  
9 Church Street  
Georgetown, Ontario

The Town of Halton Hills will be holding a Public Open House to present options for the reconstruction of Main Street through downtown Georgetown.

Business owners, residents and other interested parties are encouraged to attend to view the proposals and provide input on the project.

For further information and/or to provide comments, please contact:

Chris Mills, P. Eng.  
Manager of Development Engineering  
905-873-2601 ext. 2301  
[chrism@haltonhills.ca](mailto:chrism@haltonhills.ca) 54

www.independentfreepress.com

# WANTED

## HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING

A select number of homeowners in the **Acton & Georgetown** area will be given the opportunity to have a lifetime **METALWORKS STEEL SHINGLE** roof installed on their home at a reasonable cost!

If we can use your home in our campaign to showcase the look of our "Quarry Slate" or "Cedar Shingle" roof, we will definitely make it worth your while.

Should your home and location meet our marketing needs, you will receive attractive pricing and will have access to our special o.a.c. low interest unsecured bank financing.

A MetalWorks roof will provide you with unsurpassed beauty and protection ... guaranteed! [www.TheLastRoof.com](http://www.TheLastRoof.com)

**This limited offer will be serviced on a first come, first served basis.**

INQUIRE TODAY TO SEE IF YOUR HOME QUALIFIES!

## 1-866-894-4040

email: [metalworks@bil-den.com](mailto:metalworks@bil-den.com)