

# See how Stephen does it...

There's a well-known tradition held for all 'Halton Hillians' at this time of year. It's the outstanding Canada Day celebrations we have around town. Whether it be the day-long event at Glen Williams ball park or the spectacular Acton BIA activities and evening fireworks display in Prospect Park, we're pretty blessed with what volunteers around town have to offer.

I've been a regular at the Glen celebrations for years, from the days when I was covering the event for the newspaper, to the present, when I drop by to watch the parade and enjoy a sausage and a pop, as well as sit in the shade and listen to the various musical entertainment groups that have been a hallmark of the celebration for years.

And I always make sure I gave Anne Lawlor her happy birthday hug...

I can't say I've been quite as faithful a follower of the Acton party, as I was in the past when the kids were younger, as we watched the fireworks explode over Fairy Lake, to the oohs and ahhs of the spectators.

I enjoy Canada Day. I love the colour of the flags, the joy in the air and all the celebrations of this great country, making it one of the most desirable places to live in the entire world.

Canada Day in the Glen is the place for me to see old friends I haven't seen since last year, to once again cement those old friendships.

But this year will be different—I won't be at Canada Day celebrations in the Glen this year. Instead, I'll be in our nation's capital, watching the celebrations on Parliament Hill.

Me and The Sidekick decided, just this once, to see how Stephen Harper does it in Ottawa, compared to how the volunteers in the Glen throw their party.

I checked out the various Ottawa websites to see what's happening, and I must admit, in spite of the fact the organizers in Ottawa have a

## Ted Brown



few things going on, they'll have to work really hard to top the Halton Hills celebrations.

Ottawa's celebrations start at 9 a.m.— the Glen starts at 8 a.m., with their pancake breakfast. I'm guessing there'll be no pancake breakfast on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

The Glen has a ball game with the councillors and mayor in the morning— I don't see Stephen Harper playing any ball game anywhere on the Ottawa agendas.

There will be historical walking tours in The Glen all day— okay, the National War Museum is open to the public on Canada Day, free of charge to boot. Sorry Glen Williams, Stephen's got ya there, the War Museum is awesome.

Ottawa has lots of entertainment going on all day, but I don't recognize any of the groups.

On the other hand, I know most people who play in the Glen.

But there's one thing the Glen has the edge on over Stephen's celebration. I've scoured the websites, and nowhere does Stephen have a duck race in the Rideau Canal.

So I offer my Canada Day wishes a bit early this year, as I won't be around to say it in person. And I will be back next year, taking in all the colour and celebration in the Glen.

And Anne Lawlor— you'll just have to wait a bit for your belated birthday hug...

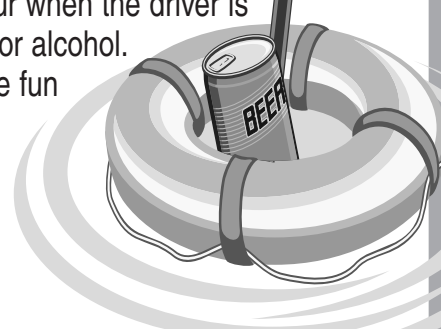
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