



Congratulations to Jennifer Brown upon graduating **with honours** from the Bachelor of Arts program at the University of Guelph, majoring in Criminal Justice and Public Policy and Sociology.

Love Mom, Dad, Alison and the whole family



The Ad Hoc Committee for an Arts, Culture & Heritage Action Plan hosted a session last week on a municipal cultural planning strategy. Organizers and presenters attending included from left, Emily Robson, Centre for Cultural Management, University of Waterloo; Kay Matthews, Georgetown Central BIA; Jamie Smith, Cultural Centre manager; Alice Rice, Georgetown Choral Society president; Jane Diamanti, Library director; Chris Macewan; Roscoe Petkovic, Georgetown Little Theatre president; Jane Fogal, Town of Halton Hills councillor; and Laurent Thibault, committee chair.

Photo submitted

Arts and culture committee plans 2010 symposium

The Ad Hoc Committee for an Arts, Culture and Heritage Action Plan is continuing on in its bid to seek a municipal cultural planning strategy.

Last week, the group hosted an information session in the Halton Hills Cultural Centre Gallery, with featured presentations by Emily Robson of the Centre for Cultural Management, University of Waterloo and Lorraine Hogan, the Regional Service representative of the Ministry of Culture. Dan Taylor, Economic Development Officer of Prince Edward County shared his story of how his region of Ontario successfully used a Cultural Plan to re-invigorate its economy.

The speakers pointed out many other communities in Ontario now realize that good use of their cultural assets must be an integral part of an economic development strategy. Speakers felt that Halton Hills already has a rich artistic and cultural heritage, and that with many factors such as the aging baby boomers looking for enjoyable local cultural activities, the timing is right for Halton Hills to have a focused plan to attract them to the community.

Taylor reminded the audience of the need to understand the huge changes happening in an information-based economy and that communities need to use the many powerful internet-based communications tools to their advantage.

This event is one step in the process of developing a formal Action Plan. The committee has applied to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for funds to hold a two-day symposium on January 17-18, 2010 that will bring together representatives of the local arts, culture and heritage sectors to begin the work on a Plan.

Anyone interested in participating actively in this exercise should contact Kay Matthews, 905-873-4970.



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