

# Air Cadet flies solo

By Frances Niblock

It was over too soon.

Acton Air Cadet Aaron Smelsky's first solo powered flight earlier this month – the defining event in the training of a pilot – didn't last long enough for the 17-year-old Acton area teen.

Smelsky earned an Air Cadet League of Canada flying scholarship and is attending a seven-week flight school at the Empire Aviation Centre in London.

Smelsky said his first solo flight was "really amazing."

"It was intense. I really don't know how to describe it. But when you work so hard to try to accomplish something and then you finally do it, it is a giant relief, but then, you're very happy and feel so accomplished," he said of his first solo flight last Thursday that lasted between 10 and 15 minutes, in a Diamond DA 20, around a circuit at Empire Aviation.

Smelsky, a Warrant Officer 1st Class, is the top ranked cadet among the 71 Ontario Cadets who were selected for the prestigious flight school scholarship – over 400 applied – and



**LEGION AWARD:** Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197 president Wes Kutasienski proudly pinned the Legion Medal of Excellence on Warrant Officer 1st Class Aaron Smelsky during the 197 Typhoon Squadron's annual inspection recently at the Legion. – Frances Niblock photo

they call him "Chief." All will earn a Transport Canada Private Pilot Licence and the Royal Canadian Air Cadet wings this summer.

Smelsky, who has his glider pilot licence, said the workload is intense, with the days filled with ground school, where they study the theory of flight, navigation, and metrology, and flying – he'll accumulate approximately 45 hours flying time during the training.

He said there's no "Top Gun" competitiveness among

the cadets, but more a "new family" feeling with a lot of give and take and willingness to help if someone needs it.

In his last year as member of the 197 Acton Air Cadet Typhoon Squadron, Smelsky earned the Air Cadet of the Year Award, the Best Dressed Cadet Award and the Legion's Medal of Excellence.

Smelsky graduates from flight school and receives his wings on August 17, his 18th birthday, and then heads to university in Florida to study aerospace engineering.

## School Bus Orientation Day Saturday, August 25, 2007

*A safety program for all first-time riders.*



The Halton School Bus Safety Committee is offering a free program for all first-time school bus riders prior to the first day of school. The program will held on **Saturday, August 25, 2007** in various locations throughout the Region of Halton.

The one hour program promotes school bus safety and includes:

- A discussion of student responsibilities while on school buses
- A Winnie-the-Pooh video for the younger students
- An interactive demonstration of bus safety zones
- A ride on a school bus to practice safe loading and unloading.

To confirm attendance and a time slot, please call one of the member bus companies of the Halton School Bus Safety Committee listed below. Scheduled time slots begin at 9:00 a.m. and parents are welcome to participate with their children.

PROGRAM LOCATION	BUS COMPANY	PHONE NO.
Loyola Catholic Secondary School	Stock Transportation	905-829-2040
Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School	Laidlaw Transit Ltd.	905-335-7010
Nelson High School	Attridge Transportation	905-333-4047
Bishop Reding Catholic Secondary School	Laidlaw Transit Ltd.	905-877-2251
Georgetown District High School	Laidlaw Transit Ltd.	905-877-2251
Acton District High School	Tyler Transport Ltd.	519-853-1550



## The Regional Municipality of Halton

### Civic Holiday Waste Collection Notice

Please Note Collection Day Changes

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 Civic Holiday	7	8 <i>Collection Moves to Tomorrow</i>	9	10	11

**Due to the Civic Holiday, waste collection services the week of August 6 will take place the day after your regular collection day.**

Please place your waste at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.



Please check your 2007 "Curb Appeal" Waste Management Calendar for details in your area or the Region's Waste Management website at [www.halton.ca/waste](http://www.halton.ca/waste)

### Halton Waste Management Site will be closed on Monday, August 6

Regular Operating Hours  
Open Monday to Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

5400 Regional Road 25, Milton

### WATER WISE HALTON



## Halton Landscape Assessment Pilot Program

Save time and money this summer by making your home landscaping water efficient!

During the summer months the use of residential water can nearly double with people washing cars, cleaning and filling swimming pools, and watering of lawns and gardens.

One way to become more efficient with the amount of water used at your home could include some pre-season landscape planning. By evaluating the natural features of your property including soil type, climate and drainage conditions you can begin to plan what plant types and design options would work best on your property.

To aid residents in establishing their own water efficient landscapes, Halton Region is now offering a Landscape Assessment Pilot Program. Through this program, Halton's Landscape Advisor will visit your home's landscape and provide complimentary water efficiency tips and tools to help in making your landscape more water efficient.

To register please contact Halton's Landscape Advisor at 905-825-6000, extension 7836, or call toll free to 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866). Please note spaces are limited, and booking is occurring on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information and helpful tips on water conservation, visit our website at [www.halton.ca/waterconservation](http://www.halton.ca/waterconservation).