



Toronto Departures - January 4 to 25, 2010

SANTA LUCIA
\$499

CUBA
Oasis Brisas Santa Lucia Cameleon
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Thu, Jan 7, 14,
Add taxes & fees \$204

ACAPULCO
\$569

MEXICO
Ritz Acapulco
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Mon, Jan 11, 18, 25
Add taxes & fees \$272

VARADERO
\$599

CUBA
Allegro Varadero
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Thu, Jan 7, 14,
Add taxes & fees \$204

LIBERIA
\$599

COSTA RICA
Allegro Paggayo
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Thu, Jan 7, 14, 21
Add taxes & fees \$209

HOLGUIN
\$599

CUBA
Blau Costa Verde Beach Resort Cameleon
★★★★ 1/2
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Fri Jan 8, 15
Add taxes & fees \$204

LA ROMANA
\$649

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Catalonia Gran Diminicus Cameleon
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
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Add taxes & fees \$320

SAN SALVADOR
\$699

EL SALVADOR
Royal Decameron Salinitas
★★★★
All Inclusive - 7 nights
Mon Jan 4, 11
Add taxes & fees \$242

RIVIERA NAYARIT
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MEXICO
Royal Decameron Complex
★★★★
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Mon/Fri Jan 8, 11
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Romana, Samana
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Mexico
Cancun
\$90 High Season \$190
Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco
\$130 High Season \$230

Caribbean
Jamaica
\$90 High Season \$190

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Geothermal system to heat/cool new library.

Loan or energy savings will pay for system

By Frances Niblock

The heat of the earth will be harnessed to heat and cool the new \$3.5-million Acton library. Town Council approved plans for a geothermal system, along with a financing plan, at a recent meeting.

The Town will apply for \$1.4-million from the Green Municipal Fund – 10 per cent of it would be a grant – to pay for the heating and cooling system and help cover capital costs, fees for the project manager, architect, interior designer, engineers and energy consultants.

If the application to the Green Municipal Fund – which supports decreasing energy consumption in municipal buildings – is successful,



GEOHERMAL TESTING: Temperature testing 500 feet underground determined if a geothermal heating/cooling system would work at the new Acton library.

– Frances Niblock photo

ful, the library would receive a low-cost loan that would save the Town \$200,000 in borrowing costs. Along with the loan it would receive \$140,000 to cover up to 70 per cent of the cost of a geothermal system.

If a grant from the Green Municipal Fund does not materialize, Council approved a financing deal with Halton

Hills Community Energy to borrow the money and pay it back through energy savings.

Acton Councillor Jon Hurst, noting that Council's approval of the geothermal system coincided with the opening day of the Copenhagen climate talks, said the move continued and enhanced the Town's Green Plan initiatives.

"This will be, I believe, our fourth municipal geothermal installation in Halton Hills, something we should be proud of," he said, noting the system will reduce energy consumption and also qualify for LEEDS (energy efficiency) certification at the Silver level that will help reduce the Town's carbon footprint.

Acton Councillor Clark Somerville said the project shows the Town's leadership in energy efficiency.

Due to the funding guidelines for the library – two-thirds of the cost coming from federal and provincial stimulus programs – the project is on a very tight timeframe and must be substantially complete by March 2011.

Fire Report

Faulty stove

A faulty gas range was to blame for elevated gas levels that set off the alarm in a Beardmore Crescent home, reported at 9:36 on Friday night. The range was shut down, the home ventilated and Union Gas called. No other help was required from Acton firefighters.

Close call

A pot on the stove of a Shorthill Road home burned dry and set off the alarm while the homeowner slept on the couch at 6:12 p.m. last Tuesday. A passer-by heard the smoke alarm and could see the sleeping person, but could not wake them up.

When Acton firefighters arrived, the homeowner was up and had turned off the stove. Crews ventilated the home. No damage was reported.

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