



**FUTURE DONORS?** While regular donor Angela Campbell of Acton gave blood at last Thursday's clinic at the Legion, her children, Georgia and Rory looked on as phlebotomist Edna Mayugba took care of business. Sixty-six units of blood were collected. – Frances Niblock photo



**HEARTFELT THANKS:** After more than 50 years – on and off – of volunteering for the Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society, Joyce Buchanan (second from right) retired after last Thursday's blood donor clinic in Acton. Blood clinic volunteers Fran Morris (left) and Joan Ford and Mae Hoare presented Sprowl, fittingly, with a Bleeding Heart plant in thanks for her time and talents. – Frances Niblock photo

# Almost no interest in downtown Acton

## Open house a bust for public comment

Just one Georgetown resident attended an open house on the Acton of the future, and he was killing time while his son refereed a lacrosse game in the adjacent arena.

The no-show crowd last Wednesday evening disappointed Town planning staff who cancelled a scheduled presentation

on the Acton Downtown Area Land Review Policy Review, designed to lead to a healthy, livable and safe downtown with a range and mix of land uses that minimize costs and environmental impacts.

The review is driven by a number of land use issues, including the Eastern Avenue tourist commercial

sub-area where Olde Hide House plans for a major shopping area never materialized.

Council approved a medical centre – not an allowed tourist area use – in the area and there is renewed talk of a return of GO Train service to Acton, which would require a station in the area.

Town policy planner Tara Buonspensio said there are five boundary alternatives being studied, each with a mix of additional residential, general employment and retail/commercial opportunities in downtown Acton, in accordance with provincial, Regional and Town growth plans.

Buonspensio said the Acton Urban Area has three proposed land use designations including the Downtown Core Sub-Area, the Downtown Complementary Sub-Area that acts as a buffer between the Core area and adjacent residential area, and the Tourist Commercial Area. The options being studied include:

**Alternative one:** No changes to the downtown boundary but lands fronting Main Street North and South would be designated as Downtown Core Sub-Area to allow for re-

development. Lands north west of Main Street and north east of Wilbur Street would be changed from Tourist Commercial Sub-Area to Downtown Core Sub-Area to recognize a number of new buildings have been built that may not be suitable for inclusion in the Downtown Redevelopment Sub-Area.

**Alternative two:** The Downtown Acton boundary would be adjusted to include the future Acton Library, and lands that front on Bower Avenue and Church Street East, between John Street and Wilbur Street.

**Alternative three:** Builds on options one and two and adds lands in the Maria Street area to the Downtown Redevelopment Sub-Area.

**Alternative four:** Builds on the first three options and adds properties front-

ing on Main Street in the area of Knox Street in the Downtown Core Sub-Area.

**Alternative five:** Builds on the first four options and includes a new block of properties between Willow Street North and Alice Street, north of Bower Avenue in a Downtown Complementary Sub-Area.

Following public and agency input, each of the options will be evaluated and a preferred policy option will be identified. Another round of technical and stakeholder committee meetings, and then a second open house, will produce a recommendation to Council for approval, following October's municipal election.

Acton Councillor Mike O'Leary said the public's lack of interest is disheartening, but it's even more disheartening when affected property owners "come out screaming at us," at the last minute, something that is happening with more regularity.

"We are trying to determine how to get public information out to the public," O'Leary said agreeing with Planner Buonspensio who said it is a "challenge" to get people interested enough to understand and to come to a public meeting on planning issues, even if they will shape the future downtown Acton.

The Acton Downtown Area Land Review Policy Review is available at [www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca) and the Town will receive comments on the study until the end of June.

# Celebrate Canada Day at Prospect Park

CONCERTS IN THE PARK, 5 pm – 9 pm  
FIREWORKS AT DUSK

Featuring: Robert Little Everybody Dance Club  
Kelsey Kirkpatrick — Last years' Acton Idol Winner  
J-Force  
Hometown Roots — Youth Battle of the Band Winner

Feature Band: One Night Stand, starring Monty Greig

Sponsored by:

Best Dressed Canada Day Bike Contest (12 & under)

Judging will begin at 5pm, Entry Deadline June 30, 2010

To enter, fill out this entry form and drop off at 16 Mill St. East or email [actonbia@cogeco.net](mailto:actonbia@cogeco.net)

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EMAIL: ..... AGE: .....

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