

# Councillors swear 'faithful and true allegiance' at inaugural meeting

Members of the 13th Halton Hills Council solemnly swore their declarations of office at a ceremony Monday night at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown.

Halton Hills Fire Department Piper Nathaniel Trotter added to the pomp and circumstance as he led the procession in and out of the theatre, and Acton High School Grade 12 student Kelsey Kirkpatrick offered a spine-tingling,

bilingual rendition of O Canada.

Town Clerk Suzanne Jones administered the oaths, asking the councillors, grouped by their wards, to swear to "truly, and faithfully and impartially" exercise the office to the best of their knowledge and ability.

Before a proud audience of family, friends, "tireless campaign workers" and invited guests, the councillors swore they

had "not received, or will not receive any payment or reward or promise for the exercise of the office in a biased, corrupt or any other improper manner." The oath also includes swearing they will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Queen.

In his inaugural address, Mayor Rick Bonnette – the Town's sixth mayor – sounded optimistic and confident – he said he wouldn't be bullied, using

the free trade battle with the U.S.A. as an example, because "being a wimp is not my style."

Bonnette listed some of the accomplishments of the past term – two new fire stations, two libraries, development of a deep volunteer base – and said the ice shortfall issue is a priority for the new council, along with a new long-range financial plan and improved communications with residents.

"As mayor for the next four years, I will continue to be an advocate for our community... it's about what's best for the Town of Halton Hills," Bonnette said adding he hopes to improve relations with the Halton District School Board which soured over the sale of surplus land at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School.

The mayor praised the skills of his council and used a sports analogy

– "like a good hockey team, you win when you work as a team, not as individuals" – to describe his style of leadership.

The first business of the new council was to approve four resolutions regarding bylaws governing the composition of four Town committees. Bonnette also released his appointments to Town committees boards and agencies.



**COUNCILLORS' OATHS:** Some members of the new Halton Hills Council raised their hands to swear their declarations of office at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown on Monday night. They include, from left: Councillors Clark Somerville, Jon Hurst, Mike O'Leary, Bryan Lewis and Joan Robson. – Frances Niblock photo



**ACTON CITIZENS' BAND**  
In Concert

*A Celebration*  
*Advent, Christmas, Winter*

- O Holy Night •
- Country Christmas •
- Winter Wonderland •
- Happy Holiday/White Christmas •

*and all the favourites*

Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 2:00pm  
**Bethel Christian Reformed Church**

*Donations of Food or Funds for the Acton Food Bank greatly appreciated*

*Christmas refreshments for all!*

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Sale**

RUN BY  
**MEN OF HERITAGE "ACTON"**  
Formerly Kinsmen

**NOW OPEN!**

Weeknights 6 pm - 9pm  
Weekends 10 am - 6pm  
Location: North End of Hide House parking lot.

*Students can earn community hours by volunteering their time & help with this sale.*

If you are interested in meeting new friends and serving your community, drop by and talk to one of the members or contact Jason Ash at  
**519-853-1347**

**Acton Seniors Annual Christmas Lights Tour**

**Wednesday, December 15th**  
**Picking up:**  
**6:30 pm - Elizabeth St. Apts.**  
**6:40 pm - Birchway (Legion Apts)**  
**6:50 pm - Maria St. Apts.**  
**7:00 pm - Acton Seniors Centre**

Reservations only - In person at front desk  
Or phone 519-853-5951  
All Seniors and Caregivers welcome

*Refreshments to follow*

**Bus courtesy of Tyler Transport and Acton Seniors Center**