



A young artist displays her skills at The Latcham Gallery



Say "No" to Religious Schools funding - The current system discriminates against other faiths while the Conservative plan calls for religious and eventual ethnic segregation. Doing the right thing will save us \$500 million/year.

Say "No" to blind Urban Sprawl - Building new Developments and then expecting the government to come up with a viable infrastructure for it is unreasonable. Plan communities carefully, have the developers pay for parts of the cost of establishing vibrant and accessible neighbourhoods taking into consideration their current and future energy, transportation, employment and recreational needs and sustainability.

Say "Yes" to Electoral Reform - The winning candidate will likely gather a little more than 40% of the riding's support. Why should the other 60% of the population be immediately disenfranchised a day after the elections. Their opinions, faith and support for other political views and platforms are no less valid than the winning party's and should be represented in the legislature.

Say "No" to Nuclear Power - Why is this still an issue? Half of Ontario's debt is due to nuclear power. Take all the numbers you hear from the Liberal and Conservative camps, add them together and the total will still be less than what either of these parties will likely spend on Nuclear power in the next four years. Yet, the word "Nuclear" is completely amiss from both platforms. Disclose the facts. Nuclear power is not profitable, it is not sustainable, it is expensive, dangerous and non-renewable.

PLEASE GIVE US A CHANCE!

PLEASE GIVE US A VOICE!

On October 10th Vote Attila Nagy

Oak Ridges • Markham

Green Party of Ontario

www.gpo.ca

By Cass Reimer

Some of us think of ourselves or of our kids as creative people. Most of us love some form of art – to look at paintings, or to read literature, or to listen to music, or to dance. Art helps us let go of the ordinary world, and feel in touch with something ecstatic, something wonderful. Art is not just for professionals; art is built into all of us, and is a key piece of our lives – not a frill.

I'm a real enthusiast about art education – for everyone. Sure, some of us are intrinsically more drawn to art than others, and some of us have more innate skills. Still, there should be a little art-making in everyone's life.

Many people have had the joy of painting, or drawing, sculpting, singing, or dancing, taken away from them by an awareness that we aren't as good at it as others, and perhaps never will be. I have noticed that people fear drawing particularly – yet drawing is just a technical skill, not the essence of creativity. To learn to draw, you need a good teacher or two, and lots of practice. To be creative is easier than that; you simply have to make a little time to play.

Four-year-olds love to scribble, and don't worry about what the end result will look like. Eight-year-olds worry

about making their pictures pretty, and colouring within the lines. Teenagers are embarrassed to draw badly, and shy away from showing their work. Adults stop drawing and painting altogether, often experiencing a sense of loss.

I believe that it's important to express our creative ideas, for the sake of our inner lives. The best way to do so is to stop comparing, stop being self-critical and permit one's self a childlike playfulness in art. Mistakes in art are OK – after all, it isn't rock-climbing. Professional artists actually face these same worries, and have to search for that four-year-old spirit of engagement again, in order to reach their creative state and bring back a feeling of joy and spontaneity in their artwork. The key to making art is to play at it with dedication, like a small child.

Monoprinting is a great technique for learning to relax about results, and for getting into an experimental (that is, creative) frame of mind. With monoprinting, you must be open to surprises, and happily, many of your surprises will be lovely. Once you have learnt the technique, you will only need simple supplies to continue with it on your own. Valerie Kent is offering a monoprinting workshop on Oct. 21 – register while you can!

Cass Reimer is education program coordinator at The Latcham Gallery

A GOing concern

Anyone who uses GO Train and Bus service in Stouffville will have noticed a big increase in ridership in recent months, including more people taking off-peak journeys to and from the city.

North Stouffville will welcome a new GO station, which has yet to be named, by the end of June 2008, and this will become the last stop on the Stouffville line. It will serve the Stouffville and Uxbridge areas, and will help relieve commuter pressure at the existing station, which is currently used by almost 900 passengers on a typical weekday.

The new station will be built next to the Stouffville layover facility on the Town Line at Bethesda, and will include a 140-space parking lot, kiss and ride drop-off area, bus loop, accessible platforms and automated ticket vending machines.

When the new station opens, the existing station will no longer be the last stop on the line. To reduce stop times at Stouffville on the way to the new station, GO will lengthen the current six-car platform to accommodate 10-car trains. The west parking lot at Stouffville will also become more accessible, with the construction of a new pedestrian crossing. Construction is scheduled to finish in November 2007.

With the growing concern for the environment in the light of global warming, here are some 'green' facts supplied by GO. "We removed 1.6 billion kilometres of automobile trips from the Greater Toronto road system last year. That resulted in less road congestion, less harmful auto emissions, and overall less fuel consumption. GO promotes public transit as a key to maintaining healthy cities for years to come.

"One GO Bus can seat 57 passengers, one 10-car GO Train can seat 1,600 passengers, and starting in early 2008, the new double decker buses will seat 78 passengers. By parking this many cars each day and taking GO, riders are helping to reduce harmful emissions, overall fuel consumption, and traffic congestion.

"The purchase of our new locomotives, which will be in service shortly, will allow our trains to have 12 passenger cars, instead of the regular 10, accommodating an additional 320 passengers."

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