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Saturday: Chance of a Shower



Sunday: Mainly Sunny



Monday: Mix of Sun and Clouds

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100 years of honour and history

There was pageantry and celebration as the Town of New Tecumseth raised the Legion flag to honour and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion. Founded in 1926 to help Veterans and their families, the Legion has hundreds of branches across the country. Locally, Alliston Legion Branch 171, Tottenham Legion Branch 171, and Beeton Legion Branch 421 serve the community. Led by Tottenham Sergeant at Arms, Alan Masters, and joined by local dignitaries, the Legion flag was raised at New Tecumseth Town Hall on Thursday, June 18. Additional photos on Page 2. BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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Strong Mayor powers rescinded prior to town council meeting

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A planned discussion at the June 15 Town of New Tecumseth Council meeting did not take place, as Mayor Richard Norcross rescinded his motion before the meeting.

Under powers prescribed in Section 284.11.1 of the Municipal Act and through Mayoral Decision #MDE-2026-09, council was going to consider a by-law to adopt a revised version of Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No. 5 at the June 15 Council.

The key update to OPA No. 5, as compared to the version presented at the Special Council Meeting on April 29, 2026, is the introduction of Deferral No. 1.

Deferral No. 1 proposes to defer the adoption of "Land Use Designation: Beeton Official Plan Schedule B2," including any related implementing policies or overlays. This deferral also applies to any proposed expansion of the Settlement Area Boundary for Beeton represented on Schedule B2 or related schedules.

As a result of this deferral, the existing land use designations identified in Schedule B2 of

the Town's approved 2019 Official Plan will remain in effect and continue to prevail until council formally considers the deferred matters.

The deferral means that consideration of the proposed Settlement Area Boundary Expansion for Beeton will be postponed until at least January 2027.

On June 12, Mayor Norcross issued a statement saying he was rescinding the motion before the start of the June 15 Council meeting.

"The by-law to adopt OPA 5 (in part), was an

attempt to bring two sides together. However, no common ground has emerged. The reality is that growth is expected and mandated by the province, and we need to be in control of the local planning decisions. Growth is needed to fund the facilities – including recreation spaces – and programs that our residents are demanding. Staff presented a reasonable plan that balances growth across the entire municipality. I am rescinding the use of Strong Mayor Powers in this matter at this time, and it is my intention to bring OPA 5 forward for approval within the next 60 days."



100 YEARS OF HISTORY – There was pageantry and celebration as the Town of New Tecumseth raised the Legion flag to honour and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion. Founded in 1926 to help Veterans and their families, the Legion has hundreds of branches across the country. Locally, Alliston Legion Branch 171, Tottenham Legion Branch 171, and Beeton Legion Branch 421 serve the community. Led by Tottenham Sergeant at Arms, Alan Masters, and joined by local dignitaries, the Legion flag was raised at New Tecumseth Town Hall on Thursday, June 18.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS

Public Notice

Notice of application for declaration of Abandonment of Interment Rights for the following sites.

Name of Purchaser	Year	Plot	Site
William Sharp	1918	9	3, 4
Emily Walls	1912	13	3, 4
James Henry Pearcey	1948	40	2, 3, 4
Seneca Nolan	1931	47	3, 4
George Gallinger	1911	52	1, 2, 3, 4
Melville Williams	1916	56	3, 4
Ida Brown Metcalf	1921	13	3, 4
Edna Storey	1914	180	3, 4
Orrie Herman Sloan	1918	186	1, 3, 4
David Samuel Ward	1931	321	3, 4
Ransom Delaney	1950	339	1, 2, 3, 4
William Abernethy	1907	383	1, 2, 3, 4

If any direct descendant has any concerns or interest in this matter, please contact in writing within 30 days the secretary of the Mount Tegart Cemetery:

Mount Tegart Cemetery Secretary
6183 3rd Line
Tottenham, Ont
L0G 1W0

Or Email
mounttegartcemetery@gmail.com

Should there be an objection to this action.

Dated this June 18, 2026

More long-term care beds coming to the region

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario government will be adding 288 long-term care beds at the new Care Wasaga Home in the Town of Wasaga Beach.

"Today marks another milestone moment for the community of Wasaga Beach," said MPP for Simcoe-Grey, Brian Saunderson. "Wasaga Beach will soon have a long-term care home, an important addition that will help meet the needs of a growing community while allowing more residents to remain close to family and local support networks. This project is part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by creating good jobs and building for the future, while ensuring long-term care residents get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve."

This project is the result of the Ontario government's continued progress toward its commitment to build 58,000 new and redeveloped long-term care beds across the province, outlined in the 2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario.

The plan to improve care is built on four

pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe, and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

"Our government is improving long-term care by building more homes, hiring more staff, and protecting those who reside in them," said Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care. "Once complete, this building will provide 288 people with a new home where they can receive the care they need, when they need it."

As of April 2026, 165 projects representing a total of 26,421 new and redeveloped beds have been completed, are under construction, or have ministry approval to start construction across the province.

The government is continuing its ambitious, extensive long-term care construction campaign with the 2025 Long-Term Care Home Capital Funding Policy and the Capital Funding Program (CFP). The CFP provides a funding framework that better reflects regional cost variations while addressing diverse operator needs within the long-term care sector.

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Beeton Community Centre gets the green light at special council meeting

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Beeton residents were happy to hear the outcome of a special New Tecumseth council meeting held on Wednesday, June 17, to discuss future projects in the town.

At the meeting, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was presented, along with three options.

Projects considered included building a new Beeton Community Centre, a sports dome, and an indoor pool.

As all three projects will entail considerable expense to taxpayers, council discussed options for these future projects.

Several people and representatives from local organizations spoke at the meeting to urge support for what they believe is the most urgent need in the town of the three options.

When presenting the options, New Tecumseth's director of recreation facilities and culture, Adam Mobbs, explained that each option would have a direct impact on how plans could proceed.

It was explained that if the Town decided to build a sports dome, activities currently held in the field house at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre could be moved to the dome, freeing up the field house space for possible expansion and a new use, including the construction of an indoor pool.

The decision made by council would affect the chain of opportunity for the other proposals. It was also pointed out that there are currently no plans that will affect the Alliston Memorial Arena on Nelson Street, which is used for a variety of activities.

A feasibility study for the proposed sports dome identified a growing need for indoor turf sports, with a single dome being the most appropriate facility. A large facility would accommodate a full-size soccer field, with the option to add four smaller fields.

The estimated cost for a dome is around \$10.47 million.

The second study examined the feasibility of building an indoor pool at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre (NTRC) and other expansion options.

The pool analysis study indicated there is

a need for an indoor aquatic centre in town. Currently, local residents travel to other towns to use their pool amenities.

A site selection process determined that the NTRC was the most appropriate site for an indoor aquatic centre.

The total cost for a pool and other additions to the NTRC would be around \$66 million.

The third presentation focused on the redevelopment of the Beeton Memorial Arena.

Director Mobbs said the Beeton facility "is nearing the end of its useful life, and no longer meets modern service and programming expectations."

Three design options were presented for the Beeton Memorial Arena. The plan is to build the new facility at the same location as the current one.

This plan includes options for an ice pad and a gymnasium.

The cost of the options ranges up to \$44 million.

Several members of various groups and organizations in town spoke at the meeting to deliver their views on how council should

proceed and what they feel is needed in town.

Council passed a motion to receive the deputations from various groups and organizations.

The swimming pool option was deferred to the 2027 budget deliberations, as was the outdoor sports dome project.

Prior to a final vote, Ward 6 Councillor Nicole Cox reminded councillors that the Beeton arena project has been ongoing for 20 years.

"This project isn't new to council, and certainly not new to the residents of Beeton," Councillor Cox said. "For nearly two decades, it has been studied, reviewed, debated, revised, and brought back for future consideration. In 20 years of studies, consultations, reports, presentations, public meetings, surveys, task-force input, and community input, is not enough to make a decision, then when will it be?"

Cox tabled a motion in support of the Beeton arena development project and asked council to vote to get the project started.

Council voted unanimously to accept the motion and move forward.

County of Simcoe expands multi-residential organic program

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Since the announcement of the expansion of organics collection for multi-residential properties in 2025, the County of Simcoe has made significant early progress in bringing the program to more residents across the region.

The voluntary program, which is rolling out in phases throughout the spring and summer, is designed to extend organics diversion services to multi-residential buildings that have not previously had access to County-provided collection.

Building on the success of a 2024 pilot program that included 15 properties and 615 units and demonstrated strong resident participation, the County is moving ahead with broader implementation to help close service gaps and support waste diversion goals.

Early results from the rollout show a strong momentum.

In May, the County's Solid Waste Management staff brought on 49 multi-residential properties, representing 1,959 units across Simcoe County.

To support participation, staff delivered 13 on-site information sessions for residents and

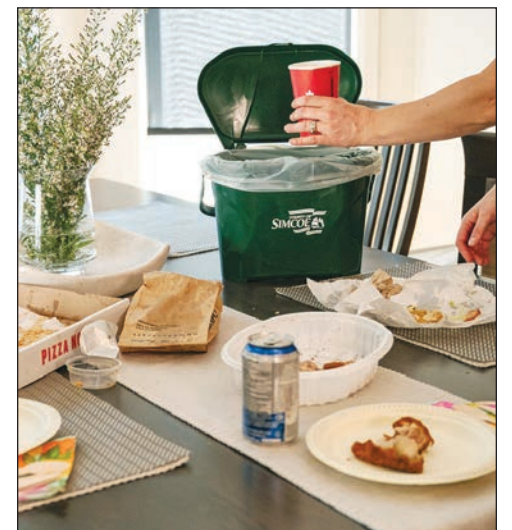
property managers.

Each participating unit receives a comprehensive organics starter kit, including a kitchen catcher (green bin), educational materials, compostable bags and a coupon.

Staff will continue to monitor participation and contamination rates at participating locations while onboarding additional properties as requests are received and interest in the project grows.

Carts are required to be out for collection by 7 a.m. on your regular collection schedule day.

To learn more or to request participation, visit online at simcoe.ca/multiresorganics.



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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

“The window to the world can be covered by a newspaper.”

~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

I am Canadian

As Canada Day approaches, it is a good time to reflect on what it means to live in this great country.

Over the past few hundred years, Canada has been transformed from a wild, vast, untamed area into a modern, vibrant, and thriving nation with its own identity, culture, and way of doing things.

This nation was built on the backs of the strong and determined who overcame great adversity and huge challenges.

It was built on the shoulders of those people who picked up an axe to do the back-breaking work of clearing land to create a farm and use the logs from those trees to build their first home in a new place.

As part of my constant research, I am always exploring those cemeteries that are referred to as ‘pioneer cemeteries.’

They are the places where the names of those early settlers are carved in stone, telling the story of people who brought civilization, built the mills, created towns, and built the churches where many of these cemeteries were first established.

Many of the names on those cemetery headstones are still alive in their

descendants who still live and farm in the same areas their great-great-grandfathers cleared and thrived.

We should celebrate our glorious past and look forward to a future based on the values and basic work ethic that created this nation.

Over the past decade, there have been ‘apologists’ who, for some reason, think we need to apologize for even being here. They say this while living in their condo in downtown Toronto and taking advantage of everything they’ve been gifted by others’ time and hard work.

They want to erase names like Dundas, Ryerson, and MacDonald for supposed ‘bad decisions,’ when they should be celebrating our forefathers for having the vision to create a working government and to plan the course of a nation through a very difficult time in our history.

Don’t apologize for being successful. Don’t apologize for working hard. Don’t apologize for showing leadership and creating something from nothing.

Rather, celebrate the accomplishments of this nation.

Celebrate the fact that you can actu-

ally drive across this nation from sea to sea. Celebrate the freedoms you enjoy, and probably take for granted.

In many countries, standing in a group on a street corner or criticizing a bad government decision can get you arrested, jailed, and, in some cases, eliminated.

Celebrate the fact that it is not in our nature to be warlike; however, when the call arises, we answer.

Our defining moments as a nation came at Confederation, at Vimy Ridge, and on the beaches at the D-Day invasion of Europe.

It was forged on the Plains of Abraham in a battle that determined the destiny of an entire continent.

The world knows us as a place with a cold climate and a lot of snow. But we have beautiful summers, more lakes than any other country on earth, and the largest shoreline of any nation.

We have the Rocky Mountains, the Great Plains, the Great Lakes, the massive forests of Ontario and Quebec, and East Coast charm. We have more wasteland than most countries have land.

We have unique things that define our identity, like a Mountie on horseback,

maple syrup, butter tarts, Nanaimo Bars, canoes, toboggans, and a toque to keep your head warm. We have the Caesar cocktail, which apparently you won’t find anywhere else.

We have large modern cities with skyscrapers and professional sports teams, and small towns where the fast lane doesn’t exist, but a quality of life does.

We are home to a vast array of wildlife, including deer, bears, moose, muskox, snakes, and every small critter you can think of, and we have laws to protect them.

We are a leader in natural resources and supply the world with much-needed materials.

This Canada Day, don’t just wave a flag and join the party; celebrate the fact that you are here and enjoy everything that is available.

While small groups in this country like to protest, wave foreign flags, and call for violence, the rest of us know the real truth.

It is our country, and it is up to all of us to revel in its past and keep it for future generations.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Forward-thinking milestones

Even though they weren’t playing in the Greater Toronto Area at the time, apparently it was a celebratory atmosphere in the GTA last week when Team Canada won its first-ever World Cup game.

The game may have been played in Vancouver, but it seems geography didn’t dampen anyone’s enthusiasm as I heard from no less than three people that at the precise moment the game was sealed in Canada’s favour, pockets of cheers could be heard all around – and even from a great distance. In fact, one highly informal correspondent of mine reported that they could hear the commotion from the FIFA Fan Zone at Fort York clearly on the far side of Toronto Island, almost as if the party was happening right next to them.

In the interests of full disclosure, I’ve never quite been bitten by the bug that’s resulted in the “Football Frenzy” so many people are experiencing right now (I’m saving my personal – and limited – sports-fan energy for Wimbledon over the next coming weeks) but

I’m thrilled that so many people, some of whom would never have deigned to even consider watching a soccer match previously, are catching the fever and going all out in celebration.

Only time will tell whether the significant costs of bringing the World Cup to Toronto and Vancouver will have been worth it from an economic perspective, but if it’s engagement the powers-that-be are after, it seems the return on investment has been pretty swift.

Of particular interest to me has been reading accounts of individuals, families, and groups from so many parts of the world that have made the pilgrimage here to catch their home team on our soil. It has been not only a chance for them to enjoy the game and maybe even enjoy some extra cachet among their fellow sports fans, but, for many, to explore a new city, country, and region for the very first time.

For residents of this country who were born abroad, it’s also been a great opportunity to see those who now call this country home celebrate

the successes of their homelands on these soils.

Overall, it’s been a great opportunity to see Canada through a fresh lens – even if briefly borrowed.

As I wrote in this space last week, it is an invaluable reminder of how people from the outside looking in view this country, and it’s provided some valuable food for thought on just what it means to be Canadian, how we go about celebrating it, and how we define ourselves moving into the future.

Those are often front-of-mind thoughts around this time of year with Canada Day just around the corner – and perhaps even more so now as this Wednesday’s celebrations lay the groundwork for a milestone Canada Day next year, marking the 160th anniversary of Confederation.

Now, a 160th anniversary is not usually seen as a major milestone. Unlike a 150th anniversary, otherwise known as a Sesquicentennial, there isn’t an obvious tongue-twisting alternative name for a 160th, but it’s still a sig-

nificant milestone – and opportunity – to take stock.

A May survey published by Strategy Online suggests Canadians are getting ready to celebrate the nation by getting out and exploring it, the pollster noting that Canada Day is “forecasted to be one of the least homebound major holidays this year.” But the same poll finds that the passionate “Elbows Up” mentality of supporting the country through our spending habits so ably demonstrated last year might be on the wane.

“The consumer insights and data company’s 2026 Annual Holiday Preview, fielded among more than 5,000 consumers, found that only 48 per cent of respondents plan to celebrate at home on July 1 – the lowest tally among major holidays tracked by the firm. By comparison, 73 per cent celebrate Halloween at home, while Christmas sits at 64 per cent.

Continued on Page 23

BROCK WEIR
BROCK’S BANTER



<p>Alliston • Beeton • Tottenham</p> <h1>The Times</h1> <p>30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.newtimestimes.com www.facebook.com/newtimestimes</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Ltd. GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Sam Odrowski sam@citizen.on.ca REPORTER: Brian Lockhart PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Vicki Meisner vicki@lpcmedia.ca OFFICE: Tanya Sharma tanyas@lpcmedia.ca CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord CLASSIFIEDS: Vicki Meisner vicki@lpcmedia.ca DISTRIBUTION: Sheila Ogram sheila@lpcmedia.ca</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363</p> <p>The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. Copyright The Times 2026</p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers – \$52.00 incl. G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers – \$89.00 incl. G.S.T. Single copies \$1.50 incl. G.S.T.</p> <p>THE TIMES is a member of the Ontario Press Council, an independent body set up by the newspapers of the province to uphold freedom of expression and deal with complaints from readers. The Press Council encourages complainants to first give the newspaper an opportunity to redress their grievances. If not satisfied, they may then write to the Council, enclosing a copy of material that is the subject of the complaint, at 80 Gould St., Suite 206, Toronto, Ont. M5A 4L8.</p> <p>  </p> <p>Funded by the Government of Canada  We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.</p>
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COMMUNITY VOICE

My Sister's Place encourages residents to celebrate Indigenous History, Pride Month

At My Sister's Place, we acknowledge the diversity of humanity and are welcoming of all women regardless of age, race, ethnicity, national origin, range of abilities, financial means, education or political perspectives. To celebrate and honour some of this diversity, June is a busy month in Canada! It's a time when we recognize National Indigenous History Month, and National Indigenous Peoples Day was celebrated on June 21. June is also when we celebrate Pride Month.

National Indigenous History Month is an opportunity to learn about the cultures, traditions and experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, and to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of Indigenous peoples across Canada.

It's a time to recognize the impacts of colonialization, residential schools and systematic discrimination and reflect on how we can contribute to reconciliation. We can celebrate Indigenous month by celebrating Indigenous achievements, traditions, and con-

temporary contributions. By focusing on education about Indigenous cultures and histories, by direct support and community participation to honour Indigenous traditions and culture.

Canadians are encouraged to learn more about First Nations, Inuit and Metis People and our collective past.

• Some ideas of how you can get involved and show support include:

• Read books by indigenous authors or attend a Storytelling or workshop led by Indigenous artists and Elders.

• Attend community events and gatherings such as Powwows, drumming, and traditional dances to celebrate Indigenous culture.

• Watch films or performances, listen to Indigenous podcasts.

• Listen to music by indigenous artists.

• Follow First Nations, Inuit and Metis



My Sister's Place

creators on social media.

• Support Indigenous artists, businesses and creators.

• Visit Destination Ontario to learn about events and celebrations honouring Indigenous Month

Join the conversation on social media by using the hashtags #NIHM2026 for National Indigenous History Month.

On National Indigenous Day, June 21, Canadians were encouraged to wear Orange or Red. These colours are symbols of truth, reconciliation and solidarity with the First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities:

• Orange to honour survivors of residential schools and support the "Every child matters" movement.

• Red to raise awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Pride Month is a global observance dedi-

cated to celebrating 2SLGBTQI+ cultural history and community. It honours the ongoing fight for equal rights.

People gather globally in June to celebrate love and diversity and to advocate for equal rights. The first demonstrations were held in Ottawa and Vancouver in 1971. By 1973, Pride events were added in Montreal, Saskatoon, Toronto and Winnipeg.

Many communities recognize Pride month by raising the Pride flag.

Locally, the Krasman Centre, 17 Paris Street, Alliston, hosted its 3rd annual Pride Celebration on June 20. This inclusive and family-friendly gathering provided entertainment, food and activities to those in attendance.

Pride Toronto Festival will run from June 25 to June 28, and this year's theme is "We Won't Stop." The Festival Schedule includes: Dyke March on June 27; Pride Parade on June 28; Street Fair from June 26 to 28; and Closing Night Performances on June 28.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: A little history of the Beeton Arena and Community Centre

At a recent council meeting, town staff brought forward the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for review.

The plan also included the initial findings for the proposed Beeton Community Centre. Many Beeton residents filled the Council Chambers and spoke with desire and passion about the new proposal.

The Fund For A New Community Centre in Beeton (FAB) organization was spearheaded

by Chair Ray Lisk in 2009 (if I remember the date correctly), and whose family was part of the original farmers and families who spearheaded and built the original Arena from 1946 to 1947.

Ray soon gathered up volunteers to help him get started with his vision to raise funds for the new centre. His initial FAB Team consisted of Kim Ellison, Bert Platt, Charlie Lisk, and Jeff McCoy, who were the first di-

rectors. Val Boucher was our secretary, keeping us organized and meetings on track. Russ Woodward was treasurer and entertainment; Pat Cranston represented the BAA; Jim and Bob Milligan sat on our committee as members, as did Jim Cerswell with Scott Mitchel, Dan Boucher, Tracey Andrews, Tracy Gannon, and Shaun Gannon; Bert was also our historian; and I served as vice chair.

Ron Pegg was a great supporter from the

beginning, a well-known coach for many sports teams over the years, including hockey, baseball, basketball, track & field, and soccer, resulting in several champions.

Ron also received the Queen's Jubilee medal for contributions to his community and to Canada.

This was our initial members list, as I remember.

Continued on Page 23

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Ontario 

Matthews House Hospice celebrates volunteers, staff and sponsors

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It is a place that offers dignity, comfort, respect, and support for people experiencing a life-limiting illness and their families.

Matthews House Hospice is dedicated to making a person's final time one that means they are surrounded by compassion and family.

Keeping the hospice up and running requires the help of many volunteers. There are so many tasks that need to be done daily.

The volunteers truly are the backbone of Matthews House.

The hospice hosted a Community of Champions Barbecue on Thursday, June 18, to recognize its volunteers, although inclement weather forced the celebration indoors so everyone could stay dry and out of strong winds.

"Typically, we've had celebrations for three groups of stakeholders, including staff, volunteers, and we recognized our sponsors and donors," explained Mandy McCurdy, executive director of the Matthews House

Hospice Foundation.

"This year we wanted to bring all three groups together to create a real sense of community and to have people interacting with each other. We are appreciating the entire community that has its arms around Matthews House, including staff, sponsors, donors, and volunteers."

There are around 200 volunteers who donate their time and skills to Matthews House Hospice. All volunteers must complete required training.

"Our volunteers do anything and every-

thing," McCurdy explained. "We have volunteers in the kitchen, we have volunteers who maintain our gardens, and volunteers who support patients in the residential wing and go in a sit bedside and talk to individuals. We form committees for our four signature events. Those include our gala which is in October, our golf tournament, our hike which is in May, and the annual holiday giving campaign at Christmas."

The gathering offered an opportunity to thank volunteers and supporters for their hard work and contributions.

Summer Visitor Guide launches that showcases experiences, businesses, and attractions

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of New Tecumseth has launched the Summer Visitor Guide, inviting residents and visitors to explore the vibrant communities of Alliston, Beeton, and Tottenham.

The Visitor Guide highlights the experiences that make New Tecumseth unique. This includes the charming downtown areas, local businesses, outdoor adventures, dining options, and signature events.

"New Tecumseth is a welcoming community with so much to offer," said Mayor Richard Norcross.

"This guide brings together the businesses, attractions, and experiences that showcase the best of our town and encourages people to explore, support local, and make lasting memories."

The guide features a wide range of

opportunities to discover.

This includes local dining and cafés offering everything from casual bites to international cuisine, downtown shopping with unique boutiques, and locally owned businesses.

Outdoor experiences include parks and trails across all three communities.

The guide includes arts, culture, and heritage destinations, as well as signature festivals and events in all three towns.

Whether you are planning a day out or a longer stay, the guide encourages visitors to experience everything New Tecumseth has to offer.

Residents are also encouraged to explore their own community, support local businesses, and rediscover the places and experiences that make New Tecumseth home.

The guide is available online at: new-tecumseth.ca/DiscoverNewTec



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION – Matthews House Hospice in Alliston held a gathering on Thursday, June 18, to thank its volunteers, sponsors and donors. Around 200 volunteers donate their time and skills at the Hospice. Volunteers Nora Priestly, Lorrie Quinn, and Margaret Bachle received special recognition at this year's event for their efforts at the Hospice.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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Arts & Local Events

Women learn about the industry at Women's Arboriculture Tree Fest 2026

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of New Tecumseth hosted the Women in Arboriculture Ontario TreeFest 2026 at the Tottenham Conservation Area on Saturday, June 20.

The event brought together women arborists and climbers in a supportive and educational outdoor environment.

With both seasoned climbers and those who have never climbed a tree, the event provided real insight, especially for those new to the industry, into what working with trees is all about.

Event coordinators spent a lot of time preparing by installing ropes and rigging in several trees in the Conservation Area the day before the event.

Experts were on hand to show participants how to climb a tree safely.

The Tree Fest is held annually at several locations around Ontario.

In addition to educational programming, the event included a tree-planting initiative to help restore areas impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer and to support natural regeneration in the Conservation Area.

"We are tree care experts," explained Carolyn Dares, Chair of Women in Arboriculture and organizer of the event. "Women in Arboriculture was created to promote and encourage women in the tree care industry. We started 10 years ago, trying to get more women involved in our tree climbing competition, which happens in September. We started this event to gain confidence and introduce and encourage women to take part. We have six events going

on today. We have a hang-out tree, which is just to climb up, so there's no competition for that. We have a work club, which uses a multi-rope or a single rope. We have an ascent event, where climbers try to get from the ground to the top to ring a bell. It's about 55 feet to the top. It's a competition to get to the top the fastest."

Some participants were there to compete, while others were there just to learn and try climbing.

"There are a couple of ways to climb," Carolyn explained. "We didn't have some of this when I started, so some of this is new technology. The ascent event is a good example of the new technology of how to get into the tree. You use a foot assembly. We had around 110 people taking part today."

Three Silver Maple trees near the pond were chosen for the event. The trees are large and tall, with many strong branches that spread into a wide canopy, making them ideal for this type of event.

Participants enjoyed the experience and learned a lot about tree-climbing techniques and what the industry is all about.

NEW HEIGHTS – The Tottenham Conservation Area saw many ropes and climbers during the Women in Arboriculture Ontario TreeFest 2026 on Saturday, June 20. Both experienced and novice climbers participated in the event, which introduces women to the tree care industry and encourages them to enter it. A participant climbs to the top of one rope in the Silver Maple tree to ring the bell at the top. She is actually close to 50 feet above the ground when she reaches the top.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS



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LOCALS
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Fire danger rating currently moderate across the region

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the warmer weather now here, residents are being reminded to take precautions when having any kind of fire or barbecuing in the backyard over the summer.

The Town of New Tecumseth has released the first Fire Danger Summary for the season.

Currently, the rating in New Tecumseth is 'moderate,' meaning there is no real danger of fires spreading at this time.

A cool, wet spring has led to a moderate rating.

Across the region, from Barrie and Penetanguishene to Wasaga Beach and Bradford West Gwillimbury, the rating is consistent at

'moderate.'

The only exception is Springwater Township, which currently has a fire danger rating of 'high.'

Residents are encouraged to remain aware of the Fire Danger Rating in their municipality and adhere to the by-law and permit requirements of all open-air burning.

If the Fire Danger rating becomes 'high' at any point during the summer, the Fire Department may impose a ban on all open-air fires, including those that have been issued a permit.

You should be aware of all fire bans in effect and follow those directives.

The risk of fire increases after a period of hot, dry weather.

Alliston Volkswagen: A long-time Alliston business under new management

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It was one of the first Volkswagen dealerships in Ontario when it opened its doors on Victoria Street East in Alliston in 1967, and Alliston Volkswagen has been a mainstay of local business for almost 60 years.

That was back when the Volkswagen Beetle was one of the most recognizable automobiles on the planet.

Since then, the Volkswagen brand has grown worldwide and offers a full line-up of cars and SUVs for everyone's needs.

The dealership recently came under new ownership when Stefano Algieri took over the location in March.

Stefano said the fact that Alliston is ready to experience a lot of growth was a major factor in his decision to acquire the dealership.

He already has plans to rebuild the dealership to refresh and modernize the facility.

"The biggest thing for us is building a relationship with our customers and providing a good customer experience," Stefano explained. "We like to greet our customers

like they are coming into our home. This dealership had a big presence in this town, so it was important to keep this family value, and it is important to elevate the customer experience. We offer customer service with no pressure. With all the new development coming and what the town is evolving into, it's going to be very impressive for the town. Our plan for the next two [years] is to build a new Volkswagen dealership."

The plan for the dealership rebuild includes a new customer lounge, upgrading the coffee station, and putting more cars on the road.

In addition to a full line-up of Volkswagen vehicles, the dealership has used vehicles on the lot.

The service centre repairs Volkswagen vehicles, as well as those from all other makes and models.

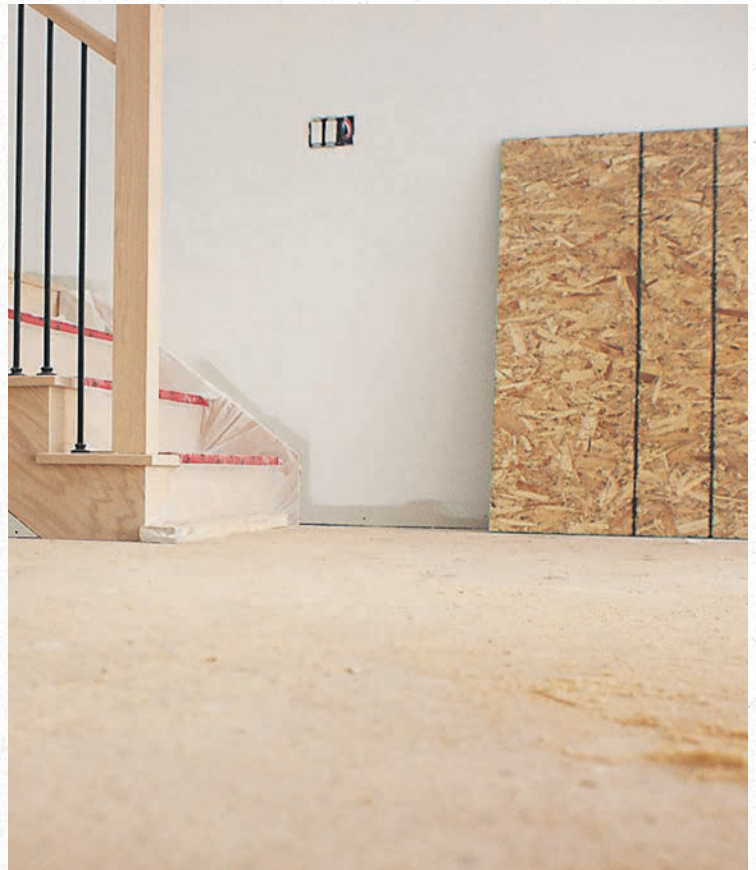
Customers have already noticed an increase in new vehicles in the showroom and on the lot, as Stefano and his team are ready to provide Volkswagen vehicles to local residents.

After almost 60 years in business, Stefano is looking forward to many more years of serving Alliston and the surrounding region.



NEW MANAGEMENT – Alliston Volkswagen is under new management. The local dealership was acquired by Stefano Algieri in March, and he has big plans to refurbish and modernize the facility. The Volkswagen dealership has been part of the Alliston landscape for almost 60 years.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO



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A message from New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury MP Scot Davidson

Canada is the greatest nation on earth. On Canada Day, that should be celebrated with enthusiasm – after all, enthusiasm is free! But there is no doubt – a lot of people are struggling. The promise of Canada feels out of reach for too many. Government inflation, a skyrocketing cost of living, and rising unemployment have seen to that.

These challenges are real. But so is Canada's potential. And that potential lives in its people. It is Canadians who

will ensure that Canada is once more a place where people can start a business, give back to their community, raise a family, own a home, and build something that lasts. That promise must be universal. No matter where you live, what you do, who you are, or where you come from, you should be able to access the dream of Canada. That if you work hard, you can accomplish your goals, save for the future, and build something that truly matters.

There are those – both within and

without – who would see Canada broken up, diminished, or folded into another country. Through annexation. Through separatism. Through neglect. This is unacceptable. We are the country that built the transcontinental railway. That stormed the beaches of Normandy. That gave the world insulin and responsible government. When we look back at that proud history, we should all be focused on one thing: building this country up. Not tearing it down.

As your Member of Parliament, my

commitment is to make Canada the best it can be, to hold the government to account, and to ensure Canada remains strong and free for another 158 years and beyond. On this anniversary of our Confederation, we are reminded that this is a cause for every Canadian to celebrate and for every Canadian to fight for. To all families in New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury, and from coast to coast to coast: Happy Canada Day.

-New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury MP
Scot Davidson



BRIAN SAUNDERSON
MPP - Simcoe-Grey

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Canada Day Events Going on in New Tecumseth

Come out and celebrate the nation at Canada Day festivities throughout New Tecumseth.

New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury MP Scot Davidson is hosting a big party at Riverdale Park in Alliston and inviting local residents to enjoy the day, celebrate our country, and have some fun.

The party will take place at the lower level of the park by the bandshell.

During the event, you can enjoy some hamburgers, free giveaways, ice cream, and snow-cones.

There will also be games for the kids and live music performed at the bandshell.

The party will take place at Riverdale Park in Alliston on Wednesday, July 1.

Festivities will get underway at 11:30 a.m. and continue to 1:30 p.m.

Looking to Tottenham, there is another great opportunity to celebrate Canada, have some fun, and meet new neighbours.

The Town of New Tecumseth is hosting Canada Day celebrations on Wednesday, July 1, at the Tottenham Conservation Area.

This will be an evening of family-friendly fun, live entertainment and

community spirit.

“Canada Day is a wonderful opportunity to bring our community together to celebrate what makes New Tecumseth such a vibrant and welcoming place,” said Mayor Richard Norcross. “We look forward to seeing residents and visitors enjoy this exciting evening of entertainment, local vendors, and family fun.”

Attendees can explore a vibrant vendor market and food truck area, enjoy games and activities in the Kids Activity Zone, and take part in interactive experiences including face painting, glitter tattoos, inflatables, henna art, roaming mascots, and the Recreation Team Fun Zone.

A photo booth will also be available to capture memories from the day.

Festivities will get underway at 4 p.m. and offer something for everyone, regardless of age, in a scenic outdoor setting.

The event will conclude with a fireworks display lighting up the night sky over the pond.

The Tottenham Conservation Area is located at 6787 4th Line, Tottenham.

Canada Day activities will conclude around dusk.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEE'S CANADA DAY POEM

Local resident Eva Bradley arrived in Canada on Dec. 24, 1956, as a 15-year-old refugee from Budapest, Hungary, fleeing the violence of the Hungarian revolution.

Alone and unable to speak English, she faced many challenges in her new home.

Eva is very appreciative of the way she was welcomed to Canada. Over the years, she has raised thousands of dollars for charity, as a thank-you to the country she calls home.

Eva penned a special poem to celebrate the nation's birthday.

Happy birthday Canada,
We love your caring faces,
Thank you for having us,
In your free and open spaces,
We love your colour of red
and white,
Your waters blue and clear,
Also your stone, jade of green,
Standing guard forever,
Thank you for accepting me,
With your arms so warm
and gracious,
Happy birthday Canada,
For having all us, in your warm
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A little bit of history

The events leading up to Canada Day

Canada Day is a celebration of our nation and what we have become.

However, it is important to remember the history of how we got here and the sacrifices, determination, and hard work that created this country.

After a series of unsuccessful attacks on French forces in Quebec, British General James Wolfe and his troops scaled the cliffs near Quebec City on the St. Lawrence River.

They made their way to a plateau later named the Plains of Abraham, after a local landowner.

On the morning of September 13, 1759, French Commander General Marquis de Montcalm awoke to find a British firing line of 3,000 soldiers facing his camp. The firing line stretched for around one kilometre.

Montcalm's ranks had been depleted and replenished by less professional militia.

As Montcalm's troops advanced, the British fired a devastating, close-range volley that sliced through the French column. A second volley shattered the French ranks and sent them into retreat.

The battle lasted for only one hour.

The result was a French defeat, and both Wolfe and Montcalm were killed

in action.

The battle proved to be a defining event in the conflict between France and Britain and the fate of New France.

It influenced the later creation of Canada as a nation.

During the early 1800s, Ontario, then known as Upper Canada, was not a democracy. Rather, it was controlled by a group known as the 'Family Compact' composed of influential men who made decisions for the province.

After years of resentment, two rebellions began to form - one in Upper Canada and another in Lower Canada, which stretched into Quebec.

A group formed in Loydstown, a small town near Schomberg.

By December of 1837, the group had decided they had enough and wanted change - even if that meant armed conflict.

The group began a march to Toronto. As they moved toward their target, they were joined by others along the way until they numbered close to 1,000.

While some of the rebels had hunting rifles, others carried pitchforks or staves.

When they finally arrived in Toronto

at a place known as Montgomery Tavern, they were met with a well-trained loyalist militia.

The militia opened fire on the rebels. However, it seems they wanted to make noise rather than kill their own countrymen.

The front line of the rebels all dropped to the ground when the volley was fired to avoid being hit.

The men in the rear, being regular people, not soldiers, thought the front line had all been killed, and did what any untrained group of rebels would do - they turned and ran.

During the event, two rebels and one loyalist militiaman were killed.

Later, several of the rebel leaders found themselves hanging at the end of a rope after being convicted of insurrection.

While the rebellion was a failure, it created enough controversy that it paved the way for democracy in Ontario.

We often think of our nation being created in an entirely peaceful way.

The truth is, there was bloodshed that shaped the years before Confederation took place.

It is a part of our history that factors into the creation of this nation.

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Ten unique facts about Canada


Celebrating our national holiday day on July 1, gives us a time to remember some things that are very unique about this country.

- 1.** We are the second-largest country in the world with a total area of over 9.9 million square miles.
- 2.** Canada has the most lakes in the entire world, numbering around 879,800. This accounts for around 60 per cent of the total lakes in the world larger than 0.1 square kilometres. These lakes were largely formed by glacial activity during the last Ice Age. Because of this, Canada ranks in the top three countries in the world with the most fresh water.
- 3.** Canada has the largest coastline in the world. Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east, the Pacific Ocean to the west, and the Arctic Ocean to the north, the entire coastline stretches 202,000 kilometres.
- 4.** While the second largest country in the world, Canada is the twelfth least densely populated nation. With a population of around 41 million, this can be compared to the Japanese city Tokyo, which has an estimated population of around 37 million.
- 5.** There are around 16,000 polar bears in Canada. The polar bear population is divided into 19 sub-populations with 13 of those in Canada.

tions with 13 of those in Canada.


- 6.** Canada is world's leading producer of maple syrup. Maple syrup is produced only in Canada and the US. Quebec produces around 72 per cent of the world's maple syrup.
- 7.** The Caesar cocktail is entirely Canadian and almost unknown outside of the country. Invented in Calgary in 1969, the cocktail is widely enjoyed in Canada, but not really known anywhere else.
- 8.** The butter tart is uniquely Canadian. The recipe dates from a 1900 version of the Women's Auxiliary of the Royal Victoria Hospital Cookbook, entered by Mary Ethel MacLeod.
- 9.** Another all-Canadian treat is Nanaimo Bars. There are several theories of who invented Nanaimo Bars, but they all originate in British Columbia. The bars are named after the city.
- 10.** Canada has a population density of 4.2 people per square kilometre. The Quebec City to Windsor corridor is home to nearly 50 per cent of the entire country's population.





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SPORTS

NEW TECUMSETH TIMES

New Lowell dominates the senior division of the North Dufferin Baseball League

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The New Lowell Knights continue to lead the North Dufferin Baseball League (NBDL) senior division, remaining undefeated so far this season.

They are the defending Strother Cup champions.

Going through the regular season, the Knights have won nine games this year and tied one.

Even though they are winning, the Knights have to play hard to stay on the plus side. Most of the games they have won have ended in close scores, with four of those games decided by a single run.

The close games demonstrate how competitive the league's senior division is this year.

The only team they haven't beaten is the Orillia Majors, who they tied 5-5 on May 21.

They will get another chance when they meet Orillia again this week. Although Orillia will be arriving with the intent of handing the Knights their first loss of the year.

Orillia is in second place in the senior division with an 8-2-1 record. They have scored 93 runs over those 11 games.

In third place, the Ivy Rangers are doing well with an 8-2 record. With 93 runs scored over eight games, the Rangers are averaging over nine runs per game this season.

The Owen Sound Baysox are in fourth place in the division with a 7-3 record.

In the number five spot, the Barrie Angels have won seven games after 12 times on the diamond this year.

The Bolton Brewers are in the middle of the pack with a 6-6-1 record so far this year.

The rest of the line-up in order are the Midland Mariners, Caledon Cardinals, Creemore Padres, Lisle Astros, Clarksburg Blues, and the Mansfield Cubs.

The senior division has a 22-game regular



SAFELY AT SECOND – The senior division of the North Dufferin Baseball League is really starting to tell a tale of how this season is shaping up. The New Lowell Knights are in first place and undefeated after 10 games. An Orillia Majors player makes it safely to second base as the throw comes a second too late during a game against the Mansfield Cubs in Mansfield on Wednesday, June 17.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

season that wraps up on July 26, followed by the playoffs.

Junior Division

In the Junior Division of the NBDL, the Barrie Baycats are leading with a 6-2-3 record and 15 points.

The Baycats have averaged almost eight runs per game this year while averaging only 3.2 runs against over 11 games.

The defending champions over the past two years, the Creemore Padres, are in second place with a 7-7 record.

In third place, the Orillia Royals have a 6-3-1 record and 13 points.

The Innisfil Cardinals 1 team, which made it to the final championships series in the last two seasons, have a 6-4-1 record.

The rest of the line-up in order are the Caledon Nationals, Innisfil Cardinals 2 team,

Aurora King Jays, and the Owen Sound Baysox, who are yet to win a game this season.

The Junior Division of the North Dufferin Baseball League has a 16-game regular season schedule.

The regular season will finish on July 7 before going into the playoffs.



Are you an individual athlete?
Are you part of a local sports team?

Do you have an upcoming event or a recent accomplishment? Share the details with us!
Email Brian at brian.lockhart@hotmail.com



UP BY ONE – The TNT Thunder U11 red team take on the Everett Eagles on the diamond at Keogh Park in Tottenham on Monday, June 15. A TNT player makes it safely to second base during the first inning of the game. The Thunder came out on top and left the diamond with a one-run 12-11 win.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

Ontario approves tender process for new secondary school in Simcoe County

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario government has provided the Simcoe County District School Board with approval to issue a tender for a new public secondary school in Wasaga Beach.

The project is supported by a total provincial investment of \$80.6 million, following a recent \$21.3 million increase in funding. The school is expected to provide 1,145 secondary student spaces.

“The new Wasaga Beach Public Secondary School will be a significant addition to the community and an important investment in local students and families,” said Simcoe-Grey MPP Brian Saunderson. “Approval to issue the tender marks another key milestone for this project and brings us one step closer to creating more than 1,100 new student spaces for families in Wasaga Beach. I look forward to seeing the project continue to move forward.”

The new school will be located at the intersection of Sunnidale Road South and Sun Valley Avenue.

Ontario’s Education Minister Paul Calandra said the school is intended to accommodate

enrolment growth in the area.

“Our government is focused on supporting students, teachers and parents while ensuring school boards are equipping our students with the tools they need to succeed,” said Calandra. “Once completed, these projects will offer an inspiring learning environment that helps students prepare for the jobs of tomorrow. Our government will continue to provide the resources students need for ultimate achievement.”

The province said the investment is part of its long-term funding plan for school construction, renewal and improvement projects across Ontario.

Acting Infrastructure Minister Todd McCarthy said the project is part of the province’s broader capital infrastructure plan, which includes investments in schools, transit and hospitals.

“Building and renewing Ontario’s infrastructure is a key part of our government’s plan to protect the economy and keep workers on the job in the face of significant economic uncertainties,” said McCarthy. “Through our \$236 billion capital plan we are getting shovels in the ground faster to build new and improved schools, transit, hospitals and other



NEW ADDITION TO THE COMMUNITY – A concept design shows what the new public secondary school in Wasaga Beach will look like. **TOWN OF WASAGA IMAGE**

critical infrastructure for communities across the province.”

The province says it has provided more than \$7.6 billion for major school capital projects since 2018, including funding for new schools, additions and renovations. For the 2025-26 school year, Ontario has allocated \$1.4 billion to school boards for school renewal and improvement projects.

“The Simcoe County District School Board is very pleased with this major investment from the Ministry of Education, one of the largest on record, to build a new state-of-the-art secondary school in Wasaga Beach. Advancing to the tender stage marks an important next step in the process of bringing this new 1,100 pupil place secondary school to the community,” said Dawn Stephens, CEO of the SCDSB.

Province approves new Catholic K–12 school in Wasaga Beach, expanding student capacity

The Ontario government has approved the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board to award the tender for a new K–12 Catholic school in Wasaga Beach, marking a major infrastructure step to support growing enrolment and child care demand in the area.

The project is backed by a total provincial investment of \$70.1 million, including an additional \$5.2 million in funding.

Once complete, the school is expected to provide 1,008 new student spaces and 49 licensed child care spaces.

The new facility is intended to address population growth in Wasaga Beach and surrounding communities, where demand for education and early learning spaces continues to rise. The school will be located at 486 River Road West.

Provincial officials say the project is part of

a broader strategy to expand and modernize Ontario’s education infrastructure. The government has committed more than \$22 billion over 10 years toward school construction, renewal, and improvement projects across the province, alongside a broader capital plan aimed at accelerating public infrastructure development.

Local officials and education leaders have described the project as a response to con-

tinued community growth and as part of a broader effort to integrate education and child care capacity with municipal planning. The development is also being positioned as a community hub model, bringing together learning, recreation, and services in a single site.

Construction timelines have not been specified publicly, but the project is expected to proceed following tender approval.

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Driver arrested on impaired charges after driving double the speed limit

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Nottawasaga Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged one person with impaired driving following a traffic stop for speeding.

Shortly before 11:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June

16, an officer from the Nottawasaga OPP was conducting speed enforcement on Mill Street in Angus.

The officer stopped a vehicle travelling at 146 km/h in a 60 km/h zone with no headlights on.

During the traffic stop, the officer noted signs of impairment and began investigating.

As a result of the investigation, the officer arrested the driver for impaired operation.

The driver, Andrew Mosher, 28, of Barrie, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol
- Operation while impaired – blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Dangerous Operation

- Driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available

- Driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor

The accused party was released with a future court date at the Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven in court.

OPP urges boaters to follow safe life jacket procedures when enjoying the water this season

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario Provincial Police is urging everyone heading out on the water this summer to make one life-saving choice – wear your life jacket every time you are out on a boat.

Despite calm conditions and proximity to shore, many boating-related drownings occur when people least expect danger.

Most of these tragedies happen in small vessels like canoes and kayaks and are preventable.

In 2025, nearly 80 per cent of all boating fatalities investigated by the OPP involved individuals who were not wearing a personal flotation device. Adult males accounted for almost 90 per cent of all boating fatalities on OPP patrolled waters.

According to the Drowning Prevention

Research Centre of Canada, 35 per cent of water-related fatalities in Ontario are linked to swimming, while another 13 per cent are attributed to walking, running, or playing near water.

Young children, weak swimmers, and non-swimmers should always wear a life jacket when near water, even in shallow areas. Supervision and proactive lifesaving decisions, like wearing a life jacket, are key to avoiding tragedy.

What you can do:

- Always wear a properly fitted, Transport Canada-approved life jacket. Modern life jackets are lightweight, comfortable, and designed to save lives. Don't just bring it – wear it.

- Ensure there is a properly sized life jacket for every person on board.

- Keep all required safety equipment easily accessible and ready to use.



- Set the example – especially for children and new boaters.

- Check weather and water conditions before heading out.

Every year, the OPP continues to share this

important safety message across the province, reminding the public that wearing a TC-approved PFD is one of the simplest and most effective ways to prevent water-related tragedies.

Seventh person charged in connection to arson incidents to unoccupied homes in Adjala-Tosorontio

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment Major Crime Unit (MCU) of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), with the assistance of the Hawkesbury OPP and Laval Police, have charged a seventh individual in relation to an arson investigation.

On Wednesday, June 10, police executed a search warrant at a residence in Laval, Quebec, where the accused was arrested in relation to an investigation that began in the fall

of 2024 after multiple unoccupied homes in new subdivisions in Adjala-Tosorontio were set on fire.

As a result, the 7th accused, Ramin Lazar, a 34-year-old of Laval, Quebec, has been charged with Conspiracy to Commit Indictable Offence and Arson.

The accused party was released with a future court date at the Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford on July 2, 2026, to answer

to the charges. The charges have not been proven in court.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122, or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at <https://www.crimestoppersdm.com>. Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display, and you will remain anonymous. As an anonymous witness, you will not testify in court.



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Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: Forward-thinking milestones

Overall, 61 per cent of Canadians surveyed said they intend to celebrate Canada Day in some form, trailing Christmas (86 per cent), New Year's Eve (70 per cent), and Easter and Thanksgiving (67 per cent). The data suggests Canada Day celebrations remain centred around communal and outdoor activities. Nearly half of respondents (46 per cent) said grilling or barbecuing are part of their plans, while 42 per cent expect to spend time with partners or family and 31 per cent plan to celebrate with larger groups.

"A separate Numerator poll of roughly 1,800 people suggest consumer patriotism and its effect on purchasing seems to be cooling. May's Tariff Statement Tracker includes a monthly survey of roughly 1,800 Canadian consumers. And the number of respondents who 'strongly

agree' with the sentiment, 'I intend to buy only products made in Canada' has hit its lowest point since Donald Trump began imposing tariffs last winter at 17 per cent. That number was 26 per cent in February 2025 and 29 per cent the following month."

While Canadians are spending next week's holiday in the great outdoors, I hope some take the time for a bit of reflection on what it means to carry the badge of "Canadian."

By this time next year it will have been 10 years since the Canada 150 celebration – and, so many years on, I still even hesitate to use the word "celebration" as it was a rather fraught occasion in this country and, at the time, there didn't seem to be much to celebrate.

Politics were becoming ever-more

polarized, the country was grappling with its complicated history of colonialism and the treatment experienced by First Nations people, and these two factors, coupled with myriad others, added layers of anger and frustration to what was, previously, a joyous celebration of red and white, of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

But a lot has happened in the ensuing decade.

The polarization of politics has continued apace, we've seen changes in leadership, we've seen a change in reign after 70 years, we've seen both action and inaction on the First Nations file, we've weathered a pandemic which exposed frays in our national fabric we had never seen before, (or, at least, were comfortable turning a blind eye to) which, in many cases, are still un-mended, we've seen Western separatism gather steam, threats to our national sovereignty, and we've

become a reluctant player in a trade war in which there are no winners.

Maybe getting outdoors and experiencing the natural wonders of this country is one unifying factor on an ever-shortening list of things that seem to bring us together, along with hockey, more recently soccer, and even coming together to complain about everything we might feel is wrong with the country.

But, I hope many of you take next week's holiday as a chance to get out, explore the celebrations and activities our communities have to offer, reacquire yourselves with friends and neighbours, and realise our commonalities are still more numerous than our differences, that the benefits of being Canadian far outweigh the cons, and maybe even try to look at this country through the lens of those visiting right now for whom Canada remains a land of promise, acceptance, and forward-thinking.

Continued from Page 6

'The little engine that could': A little history of the Beeton Arena and Community Centre

Many other residents joined us later, making a great contribution to the cause. Our FAB group achieved much, raising close to \$300,000 through many activities and sponsorships, including golf tournaments, banquets, comedy evenings, events, and more.

Members also travelled to other town community centers to record information, such as what activities worked well for them, view their designs and collect various ideas. We eventually commissioned an architect to draft up drawings for a new community centre. We could not have done this without the support and kind help we received from the Milligan family, Jim and Nancy, who offered their home for most of our FAB meetings.

As an aside, Beeton produced several famous NHL players, including Jim Rutherford, Wayne Carleton, Larry Gould, Johnny Gould and Warren Holmes, to name a few. I guess I'm telling this story to show what a little village like Beeton could and did do through their passion and love for their arena, community centre and the families and residents who live there.

Many of the people who supported FAB were also there in the early 80s when the first call for help went out for the Beeton Arena

and Community Centre, which needed major repairs.

The then-formed Beeton Arena Renovation Fund, or BARF (yup!), raised over \$190,000, extending the arena's life.

Wendy and I moved to Beeton in 1978, when its population was approximately 890. We held our 25th wedding anniversary (party) there, where it seemed half the town showed up!

I played hockey in the Friday Night League for 23 years in this arena. The history, residents, and families of this town are unique, and they have shown extraordinary support for their much-loved centre over the decades.

Now, at last, after 20 years of lobbying and hard work, council finally approved the building of a new community centre and arena in Beeton last Wednesday! A centre which will support the needs of the Beeton residents and the Town of New Tecumseth for many years to come.

Today, "The little engine that could, did!"

Alan Masters
Ward 4 Councillor
New Tecumseth



OBITUARIES

FOREVER IN OUR *Hearts*

In Loving Memory of **CHRISTA HENTSCH** (née Grünberg)



Christa Hentsch (née Grünberg) passed away peacefully on June 17, 2026, at the age of 92, leaving behind a legacy of love, strength, and devotion to family.

Born in Berlin, Germany, on August 26, 1933, Christa lived through extraordinary times. As a young woman, she met the love of her life, Ben Hentsch, through a newspaper correspondence (Heiratsanzeigen) that spanned the Atlantic Ocean. Ben, an Austrian immigrant working as a farm labourer in southwestern Ontario, and Christa exchanged letters that blossomed into a lifelong partnership. In 1957, Christa made the courageous journey to Canada, where she and Ben built a life together and raised their family both in Toronto and Tottenham.

Christa was predeceased by her beloved husband, Ben. She is lovingly remembered by her children, Georg and his wife Ingrid, and Helene and her husband Andy; her grandchildren, Ruby, Stefan, Erika, and Hanna; and her great-grandson, Dominic, who brought her much joy.

She held a special place in her heart for her niece, Gerti, and Gerti's husband, Tony, along with their large and loving family of children and grandchildren. Despite the distance that sometimes separated them, those family bonds remained important throughout her life.

Christa was known for her independence, determination, and spirited nature. She loved cooking and baking for family and friends, tending her garden, and knitting for those she cared about. Whether preparing a favourite meal, sharing baked treats, or creating something with her knitting needles, she expressed her love through the work of her hands.

She enjoyed the companionship and activities of the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, where she maintained friendships and remained engaged with her community.

Those who knew Christa will remember her as a spunky, resilient woman who faced life's challenges with courage and determination. Having journeyed from postwar Berlin to Canada as a young woman, she built a life defined by hard work, family, and perseverance. Her warmth, humour, and strength will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

From Berlin to Tottenham, Christa's journey was one of courage, hope, and love—a story that continues through the generations of family she leaves behind.

Her family takes comfort in the many memories she leaves behind and in the example of a life well lived.

May she rest in peace.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, June 26, 2026 from 1pm-3pm in the Cliffside Hall at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Rd., Tottenham 905-936-3477. A graveside interment of ashes will immediately follow at St. James Cemetery, Colgan, 2118 Adjala Tecumseth Townline. Online condolences and memories may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

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Mach/Equip: JD 450 seed drill, 17 run, fert, grass seed, grain, double disc, light kit, very good; Rock-O-Matic 546 stone picker; Smyth 12ft rock rake; Allied 6in x 34ft auger on transport, PTO drive; Ford 11.5ft tandem disc; Ford 14ft cultivator; 10ft packer & transport; 18ft pony harrows; Walco Whistler 5.5ft rotary mower; Agro Trend AT05DT dump trailer, 1 axle, grain door, 6ftx10ft, very good; Overum 3 furrow plow; Westfield 4in x 11ft auger ,new motor; homemade 6ftx13ft trailer for equip moving; Martin undercarriage; JD manure spreader-for parts. **Haying Equip:** 9ft JD 1219 haybine, rubber rollers; JD 327 square baler with thrower; NH 258, rolabar hay rake with dolly wheel; 7ft Enorossi BFS 210H sickle mower - very good; 20ft steel thrower wagon, needs floor; 30ft bale elevator; lots to see. **Shop/Farm Rel:** Wallenstein BX60 3pth PTO woodchipper; yard trailer; lawn sweeper; floor model drill press; 8in bench grinder; table saw; Delta band saw; jointer; belt sander; pressure washer; (3)bags insulation: aluminum ext ladder; (2)aluminum step ladders; jet pump & tank; Stihl FS 250 grass trimmer; Ariens 11528 LE, 28in walk behind snowblower; (2)push mowers; milk house heater; work cloths; & more. **HH** (almost all new or like new): 5.0cu ft chest freezer-new in box; filing cabinet; bread maker; meat grinder; electric heater; window air conditioner-new in box; & additional household items.

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FROM DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED INGREDIENTS.

BACK TO OUR LOWEST PRICE OF THE YEAR*

INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$7**
10⁹⁹

Fall Off the Bone® Back Ribs
1 FULL RACK OF RIBS 510 g - 680 g

Tangy Barbecue

CHOOSE FROM 4 VARIETIES. **RIBFEST**

INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$4**
8⁹⁹

Mini Cheesecakes
6 PIECES 300 g
3 Varieties

Red Velvet

NEW! 100% CANADIAN DAIRY

INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$5**
19⁹⁹

Breaded Chicken Breasts
8 PIECES 907 g
3 Varieties

Crispy

GREAT FOR THE GRILL!

INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$10**
24⁹⁹

Chicken Strips
27-33 PIECES 1.36 kg

Stuffed, Breaded Chicken
142 g

Choose from:
• Broccoli and Cheese
• Kiev • Parmesan • Swiss

SALE **3⁹⁹ each**

Bistro Chicken®
114 g

Choose from:
• Ricotta & Spinach
• Swiss

SAVE \$6 **23⁹⁹ each**

Fully Cooked Tasty Burgers™†
16 BURGERS x 80 g/2.82 oz

\$1.50 PER BURGER

SAVE \$9 **\$6 PER STEAK**

Bacon Wrapped Beef Top Sirloin Steaks
4 STEAKS x 142 g/5 oz

GREAT CANADIAN CELEBRATION **9⁹⁹ each**

OVER 80% OF OUR PRODUCTS, INCLUDING EVERYTHING IN THIS AD, ARE MADE IN CANADA FROM DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED INGREDIENTS.

Buffalo Chicken Dip
450 g

SAVE \$2 each

NEW! Caramelized Onion Dip
450 g

SAVE \$3

Artichoke Mac & Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

Mini Vegetable Spring Rolls
16 PIECES 384 g

SAVE \$2

Fried Battered Pickles
10-12 PIECES 390 g

Mini Franks in Pastry
15 PIECES 279 g

FAMILY SIZE MEALS 907 g

Cabbage Rolls

SALE **13⁹⁹ each**

NEW RECIPE!

Creamy Chicken Lasagna

Deluxe Meat Lasagna

CHOOSE FROM 14 VARIETIES.

Chicken Pad Thai

STEAKHOUSE QUALITY

Steakhouse Style Sirloin Tri Tip
2 STEAKS x 200 g/7 oz

SAVE \$2 **22⁹⁹ each**

STEAKHOUSE QUALITY

Brazilian Style Picanha Steaks
2 STEAKS x 200 g/7 oz

Key Lime Pie
800 g

SAVE \$2 **17⁹⁹ each**

Chocolate Lovers Variety Pack
850 g

Also available, Dessert Bar Variety Pack 675 g \$17.99 **SAVE \$2**

SAVE \$3

Hot Honey Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

SAVE \$3

Crispy Everything Cream Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

Chicken Spring Rolls
6 PIECES 432 g

BBQ CLASSICS

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2 Varieties

Mild Italian

Frankfurters
18 PIECES 1 kg

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13-16 PIECES 454 g

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SAVE \$3 **16⁹⁹**

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680 g
8 Varieties

Barbecue, Louisiana Style, Honey Garlic, Buffalo

NEW RECIPE!

SAVE \$2 **17⁹⁹ each**

Burgers
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