

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 17 No. 26

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Reflections on Canada Day 2021 • Make way for butterflies • A real-life fairy trail



**LIGHTS, CAMERAS AND A LOT OF ACTION** - The Thomas Foster Memorial, just south of Leaskdale, is normally a quiet, meditative spot to visit. Lately, however, it's been the site of much hustle and bustle, as a large television crew occupies the grounds. CBS Studios is working on an episode of *The Lost Symbol*, a series based on the 2009 novel written by American Dan Brown, author of *The Da Vinci Code* and *Angels and Demons*.

Photo by John Cavers

## Uxbridge equestrian named to Canada's Olympic team

by Justyne Edgell

Uxbridge-born equestrian athlete, Jessica Phoenix, is headed to the 2021 Tokyo Olympics with her trusted horse Pavarotti (Rotti).

This isn't her first time going to the games. Phoenix made her Olympic debut at the 2012 London Olympics, where she finished 22nd in individual eventing. In Rio, in 2016, Phoenix once again competed for Canada, placing 10th in the team competition and 38th individually.

"We have been waiting and working towards this moment since 2016," says Phoenix. "I am honoured to be going to Tokyo with Rotti, who is not only my trusted equine partner, but a member of my family and Canada's eventing family."



Jessica Phoenix and her horse 'Rotti' were recently named to Team Canada's Olympic Eventing team.

Photo from Twitter

Phoenix says Pavarotti is one of Canada's most consistent horses and has won five Pan AM medals over three consecutive games.

"He is a fierce competitor, a horse of a lifetime who will no doubt do us proud," she says.

Phoenix grew up always having horses in her life, even getting a pony for her first birthday. Before getting into eventing, Phoenix started out in a western saddle. After switching, she won her first major title, winning the Ontario Horse Trials Training Championship at only 13 years old. She is a four-time Pan American Games medallist and one of Canada's most respected eventing athletes.

Follow Phoenix and Pavarotti's Tokyo journey on Instagram @officialteamphoenix

The Tokyo Olympic Games will be held July 23 - Aug. 8.

Find more @ thecosmos.ca





# The Township of UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada

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MORE INFO  [www.uxbridge.ca](http://www.uxbridge.ca)

## Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for June, 2021

**Monday, July 12**

10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

11:30 a.m.

PUBLIC MEETING – ZBA 2021-06  
(10700 Reg. Rd. 1)

**Tuesday, July 13**

7:00 p.m.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE

**Thursday, July 15**

9:00 a.m.

TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday, July 20**

7:00 p.m.

BIA BOARD

**Wednesday, July 21**

3:00 p.m.

AGE FRIENDLY COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT  
MEETING

# Uxbridge at a Glance

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge  
51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190  
Uxbridge L9P 1T1  
905-852-9181 [info@uxbridge.ca](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)

## NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

This Notice is to inform you that the Township of Uxbridge has received a Zoning By-law Amendment application which has been deemed complete in accordance with the requirements of Section 34 of the Planning Act. The Planning Committee of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge will hold a statutory public meeting to make available adequate information to the public regarding, and to consider, a proposed Township Zoning By-law Amendment pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, submitted by Robert Clark, CCS.

The statutory public meeting will be held in an electronic format only in order to practice social distancing and help stop the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with Ontario Regulation 149/20, Special Rules relating to a Declared Emergency under The Planning Act. The Township of Uxbridge will be processing the Zoning By-law Amendment as required by the Planning Act and welcome any comments that you may have.

### PURPOSE OF PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT:

- The purpose of this application is to reduce the minimum required lot frontage and lot area for the Rural (RU) Zone. This is to recognize the existing dwelling on the property that is part of a Consent Application to sever the existing single detached dwelling and frame barn that is being applied for concurrently. As part of the rezoning the existing frame barn structure is to be prohibited from housing livestock.
- The retained agricultural portion of the concurrent Consent Application is to be restricted from future severances and development of any future residential dwellings.

- The proposed amendments to the Zoning By-law are to reduce the requirements of the Rural (RU) Zone for lot frontage from 200m to 85.95m and reduce the required area from 40ha to 1.4ha to accommodate the existing built structures on the proposed severed lot.
- The subject property is designated as "Prime Agricultural Areas" on Schedule 'A' – Map 'A2' of the Durham Region Official Plan and identified as "Greenbelt Plan Area" on Map 1 of the Township Official Plan. It is currently zoned "Rural (RU) Zone".

### LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY:

The subject property, is located on the west side of Regional Rd 1, south of Foster Dr, having the municipal address of 10700 Durham Regional Rd 1, and is legally described as Part of Lot 14 Concession 6, (Scott) Uxbridge; Part 1 of Plan 40R-15700. The location of the property is graphically illustrated on the key map below.

FILE NO.: Zoning By-Law Amendment 2021-06 (ZBA 2021-06)  
APPLICANT: Robert Clark, CCS.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information relating to the proposed Township Zoning By-law Amendment is available for inspection in the Development Services Department between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, at the Township Municipal Office, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario. However, the Township Offices can only be accessed by appointment due to the COVID lockdown by contacting the undersigned.

Jo Ann Merrick  
Email: [jmerrick@uxbridge.ca](mailto:jmerrick@uxbridge.ca)  
905-852-9181 Ext. 202

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, July 12, 2021  
**TIME:** Public Meeting 11:30 a.m.

### REPRESENTATION

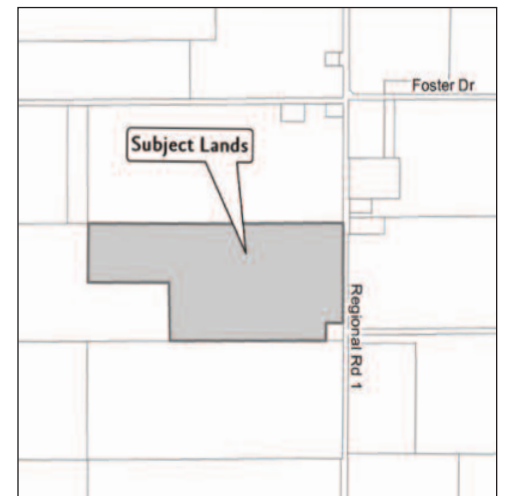
ANY PERSON may participate in the public meeting and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment.

The full public notice can be viewed at <https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/news/notice-of-public-meeting-re-zoning-by-law-amendment-2021-06.aspx>

**DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 18th DAY OF JUNE, 2021.**

Debbie Leroux, Clerk  
Township of Uxbridge, 51 Toronto St. S.  
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1  
905-852-9181 Ext. 228  
[dleroux@uxbridge.ca](mailto:dleroux@uxbridge.ca)

### KEY MAP (not to scale)



## Employment Opportunities

Details of all current positions are available at [www.uxbridge.ca/careers](http://www.uxbridge.ca/careers)

Community Services – Parks and Trails Manager – Closes **July 7, 2021**

Community Services – Arena and Recreation Manager – Closes **July 7, 2021**

*We are an equal opportunity employer in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC). The Township of Uxbridge will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process to applicants with disabilities and/or needs related to the OHRC. Personal information provided is collected under the authority of The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*

## Closures

- Lane restrictions on Brock Street East from Nelkydd Lane to Regional Highway 47 will be in effect beginning June 14th until the end of August, 2021 as the Region is installing underground services.
- Regional Road 8 from Concession 5 to Concession 6, from May 3 to July 9 will experience lane restrictions to facilitate road rehabilitation, culvert and guide rail replacement.



The Canada Day Committee looks forward to gathering together for future events on

## Canada Day

Today, please reflect and honour our Indigenous communities as you enjoy Canada Day in your own way.



Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at [uxbridge.ca/accessibility](http://uxbridge.ca/accessibility)

email: [accessibility@uxbridge.ca](mailto:accessibility@uxbridge.ca)  
phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209



## TOWN HALL

by Roger Varley  
Notes from the June 28  
Council Meeting

Councillor gets no support for extending Quaker trails: Ward 5 councillor Todd Snooks failed to gain any support from fellow councillors Monday when he sought a small extension of the Quaker Common trail system.

Council was dealing with a report from Amanda Ferraro, director of community services, detailing bids received for paving the trails on the common. The lowest bid, from Diamond Earthworks Corporation, was for just under \$48,000: the highest, from Tri-Capital Construction, was for just over \$204,000.

Ferraro said \$60,000 of the \$145,000 budgeted for the project will come from an Inclusive Community grant.

In discussion that followed, Snooks asked that an additional trail be put in, connecting the

trail at the southeast corner of the common to the arena and Brock Street. Councillor Bruce Garrod offered that it was a good idea, but offered that it would be better to build that path later, not now. Mayor Dave Barton said he hadn't given the idea enough thought yet. Snooks responded that he simply did not want to see the project half done.

In her report, Ferraro stated that the winning bidder's quote on a safety fence that is to be included in the project "is deemed too low," noting that, because the tender did not specify the type of fence, quotes ranged from Diamond's low \$15 to the highest, \$7,683. She said applying the highest quote to Diamond's bid still made them the lowest bidder.

Council voted to award Diamond the contract and use the remaining money to buy the fence and "repair, patch or replace some additional trails that lead into the new paved pathway."

Snooks' request for a connecting trail to Brock was sent to staff for a feasibility study.

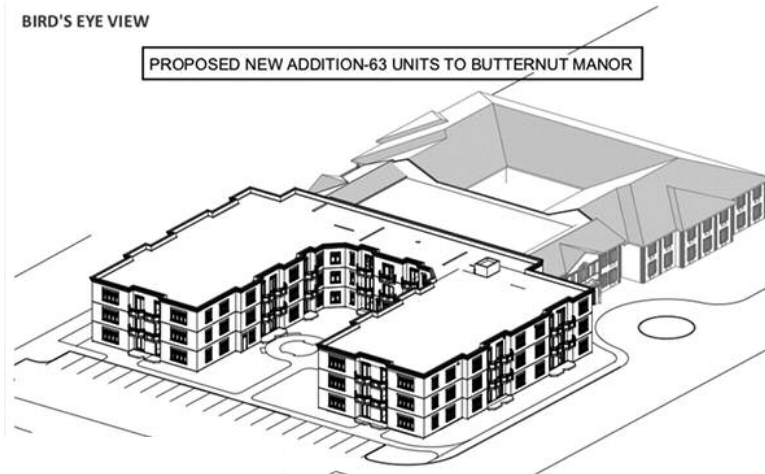
Butternut Manor to double in size: The new owners of Butternut Manor at the west end of Brock Street plan to double the size of the facility with a three-storey addition on the west side of the building.

Architect David Johnston told council the 55,000-square-foot

addition will have 63 units, the same as the current building, which will include studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments. The new addition will have a north wing and south wing, with a sheltered courtyard in between, and feature a second dining room on the second floor.

Johnston said Butternut filed

five years ago for a site plan amendment and now seeks permission to submit complete drawings in August with a view to starting the project in the fall.



An artistic rendering of the proposed 63-unit addition to Butternut Manor.



## COMMUNITY NOTICE

### ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure. The spray program is not being done for aesthetic reasons.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

CN may use the following herbicides and active ingredients: VP480 (Dow), Esplanade (Bayer), Overdrive (BASF), Detail (BASF), Arsenal (BASF), Navius (Bayer), Gateway (Corteva), VisionMax (Bayer) using Glyphosate (480g/L or 540g/L), Indaziflam (200 g/L), Diflufenzopyr (20%), Dicamba (50%), Saflufenacil (29.74%), imazapyr isopropylamine (26.7%), Metsulfuron-methyl (12.6%), Aminocyclopyrachlor (39.5%), Paraffinic Oil (586 g/L), Alkoxylated alcohol non-ionic surfactants (242 g/L)

CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the Province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from June to October 2021.

Visit [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation) to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca) or 1-888-888-5909.

CN.CA

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# Our two cents

## A lot of hometown newsprint

You may have opened your mail box this week and started when seeing the front page of your favourite newspaper!

We're sporting a new look, and hope that you like the fresh, updated design, which we're presenting on a special anniversary.

The *Uxbridge Cosmos* was founded in September 2005, headed by then-publisher Conrad Boyce and supported by a number of investors who believed in the same thing Boyce did - that Uxbridge needed a "a truly local newspaper that will tell us about our kids, our business or sports or arts community, our life."

Said the very first "Our two cents" column: "We believe that a locally owned, locally created, locally written publication is best able to tell our story. It has worked in small communities like ours for hundreds of years. It used to work in Uxbridge. We believe it will again."

Conrad Boyce nurtured the fledgling newspaper along until 2013, when he handed the reins over to one of his freelance writers, Lisha Van Nieuwenhove. This is, if we have our math correct, the 743rd edition of the *Uxbridge Cosmos* since its inception.

For those unfamiliar with the origin story of the paper's name, it's quite simple. The cosmos, the happy pink flower tucked into our name on the front page, is Uxbridge's official flower. The word 'cosmos' also refers to the universe. Hence our tag line - *The Uxbridge Cosmos - Your Universe*.

We work very hard to be included in your universe. We try to give you as much information as we can fit into our pages about what is happening in the township. And we'll never increase our circulation outside the township because we only care about and cover what is going on *here*. We rely solely on advertising for our revenue, and are incredibly grateful to every single one of our advertisers, past, present and future.

Print media is not dead. In fact, it's a long way from it. People are surrounded by all kinds of media on a daily basis, which can lead to a lot of confusing and/or contradictory information. Earlier this year, NewsMedia Canada, of which the *Cosmos* is a member, released a study saying that almost nine out of every 10 Canadians read a community or daily newspaper every week, and that the newspaper gets full attention, while other types of media are glanced at while the user multi-tasks.

We like printing a newspaper, we like being available online. We strive for exceptional, reliable journalism, and we love Uxbridge with a passion.

We hope you like our new look.



**The Uxbridge COSMOS**  
 Publisher/Editor: Lisha Van Nieuwenhove 905-852-1900  
 Advertising/Sales: 905-852-1900

38 Toronto Street North, Unit One, Uxbridge Ontario L9P 1E6  
 E-mail: [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca) Web site: [Thecosmos.ca](http://Thecosmos.ca)

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of The Cosmos. Letters must be signed and the telephone number provided (number will not be published). Requests that a name be withheld will be honoured only if there is a compelling reason. Errors brought to our attention will be corrected. The Cosmos reserves the right to edit and/or refuse to publish unsolicited material. ADVERTISING POLICY: The Cosmos reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The Cosmos is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors in advertisements or any other errors or omissions in advertisements. All material herein, including advertising design, is copyrighted, and may not be reproduced in any form without permission.



9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.



## Letters to the Editor

**Re: Letters to the Editor, June 24 edition**

The very first identity any of us have is in the name we are given at birth. To think that any person could take that away is reprehensible. Carol Johnson [in her letter to the editor] says immigrants either took or were forced to take Anglo names so that they could fit into schools and society just shows how systemic racism is in our society. The same concept was behind residential schools. Force Indigenous children to forget their identity - in the case of Indigenous people, steal their children and beat their culture out of their children by the school staff.

Children shouldn't have to change their name to fit in. There should be education given so that children with different sounding names feel welcome.

*Nancy Emo  
Uxbridge*

There's nothing like our local Uxbridge businesses! North Durham Refugee Reunification is incredibly grateful to everyone who supported the recent "Peace by Chocolate/Sweet Syrian Story" event.

Thanks to the efforts of Shelley MacBeth of Blue Heron Books, Lisa Hutchinson of The Passionate Cook's Essentials, and Patty Ewaschuk of Banjo Cider, this was a creative, dynamic and tasty event that made a significant dent in our efforts to help bring a refugee family closer to their relatives in Uxbridge. Major kudos to these Uxbridge entrepreneurs and their incredible staffs, who donated their entire profits to NDRR sponsorship!

Additional appreciation to Lisa Hutchinson for her lively, professional interview with "Peace by Chocolate" book author Jon Tattrie, and to 'Team Mona' of the Passionate

Cook's Essentials, who cooked and packaged a delightful, tasty sampler plate.

NDRR wishes to send a shout-out to Dina Middleton of Presents, Presents, Presents for donating her profits on the chocolate bar sales, to Staples for their printing support, and let's not forget our very own *Cosmos*, who once again profiled a local Uxbridge grassroots initiative. Is anyone surprised?!

Most significantly, to the over 112 ticket purchasers - NDRR sends our sincere thanks to you.

Let's help get Uxbridge small businesses back on their feet - shop local everyone!

*Margot Willoughby &  
Jane Kiyonaga  
Co-Chairs, North Durham  
Refugee Reunification*

**Re: Letters to the Editor, June 17 edition**

There tends to always be individuals who are okay with, or I daresay even passionately defend, the unjust and unequal harm of other human beings. Eleanor Todd wrote a letter to the editor about the "lively" conversations she has with her granddaughter, who has said the residential school system was "the deliberate cultural genocide of Indigenous people." To which Ms. Todd's response is that, "it seemed like a good idea at the time," and that we shouldn't expect people from history to have the same understandings that we hold today.

The last residential school closed its doors within my lifetime, and I am only 28 years old. That means Indigenous children were subjected to this system at the same time that I was prancing around my junior kindergarten classroom. So no, it was not just during the days of log cabins, oil lamps, tuberculosis, and poor hygiene.

Not to mention the very harmful effects the residential school system has plagued Indigenous communities with today: reduced population, people unable to practice their traditional culture or speak their languages because it has been stripped from them and their families, as well as families that are still fighting to uncover the specifics of how their loved ones died at those schools. To contextualize this system as one that is so far removed from contemporary times, and thus exempt from critical scrutiny and accountability is grossly misrepresenting the issues and dangerously unjust.

"It seemed like a good idea..." to enact racist policies that would serve the self-interest of racist power. The racist power here was European colonialists wanting to colonize a land that was already occupied. The racist policies that would enable them to do that: slavery, the Indian Act, the residential school system. The racist ideas that would justify the policies were: 16th century English travel writer, George Best, saying the cursed descendants of Canaan from the Bible were black; social Darwinists in the 19th century who used the theory of natural selection to biologically distinguish and rank the races with white being the pinnacle and Asian, Indigenous, and Black being "weaker" and subjected to assimilation, extinction, and slavery, respectively; Francis Galton's (Darwin's cousin) eugenics movement that encouraged reproduction for some and discouraged it for minorities (marriage bans, forced sterilization, euthanasia).

Ms. Todd doubts that Ryerson encouraged abuse and neglect of Indigenous children in the residential school system, that it doesn't make sense that he would prescribe that

*...continued on page 9*





## Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

### A time to look back - and forward

Happy Canada Day!

I hope that greeting doesn't sound a little hollow, given that many, many communities have cancelled any organized celebrations. But do we really need hot dogs, hamburgers and beer in order to mark this country's founding, especially since 154 years is not any kind of milestone?

Given that the world has been in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic for the past 15 months and given the horrific, but not surprising, revelations of the past couple of months regarding residential schools in Canada, maybe this is the perfect time for each of us to seriously think about the country we live in, our place in it and our responsibilities as citizens. And if we are honest with ourselves, this won't be a comfortable exercise.

It will dismay many to be told that racism exists in our society and has done since the country was born. Many immigrants will tell you of the discrimination they faced when arriving in Canada: the Italians, the Irish, the Pakistanis and so on. In my life, I have actually witnessed first-hand blatant discrimination against friends who were dark-skinned, Asian or gay. I was once slapped in the face in Toronto by a stranger who claimed he didn't like English people. And, like so many Indigenous people, my granddaughters have felt the sharp sting of racism.

So, what has that got to do with you? You have never uttered a racist word, never discriminated against anyone, never profiled anyone, right? But have you ever taken a stand against those who do?

Take a look at our penal system, which has always been overly oppressive against Indigenous people. In 2020, for example, Indigenous people made up 30 per cent of the adult prison population, yet they only account for five per cent of the national population. Now, being a law-abiding citizen, you probably think that those in jail deserve to be there. But you have to admit that there's something wrong with the system given the numbers quoted above. However, I doubt that subject will ever be raised in the federal and provincial elections that are looming ahead. And if we don't raise the issue, who will?

Now let's get really uncomfortable: the

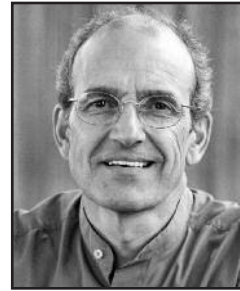
churches. There have been some high-profile cases recently of churches ignoring health department regulations re: COVID-19 and holding in-person services, even when ordered not to and after receiving several warnings. Yet their congregations do not hold the ministers to account. I know the churches in Uxbridge have abided by the province's guidelines and restrictions, but I don't hear anyone chastising those who chose to go their own way in the name of religious freedom. I don't need to get into the churches' roles in the residential schools and juvenile detention centres.

Surely, as Canadians, we can be immensely proud of our country and all its accomplishments while still acknowledging that we have warts. And while politics plays a part, this is not about politics. Liberals, Conservatives, socialists or whatever, they've all had a hand in egregious assaults on the environment, the laws and the people over the years and the general population, through communal apathy, has allowed them to get away with it. We seem content to go to the polls every four years and then forget about it.

So, as we relax this day under cool temperatures and threatening skies, it might be an opportunity for each of us to think about what our roles should be as citizens in this society. Is it enough just to go about our daily lives, paying our taxes and obeying the laws? I would suggest that it's okay as long as your daily lives do not adversely affect others, your taxes are being spent for the good of the people and not corporations and the laws are just and equitably applied. Should you maybe think about volunteering, with the knowledge that someday you may be in need of a volunteer? Or perhaps run for elected office, knowing that the best way to change things is from the inside? Or maybe, instead of just whining to your neighbour about your local MP or MPP, writing said politician a letter to let them know you don't support a particular stance they or their party have taken.

It seems to me it's a bit of a stretch to call yourself a Canadian if you don't take part in the life of the country.

Tell me, am I wrong?



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### Fix nationhood. Don't abandon it

It was the climax of the chapter, about a 19th-century military battle in western Canada. It was an important feature in my first non-fiction book, written 44 years ago. It pitted a massive force of army militia troops from eastern Canada against Métis communities defending their land rights in the Saskatchewan territory. That spring of 1885, it became known as the Battle of Batoche.

In my book, I referred to the stand that Louis Riel and Gabriel Dumont made at Batoche as "the Riel rebellion."

As a 24-year-old first-time author, I had naively used colonial language to describe a struggle that began when Europeans homesteaded on Prairie lands handed to them by the Hudson's Bay Company and an expanding Canadian nation. Between first publication of my book in 1977, and a 2015 reprint, in my travels as a journalist and author, I met Elmer Ghostkeeper, a Métis elder and mentor, who currently serves a councillor with the Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement in Alberta. Among many things I learned from him, the historically accurate way to describe events in 1885 was "the Riel resistance." It was resistance, not rebellion.

In other words, my country and its leaders abused a First Nation's rights and history continues to misrepresent it. Some have suggested, given the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves at two former Indian residential schools in Saskatchewan and Alberta, that July 1 celebrations should be cancelled. I'd like to suggest the opposite. We need to take the day to celebrate our successes and correct our mistakes.

In May 1939, just four months before Adolf Hitler marched into Poland to begin the systematic extermination of European Jews, the ocean liner St. Louis departed Hamburg, Germany, with 907 Jewish passengers seeking asylum away from Nazi oppression. Attempts by Gustav Schroeder, captain of the ill-fated ship, to land his passengers safely in Cuba were thwarted by a fascist leader. A U.S. Coast Guard vessel fired warning shots at St. Louis to prevent it from docking in Florida. And at Halifax, Frederick Blair, the architect of Canada's restrictive federal immigration policies issued this anti-Semitic statement on behalf of the King government:

"The line must be drawn somewhere," he wrote in an internal document about allowing Jews into Canada. "None is too many."

Canada's closed-door policy toward the Jews of Europe before and during the Second World War – between 1933 and 1945 only 5,000 Jews

were allowed in – ensured that a third of those passengers would die in Nazi concentration camps. Still, the work of two Canadian academics – Harold Troper and Irving Abella – at the University of Toronto brought Canada's history of anti-Semitic policies to the attention of then prime minister Joe Clark. His government and its policy-makers recognized the systemic racism and at the time – the 1970s – increased Canada's intake of Vietnamese refugees from 12,000 to 50,000; and under the current federal government an intake of 50,000 Syrian refugees between 2015 and 2018 was facilitated. On Nov. 7, 2018, Prime Minister Trudeau formally apologized for turning away Jewish refugees. My friend and colleague Ellin Bessner, author of *Double Threat: Canadian Jews, the Military and WWII*, spoke the same day.

"It's never too late to apologize," she said. "But we still have work to do."

Ellin and others have taught me that Conservative and Liberal administrations have been guilty of anti-Semitism since 1867. But because this country has the spine to acknowledge its xenophobia, root it out and replace it with inclusion and egalitarian principles, I plan to celebrate Canada's ability to address and correct injustice.

When Frank Moritsugu was growing up in Vancouver, his Japanese-Canadian parents taught him to sing "God Save the King"; he was elected as the first non-white editor of his high school newspaper. Yet, in 1942, the Moritsugus had everything taken from them. The authorities interned Frank's parents in camps in northern B.C. Still, Frank joined the staff of *The New Canadian*, a Japanese-Canadian newspaper that supported the country's war effort, but also criticized its racist treatment of Japanese-Canadian citizens. I was privileged to work with Frank Moritsugu as a journalism instructor. Frank was hurt horribly by what his country did to him in 1942. But he turned the other cheek, and eventually served in the Canadian Army, interrogating Japanese POWs late in the war.

"I knew (our treatment) was not the real Canada," Frank told me.

So, on our national birthday, I plan to take time to study our mistakes as a nation. I'll recall what Elmer Ghostkeeper, Ellin Bessner and Frank Moritsugu have taught me. I'll keep trying to learn the truth, but on this July 1, I'll also display my Canadian flag proudly.

**For more Barris Beat columns, go to [www.tedbarris.com](http://www.tedbarris.com)**



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**Buy 3 Fish 1 Chips for \$21**  
OR  
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\* Coupon Expires July 14, 2021  
\* Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location  
\* Present coupon at the time of purchase  
\* Offer cannot be combined with any other offer

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\* Coupon Valid for Halibut, Haddock, & Cod Fish Only  
\* Coupon Expires July 14, 2021  
\* Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location  
\* Present coupon at the time of purchase  
\* Offer cannot be combined with any other offer

### Manager's Special

- ★ 4x Battered Halibut Dinner Size OR 2 lb Chicken Souvlaki
- ★ 8x Battered Black Tiger Shrimps OR Chicken Wings
- ★ Onion Rings (Regular)
- ★ Fresh Cut Fries (Large)
- ★ Choice of Salad (Family Size)

ADD Family Size Rice or Salad for \$7

\* Coupon Expires July 14, 2021  
\* Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location  
\* Present coupon at the time of purchase  
\* Offer cannot be combined with any other offer

**Only \$59<sup>99</sup>**

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# Pledging to work towards reconciliation in Uxbridge

by Justyne Edgell

Along with June being Indigenous History Month, acts of honour and reconciliation have been a strong theme in Canada since the discovery of 215 children's remains at a former residential school in Kamloops, B.C. at the end of May. Last Monday was National Indigenous Peoples Day, a day to celebrate the culture and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. And as people try to find ways to reconcile the losses and struggles faced by those living in residential schools, many wonder "what do we do next?"

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund (DWF) has started the 215 Pledge. It was created to inspire and encourage individuals, communities and organizations to "take the pledge and create their own ways to act."

The DWF is an organization which "aims to build cultural understanding and create a path toward reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples." The organization's goal is "to improve the lives of Indigenous people by building awareness,

education, and connections between all Canadians," according to their website.

"Our goal is to cover 3,969 kilometers, the distance from St. Andrew's-Chalmers to the Kamloops Indian Residential School."

Some local organizations have already joined in the 215 pledge. St. Andrew's-Chalmers Presbyterian Church has started the 215 km Challenge, encouraging congregation and community members to "bike, swim or

use any means of non-motorized movement to cover 215 kilometers." It can be an individual effort or tackled as a team or family group.

"This is not a fundraiser or a challenge to do better than someone else," said a representative from the church, "but rather, a movement to help us physically and to remember

those who attended residential schools."

At the end of each week, those participating in the 215km Challenge are to report their kilometers to Dave Phillips, who will add them all up. "Our goal is to cover 3,969 kilometers, the distance from St. Andrew's-Chalmers to the former Kamloops Indian Residential School. Regular updates will be on the electronic sign at the front of the church and on our website."

This month, The Gord Downie Wenjack

Fund has also organized A Day To Listen, "In recognition of National Indigenous History Month, Bell Media, Corus Entertainment Inc., Rogers Sports & Media, Stingray Radio, and more, join together in an unprecedented collaboration to amplify, elevate, listen to, and learn from Indigenous voices with A DAY TO LISTEN," ac-

cording to the DWF website.

From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., radio stations across Canada will be dedicated to sharing stories from Indigenous leaders, residential school survivors, elders, musicians, and teachers. "A DAY TO LISTEN aims to leverage the power of radio to enact real change and begin to set a course for a more equitable future." A list of participating stations can be found on their website.

For anyone interested in learning more about the

Downie Wenjack Fund, the 215 Challenge or A Day To Listen, you can find informative resources more information online at [downiewenjack.ca](http://downiewenjack.ca) and [215pledge.ca](http://215pledge.ca)

*"Join us in calling for these actions so no child who died while in the care of a residential school is lost and that the experiences of all those affected by residential schools are honoured."* – DWF



## MONTHLY DRAW WINNERS

The Rotary Club of Uxbridge is pleased to announce the winners of the June monthly draw for the 2021 Trip of the Month Club.

The 'Hook Line and Sinker' trip was won by Krista Appleton, ticket #291, sold by Mike Banh.

2nd place, \$150, won by Maja Cassibo, ticket #394, sold by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove.

3rd place, \$100, won by Chris Johnston, ticket #363, sold by Hank Parsaniya.

Congratulations to our June draw winners, and best of luck to all our ticket holders for the 2021 Trip of the Month Club draw for July - 'Sultry Santa Clara'. The package includes round trip airfare to Santa Clara, Cuba, round trip airport to hotel transfer, 7 nights accommodation at the 5-star Royalton Cayo Santa Maria Resort, all meals, drinks and snacks, daily activities and nightly entertainment, all non-motorized water sports, and all gratuities.

As restrictions are still in place for travel, a voucher for \$2,500 from Getaway Travel or cash option of \$2,250 is available instead of the trip.

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Happy Canada Day Uxbridge!

As we are celebrating Canada’s 154<sup>th</sup> birthday, we are also celebrating an important milestone for our Co-Founder, Scott Crockatt.

Congratulations Scott on your Retirement. We are thankful for what you have helped create and the legacy that will continue for years to come. We wish you and Debbie a long and happy retirement with your family and friends at your side.

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Watching Things Grow with Barbara Pratt

Mulches and how to use them

The value of mulching flowerbeds and vegetable beds is pretty evident. Mulch, first and foremost, keeps down weeds. It keeps the moisture in the soil. The right mulches enrich the soil. It mimics the natural process of soil conservation, i.e. leaves and litter breaking down and rotting to feed the essential soil microbes. And it looks tidy.

Any organic substance can be used, but it should be a substance that will readily decompose. Popular mulches are chipped or shredded bark, chipped or shredded tree limbs, cocoa bean hulls, straw, leaf mold.

Mushroom compost, composted manure, and grass clippings can also be used as mulch, but these will break down quickly and have to be replenished in order to keep down the weeds and regulate soil temperature and moisture.

In the fall, mulched soil loses heat more slowly. A study showed that the minimum soil temperature in winter was as much as 10 degrees higher under mulch than under turfgrass. Warmer winter soil temperatures generally result in less root loss due to freezing.

In summer, mulch reduced the maximum root-zone temperatures up to 12 degrees as compared with

turfgrass.

In the spring, wet soils retain excess moisture longer under mulch than if the soil is bare and evaporation could occur, so make sure your soil drains reasonably well before using mulch, or don’t use it in wet areas.

Mulch should never be applied directly to the base of plants, including trees and shrubs. Norinne Blyth is an avid and successful Uxbridge gardener who has noticed a lot of incorrect mulching of trees. She says that mulching around trees is wonderful if done correctly - volcano mulching is *incorrect*. Volcano mulching is placing a lot of mulch around the base of a tree with the higher amount

of mulch right up against the trunk and sloping away from the tree, which looks like a volcano. Over time it can kill the tree due to the root flare being covered and not enough oxygen getting to the roots.

The correct way is to have the mulch and soil just below the root flare flat at the trunk with a small raised amount around the outside of

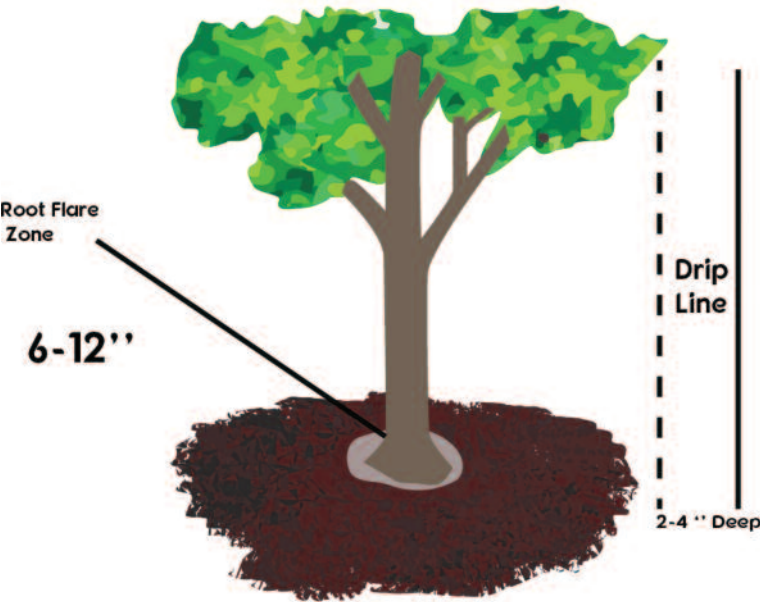
the mulched area also known as the drip line.

To fix a volcano mulch, take the mulch right off to find the root flare. Expose it, then mulch out from it to the drip line, forming a higher ring at the outside of the root area, 2 - 4” deep. This ring helps to keep the moisture around the tree.

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Incorrect Mulching



Proper Mulching Method

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**Have a safe & happy Canada Day from all of us!**



**Letters, from page 9**

level of violence when he himself exerted efforts to speak the language of the Mississauga peoples. Where does this level of presumption come from? Does it come from the absolute refusal to reckon with the racism that was rampant?

Racist ideas from the religious to the scientific were all used to justify the racist policies and actions of the Church, government, and colonialists for centuries. The fact that Egerton Ryerson was a missionary, then an ordained Methodist minister, then a part of the early plan developments for residential schools, positions him in a very real way in the racist structures of the time. This is why people want his statue removed and his name stripped from the school; whether Ms. Todd, or others, presumes to know the contents of his heart is irrelevant. Every child mattered, and they still do.

**Tonia Lyons**  
Uxbridge

I'm writing in response to a letter written by my grandmother, Eleanor (Granny) Todd.

This last year I have become further enlightened on the history of Indigenous people, as told by Indigenous people, rather than the history we learn about in the public school system, which teaches the history of settled Canada through a colonialist lens. It goes without saying there is a vast amount of history regarding Indigenous peoples and the residential school systems that was not taught to us growing up.

I understand the generational differences that can create a lack of understanding in certain topics, one of these topics being the residential school system. My grandmother recognizes that I describe it as "the deliberate cultural genocide" of Indigenous peoples. My grandmother also admits she belongs to the camp who, when the residential schools were still up and running, firmly believed they "were a good idea, at the time."

I can't be frustrated by this lack of understanding, as my grandmother was socialized into believing this. In the same way, I am now being socialized into viewing the residential school systems for what they were - a genocidal tactic meant to, in the words of Duncan Campbell Scott, "get rid of the Indian population."

Residential schools, however, were not the focal concern in my grandmother's letter. The issue raised was what to do about history, about the education of it, about statues, and what to do about the people who had a hand in cultural genocide? Do we praise them? Honour them? Name schools after them?

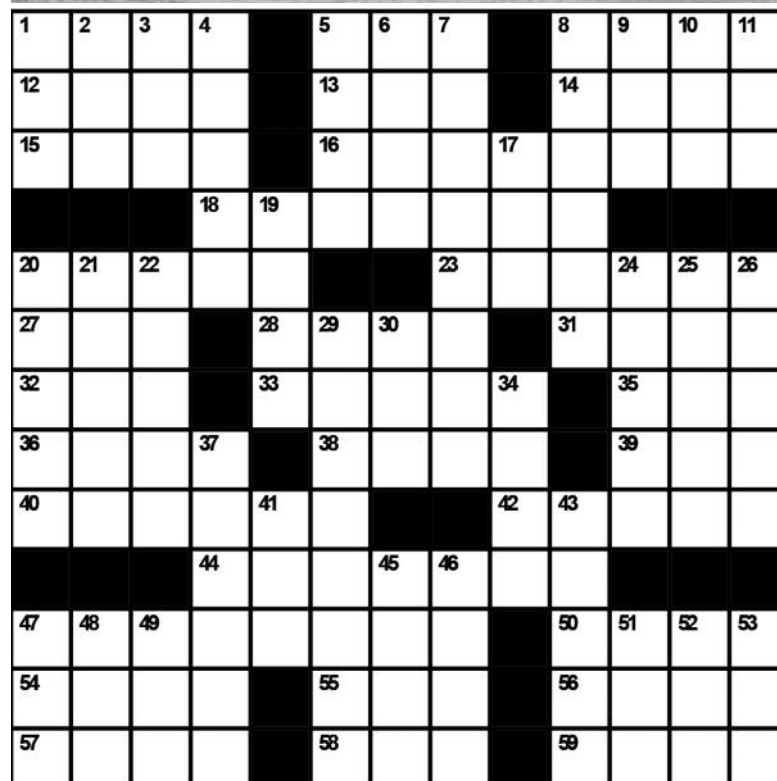
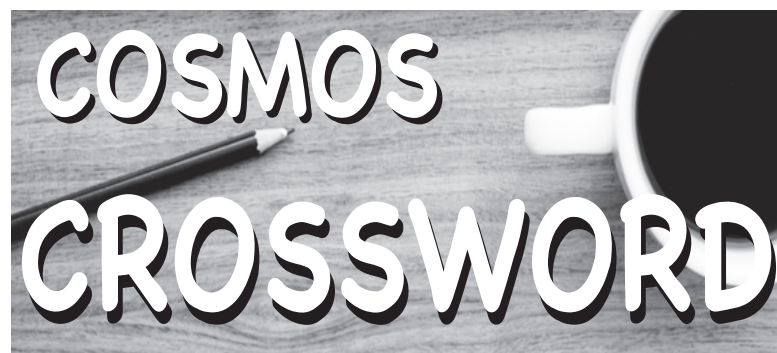
Toppling the statue of Egerton Ryerson catalyzed frank conversations about the lack of history we have concerning the residential school system and the key players in its implementation. Similar to what Ted Barris stated in his "Fairness or Bust" column; I, too, was unaware of the role Ryerson played in the residential school system, which was the main focus of Barris' column. I, too, was unaware of Ryerson's role in creating the architectural plans for poorly

built buildings that did in fact lead to many Indigenous children getting sick and ultimately dying. Ryerson's role is something we should have been aware of; why weren't we aware? But then again, why haven't we been made aware of Duncan Campbell Scott's role? Or Sir John A. Macdonald? Why has so much of this history gone unnoticed? I believe the debate of Ryerson has opened the door for a much needed conversation. Why aren't we taught more about the key players or the government's role?

My grandmother believes the church is to blame for the schools, which I don't disagree with. The church did indeed lead the drive for residential schools, but it was the Canadian government under Sir John A. Macdonald that allowed the schools to spread. When Sir John A. Macdonald passed this through cabinet, it was after the death of Ryerson. But does that negate the role Ryerson played in creating the plans for the residential schools?

I stand by my grandmother in recognizing that Ryerson did, in fact, do good as well. It's important to recognize this confusing time in history, where, as we begin to look back in disgust at what was once considered okay, we should recognize the fact that it *was* a different time. Recognizing that doesn't mean it was ok. Residential schools remained in operation in Canada until 1996, which many people still don't know. That's the issue I want to raise - WHY don't we know? Why are we not taught this?

**Ariana Todd**  
Goodwood

**Across**

- 1 Mushrooms
- 5 College degree
- 8 Floral arrangement
- 12 Related by blood
- 13 ESPN sportscaster, Bob
- 14 Slender instrument
- 15 Test
- 16 Fire starter
- 18 At last
- 20 Small intestine section
- 23 They are worked out by analysis
- 27 Unhappy
- 28 Acme
- 31 \_\_\_ deck
- 32 Summer month, abbr.
- 33 Rate
- 35 Leave dumbstruck
- 36 Middle east dweller
- 38 St. Louis landmark
- 39 Crime investigator (abbr.)
- 40 Sign of affection
- 42 Mideast leaders
- 44 "The Descendants" star, George
- 47 Trifling
- 50 Spin
- 54 Egg
- 55 Student-focused org., for short
- 56 Stir
- 57 Harp-family instrument
- 58 Juicer
- 59 Attractive guy

**Down**

- 1 Taxi
- 2 Barely make, with "out"
- 3 Set (against)
- 4 Screw-up
- 5 Scheme
- 6 Zeus's mate
- 7 Having trouble with words
- 8 Pay (2 words)
- 9 Eastern sash
- 10 Cry for assistance
- 11 Furthermore
- 17 Time-tested
- 19 Shi'ite leader
- 20 Stern with a bow
- 21 Mrs. Bush
- 22 First name in mystery
- 24 Ring-tailed animal
- 25 \_\_\_ of strength
- 26 Guidelines
- 29 Green appetizers (2 words)
- 30 Mess up
- 34 "Shall I compare \_\_\_."
- 37 Turned into
- 41 Underhanded
- 43 Perfume ingredient
- 45 Able to see right through
- 46 Spic and span
- 47 Government figure, for short
- 48 Brown, e.g.
- 49 Unfriendly dog
- 51 Chit
- 52 Hullabaloo
- 53 Yellowstone creature

## Foster Memorial Cemetery Decoration Service 2021

**Due to COVID-19, the service in the mausoleum  
on July 18<sup>th</sup> is cancelled.**

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Classifieds are \$15/week up to 25 words; \$0.20 per additional word (plus HST). Payable in advance by cash, cheque, debit or credit card. Contact Lvann@thecosmos.ca or 905-852-1900 Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon. Ask about online link possibilities, too.

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## The Nature Nut

column by Nancy Melcher

### Woods and their woodpeckers

Many songbirds are calling now, declaring their territories as they build nests and work on raising their young. Some songs are pretty - warbles, coos, and whistles that sound sweet. Robins, cardinals, and finches sing beautifully (even if they do start their "dawn chorus" well before sunrise!). Others, like jays, crows, and ravens, get the job done without any real melody whatsoever, relying on shrieks, caws, and croaks instead.

Rather than singing, woodpeckers peck on various objects to sound out their claim to space. You may have heard sounds like a short drum roll. These sharp-billed birds use dead tree limbs, telephone poles, and drainpipes, pecking rapidly on the surface - not to make a big hole but to loudly declare their personal boundaries.

We were awakened very early on the morning after we moved

into our home in late March, many years ago, by a sound like an impact driver or demolition saw being used briefly on some crucial part of the house. My husband sat bolt upright in bed and exclaimed, "What was THAT?" It repeated every few minutes for about half an hour. This went on for several days, always starting well before our alarm clock was set to go off.

We wondered what we'd gotten into! Was it something mechanical? A disgruntled neighbour? Was the house about to collapse as we slept?

After several early morning wake-up calls, I decided to investigate the source of all that racket. With great relief I discovered that it was a "just" a woodpecker pounding away

near the base of the metal furnace chimney pipe. How cool, right? After a couple more weeks our "drumming alarm clock" stopped, and we resumed our regular morning routine.

For the rest of the year you may hear woodpeckers call with short peeps, rolling rattles and trills, or short "cuk" alarm calls. They are shy birds but may come to a backyard suet feeder. Ranging in size from the diminutive sparrow-sized



A female downy woodpecker eats from the nature Nut's hand.

Photo by Nancy Melcher

downy woodpecker to the majestic pileated woodpecker that's almost as big as a crow, they drill with their strong beaks into trees to find wood-boring insects and sap for food, and to

create cavities for their nests.

*Nancy Melcher is The Nature Nut. Send details of your sightings or questions about the natural world to: [general@melcher.cx](mailto:general@melcher.cx)*

### CORRECTION

The *Uxbridge Cosmos* published information last week regarding costs associated with the scheduled re-opening of Uxpool that requires clarification ('Notes from the June 21 council meeting, page 3).

A report by aquatics manager Carolyn Clementson said it would cost \$485,268 to re-open the pool in August, while a September opening would cost \$457,597. The *Cosmos* quoted Councillor Bruce Garrod as saying the extra cost would be covered by provincial COVID-19 relief. To clarify, Mr. Garrod was referring to the \$37,671 difference between an August opening and a September opening.

The *Cosmos* hopes this clarifies the information given, and apologizes for any confusion caused.

## Summer Break

The Uxbridge Cosmos is taking a short break.

Our office will be closed July 2 - 9.

There will be no paper on July 8.

Our office will re-open July 12.

We will be back in your mailbox on July 15!

Your Universe

The **Uxbridge Cosmos**

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See a tiny garden that is a lesson in creating a jewel in a small space. Find a secret garden that nestles behind a towering enclosing hedge. Stroll through an expansive country garden that shows off the work

of a renowned sculptor, and a town garden that seems to have space for everything - including almost 35 clematis vines! The drive between gardens takes visitors along some of the most scenic roads on the Oak Ridges Moraine, and into Uxbridge streets in both new and old parts of town.

Admission is just \$25 per person. Order tickets online, then pick up the passport and map on the day of the tour. All COVID-19 protocols will be followed.

**TICKETS & INFO [www.gardensofuxbridge.org](http://www.gardensofuxbridge.org)**

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Enjoy the tour!  
Let us get you out of the weeds with your taxes!  
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1- PRESTON GALLERY  
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3- THE BRIDGE SOCIAL  
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5- COZY MATTRESS AND BED  
6- ASH'S LASHES  
7- SUGAR FX  
8- THE UXBRIDGE COSMOS  
9- ROXY THEATRES  
10- HOLISTIC SALT THERAPY & CAVE  
11- THE LEMONADE STAND  
12- KEITH'S FLOWER SHOP

THE UXBRIDGE  
*Fairy Trail*



**LEASKDALE TRAIL**

LEASKDALE RD

13 - LEASKDALE LIVE EDGE  
14 - LEASKDALE ESSO GAS

REGIONAL RD 13  
HARRISON DR  
CONCESSION 7 (MAIN ST. N)

**CONCESSION 6 TRAIL**

15 - FORAGED FLORAL DESIGN  
16 - CONCESSION 6 STUDIO  
17 - GREENMANTLE POTTERY

CONCESSION RD. 6  
WEIRS RD  
ASHWORTH RD  
SANDFORD RD

**DOWNTOWN TRAIL**

RAILWAY ST.  
ALBERT ST.  
ASH ST.  
BROCK ST. E.  
CHURCH ST.  
TORONTO ST. N.  
TORONTO ST. S.  
CONFESSION DR.  
JOSEPH ST.  
ELGIN PARK DR.  
BASCUM ST.  
MAIN ST. S.  
FIRST AVE.

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**Welcome to the Uxbridge Fairy Trail!** The Lemonade Stand, Take Root Creative / Uxbridge Daily, and several other local businesses (including the *Uxbridge Cosmos*) are conjuring the enchanted world of fairies! Beginning July 1 and running throughout the summer, those who are the young and young at heart are invited to put on fairy wings, wave a fairy wand and explore the Fairy Trail. Grab the Uxbridge Fairy Trail map, above, and follow the adventure to find the fairy doors hidden in store windows, or business exteriors.

JOIN US IN THE BEER GARDEN FOR

# CANADA DAY REFLECTION

The Second Wedge Brewing Co., 14 Victoria Street. [thesecondwedge.ca](https://thesecondwedge.ca)  
No cover. Donations welcome. First come, first served. Covid protocols strictly followed

10% of our Canada Day proceeds will go to the Downie-Wenjack Fund



With live music from  
Tania Joy &  
Bernadette Connors  
from 3-5 pm

