

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 17 No. 27

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, July 15, 2021

Getting rid of a green light • Heading to Tokyo • Roxy returns



A BACKYARD OASIS - Dennis Campeau, centre (in hat), chats with Nella Fiedler, left, and Joan Pett during the 25th Annual Gardens of Uxbridge tour, which was held on Saturday. Campeau's entirely self-constructed garden, located in the Coral Creek subdivision on the east side of town, was one of eight properties featured around the township. Tour organizers (from the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario) say over 300 tickets were sold for this year's tour.

Photo by John Cavers

Leaskdale Loop puts businesses, artists on the map

by Justyne Edgell

The small businesses of Leaskdale have come together to form the "Leaskdale Loop," a map that connects and promotes all the entrepreneurs in the tiny Uxbridge hamlet.

"They say 'it takes a village'. In this case, the village of Leaskdale has banded together to help promote our collection of small businesses," said Patricia Cherrie, owner of Greenmantle Pottery and one of the originators of the idea for the Leaskdale Loop.

Cherrie and her neighbour, Lisa Anttila, owner of Concession 6 Studio, say they had the idea a few years ago to join forces with some of the other local businesses to support one another.

"There are so many of us individually trying

to attract people to come to our slightly out of the way locations, and it turned out that almost all of them were either already carrying at least one other person's products and/or thinking about trying to find ways to collaborate and cross-promote," said Anttila.

As the pandemic lockdown was lifted, the business owners had their first outdoor meeting. They came up with the name "Leaskdale Loop" and had the idea to create a map that would help link up the various businesses.

"We all reached out to our other contacts in the area to see if there was more interest, and quickly ended up with 16 participants for the map, and two others pending," said Anttila.

The Leaskdale Loop includes businesses like Pefferlaw Creek Farms, Banjo Cider, Rooster's Fries, Nancy Newman Textiles, and many more

(see map on page 6).

While the individual businesses have their own opening hours, they are all trying to be open at the same hours for at least one day a month, and have ideas for future seasonal events in which they would all participate together. Visitors to the Leaskdale Loop are encouraged to check the specific opening hours for the various locations.

"The entrepreneurs involved in our group are enthusiastic, hard working and incredibly generous with their talents," said Cherrie. "Everyone was so supportive of the idea when we approached them. And with COVID hopefully under control, we think the timing is perfect to kick off this initiative."

...continued on page 7

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Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for July, 2021

Thursday, July 15

9:00 a.m.

TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 20

7:00 p.m.

BIA BOARD - POSTPONED

Wednesday, July 21

3:00 p.m.

AGE FRIENDLY COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
MEETING

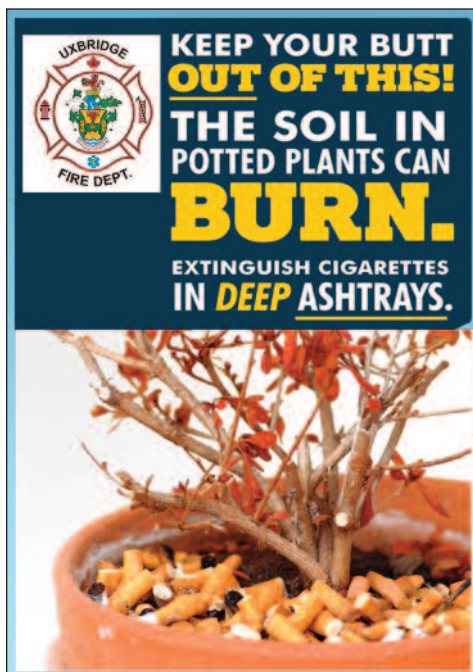
Tuesday, July 26

6:00 p.m.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND
TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Closures

- Lane restrictions on Brock Street East from Nelkydd Lane to Regional Highway 47 will be in effect until the end of August, 2021 as the Region is installing underground services.
- The sidewalk adjacent to the Public Library on Toronto St. may be closed on July 19 and 20 as workers install scaffolding. The Public is asked to use the lower level entry to the Library.
- Victoria Street will be closed each Sunday (7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) from Brock St. W. to King St. W., from May to October due to the Farmer's Market.



Employment Opportunities

Details of all current positions are available at www.uxbridge.ca/careersUxbridge Library – Part-time Library Assistant– Closes **July 25, 2021**Uxbridge Library – Part-time Student position – Closes **August 6, 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.

July-September 2021

Notice of Road Closure



Planks Lane from 3rd Ave. S. to Franklin Street is closed except for local traffic. Sidewalks are also closed.

Ongoing road work is occurring in this area.



WALK-IN spots available for Durham Region residents 18+ until July 19

No appointment necessary - 1st dose only - Moderna vaccine

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TOWN HALL

by Roger Varley

Notes from the July 12

Council Meeting

Red light for the green light? A recommendation from Judy Risebrough, chair of the Uxbridge Downtown Revitalization Committee, that the advance green signal at the intersection of Brock and Toronto Streets be eliminated had councillors in something of a quandary on Monday.

Risebrough's recommendation was one of three she made in a report to council designed to discourage heavy trucks, specifically gravel trucks, from travelling through the downtown area. Another recommendation was that council approve the installation of truck by-pass signs to divert truck traffic from the urban area.

Mayor Dave Barton, while stating that truck traffic is affecting downtown businesses, said council needs "to think things through" but also needs to take action. Councillor Pam Beach offered that she is glad people are talking about the idea but "we need to continue the conversation." Regional Councillor Gord

Hihet said there should be more investigation before removing the advance green signal, adding that regional staff were "quite surprised" that Uxbridge was considering its removal.

Fire Chief Phil Alexander said removing the advance green could lead to traffic tie-ups at the intersection, with traffic waiting to make a left turn onto Toronto Street, and that could delay firefighters on their way to the fire station to respond to calls.

Nevertheless, after making a slight amendment, council agreed to Risebrough's recommendations. Clerk Debbie Leroux said the next step is for the township to petition the region to remove the advance green or suggest other options.

Days may be numbered for noisy vehicles: Council considered a resolution passed by the town of Ajax calling on the provincial government to clamp down on vehicles with modified exhaust systems by setting decibel levels and increasing penalties for those who exceed the level.

The Ajax resolution noted that the Highway Traffic Act says "no person shall use a muffler cut-out, straight exhaust, gutted muffler, Hollywood muffler, by-pass or similar device upon a motor vehicle," yet the act of modifying an exhaust system of a motor vehicle is not currently an of-

fence under the act. The town said it is receiving an increasing number of complaints about vehicles with noisy exhaust systems.

Councillor Bruce Garrod said the township should take a closer look at coming up with a similar resolution in Uxbridge.

School buses to travel dead-end roads: The mayor pulled back a proposed resolution concerning school buses travelling on cul-de-sacs and dead-end roads after telling council he had



persuaded provincial officials to require school buses to pick up students at their homes on such roads.

Currently, the Durham School Transportation System does not allow school bus drivers to enter dead-end roads and instead requires students to walk to the nearest bus stop, sometimes located on busy

highways. The proposed resolution asked that Durham school bus drivers be allowed to make three-point turns on dead-end roads.

However, Barton said that in a recent meeting with the provincial ministry of transportation and several small-town mayors, he asked the province to mandate that students be picked up at their homes.

"They made exactly the changes I asked for," he said, noting that township vehicles have no problem turning on dead-end roads. He said the Durham school board was the only school board not to allow three-point turns.

Elgin Park could have a new look: In a report to council, treasurer Donna Condon recommended that the township apply for a grant under the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) to revitalizing Elgin Park "to become more inclusive, accessible and safe."

She said the fund would provide 75 per cent of funding for such projects. If the application is successful, the funds could be used to bring in the proposed Uxbridge Lions universal playground as well as updating, winterizing and heating the accessible washroom, replace the picnic shelter, completing a walkway lighting project and installing a "path of inclusion" with a series of flag poles

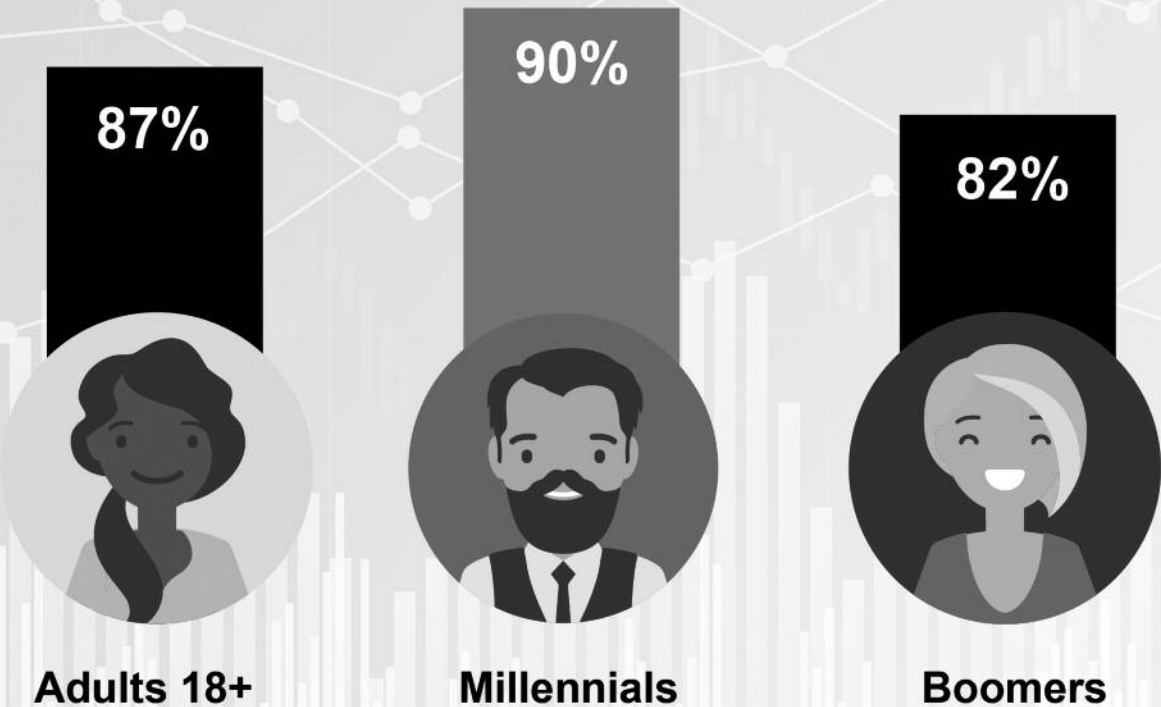
representing the diversity of Uxbridge.

Her report led councillors to discuss whether work should be done on the utility building at Veterans Memorial Park on the northeast corner of Elgin Pond with suggestions ranging from using it as a snack bar or bait shop or even rent it out to private enterprise.

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NEED TO REACH MILLENNIALS?

New survey results show that **nine out of ten** Millennials read newspapers weekly in print or digital formats.



Results are sourced from a November 2020 national online research survey managed by Totum Research. Interviews were conducted with 855 English and French Canadians in every province, and results were weighted to be nationally representative.

Our two cents

Putting small town Ontario on the map

While hanging out in a luscious rural garden as part of the Gardens of Uxbridge Tour on Saturday morning, we learned of a fabulous initiative going on in Leaskdale, kicking off this weekend. Hailed as the “Leaskdale Loop,” it’s a new way for this little hamlet to make its mark and bring not only tourists from out of town but even some locals to check out places they may not know about.

Did you, for example, know about the Hulshof Farm Market? Had you heard of Foraged Floral Design? You may have heard of Rooster’s Fries, but have you actually tasted them? (we haven’t, and are told we are missing out on the treat of a lifetime).

Leaskdale (and please note, it’s LEASK-dale, not LEAKS-dale. That’s a pet peeve for those who live there!) does already have a fairly substantial claim to fame with the Lucy Maud Montgomery Manse and Historic Leaskdale Church. But we think it’s an awesome idea to give those who visit the manse and the church even more to do. Visit artists’ studios, nosh on yummy vittles, stop by a farm market or two and pick up fresh produce - sounds like the perfect day, to us.

If you live here and have never taken the time to really visit Leaskdale, we suggest you set aside some time this Saturday, explore the Leaskdale Loop, and discover even more of this wonderful township we call home!

Speaking of calling someplace home, we all feel pretty hometown proud when one of our own earns a spot on the Canadian Olympic Team. First Jessica Phoenix, now Haley Hunter Smith (see page 7) - way to go ladies!

However. As much as we truly admire these athletes for the abilities and want to show support for their dreams in every way possible, we do have to admit that Tokyo 2020 isn’t where they should be showcasing their talents and breaking records.

The International Olympic Committee’s president Thomas Bach thinks that Tokyo is “the best-ever prepared city for the Olympic Games.” But only 18.5 per cent of the population there is fully vaccinated. No spectators will be allowed in any of the events. There’s a state of emergency in place in Tokyo until Aug. 22. All signs say there really shouldn’t *be* an Olympic Games this year. We’re more than a little worried about how it’s all going to go down. Athletes are already arriving in Tokyo, so there’s no turning back.

Hopefully everyone gets a gold medal for health and safety.



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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: Ryerson, Letters, June 24 edition

I read with some interest the letter from Dr. Kaitlyn Watson (*Cosmos*, June 24). My distillation of the ideas expressed is that anyone (in this case Ryerson) should be condemned forever and removed from history due to their involvement in initiatives that had adverse consequences. Good intentions are peripheral and should be ignored. The condemnations should not be limited to individuals but applied to entire societies.

In 1789, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, one of the great thinkers in the Age of Enlightenment, inspired the “Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen,” a defining document of Western democracy. The Declaration was one of the sparks that ignited the French Revolution, which peaked with the execution by guillotine and other means of some 40,000 people, most of whom were innocent of any wrongdoing. Using Dr. Watson’s logic, Rousseau and the entire French state should forever be condemned as murderers and Rousseau’s works stricken from history. I doubt that we would be a wiser or more enlightened society as a result.

In 1601, the British Parliament enacted the “Relief Poor Act” which took tax revenues and used them to assist and feed poor, disabled and aged individuals and families. The Act performed adequately, saving thousands from starvation until the early 19th Century. The end of the Napoleonic War and the widespread introduction of mechanization on farms resulted in a tidal wave of homeless, unemployed soldiers, sailors and farm workers who overwhelmed the system. In order to handle the influx and improve efficiency, the now-infamous work-

houses were established. Viewed through a backwards-looking lens with modern sensibilities this was a badly flawed solution to say the least. However, workhouses were not founded on cruelty, racism (or any other -ism) but by the standards of the day they were seen as a humanitarian way of coping with a serious crisis. Charles Dickens and others highlighted numerous problems in the system but their primary goals were awareness and improvement not a broad condemnation of society as a whole.

It seems to me that the lessons of history should be used constructively as a moral compass to help guide society to a better future rather than as a political weapon to be used in the present.

Mike Stones
Uxbridge

Re: Disappointed in Rogers, Letters, June 24 edition

Carol, I feel your pain. I am experiencing the same disappointment with the imposed switch from Compton to Rogers Ignite. As I am unable to receive Bell Satellite due to line of sight issues, I, too, made the switch Dec., 2020.

My bill is higher, channels less, no more TCM (not a flex channel), even though I was told by Compton my bundle and fees would remain the same.

Having all devices now reliant on Uxbridge’s unreliable WiFi connections, the degree of frustration runs high.

Apparently my WiFi connection cannot pass through a wall, so I am paying for two modems where only one works. Rogers’ solution is to disconnect then reconnect the modem. That has become a daily ritual multiple times a day now. At least I don’t have to wait the hour

long on hold call to them.

On a recent call to Rogers, I explained I wanted to go with a lower cost bundle as I only watch six of the channels I am paying \$100+ for, which are continually disrupted by connection problems. They informed me I already had the lowest priced bundle, plus I was getting a monthly \$40 discount, which will be added to my bill come Dec. 2021!

It seems Rogers Ignite is making promises they cannot keep and leaving customers hanging in the wind. Please, Uxbridge council, find a way to ensure that residents are not being ripped off for Wi-Fi and television services in town.

Theresa Pilniuk
Uxbridge

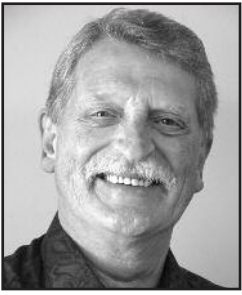
Re: Getting silly, ‘Am I wrong?’, June 24 edition

Yet more insults! I won’t list all the previous insults that have been dumped on First Nations peoples over the centuries, it is too shaming, but now ‘being silly’ has been added by a recent column by Roger Varley.

Perhaps he should consider the renaming of Prince Charles Secondary School in Kootenay district, B.C. from the other end? What possible relevance can it have for the Indigenous people of that area, whose story has been defined by dispossession and land removal, to have a school named after a man whose very existence is defined by possession of massive wealth and land bestowal.

Prince Charles’s property inheritances in the UK make up about 0.22 per cent of the total land mass of the country – an outrageously unequal distribution of resources, and framing him as an old, British,

...continued on page 9



Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Spendthrifts and beggars

I'm sure most of you are aware that Richard Branson has won bragging rights for being the first person to travel into space in his own private spaceship. But I would suggest his claim is as empty as space itself. Sure, his craft did touch the edge of space briefly, allowing him and his passengers to float around in zero gravity for a few minutes, but to claim he travelled in space is akin to someone dipping their big toe in the Pacific and claiming they have conquered the ocean. To my way of thinking, at least one orbit of the earth is required to earn the term "space traveller."

Next in line of multi-billionaire wannabe astronauts is Jeff Bezos, owner of Amazon. And can Elon Musk be far behind? Apparently he's part of this space-race, but has no ambitions to take to the skies himself.

Now think of all the money these self-indulgent wastrels are spending to boost their fragile egos - (and their bottom lines) - and then give a thought to those among us who have to go cap in hand to seek assistance in doing something good for their fellow citizens. Case in point: Mayor Dave Barton and councillors Bruce Garrod and Willie Popp.

On Tuesday, these gentlemen met with Pickering-Uxbridge MP Jennifer O'Connell to talk about all the things they want to do at the seniors' centre to make it a more welcoming and vibrant place for our older residents. The federal government earlier awarded the township just over \$100,000 to put in a fully accessible washroom and, if the money can be stretched a little, make a couple of other changes at the centre. O'Connell was visiting to learn how the changes are coming along.

Then our stalwart councillors took the MP across to Uxpool to chat about all the things that are needed to upgrade the pool and make it more user friendly. After that, the group went to the South Balsam stormwater retention pond to give O'Connell an idea of the work that

needs to be done to rehabilitate the pond. The township has received just under \$1 million from the federal government and about \$800,000 from the province towards the \$2.3 million project.

O'Connell was told how the pond, now full of stagnant water, is a focal point for local residents who stroll along the verdant pathways around it and how they enjoy skating on the pond in winter.

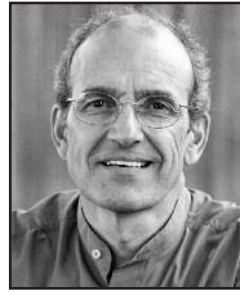
The above-mentioned projects, all aimed at improving the quality of life for township residents, required the township to go to their "rich uncles" to ask, beg, plead for funds. As Garrod, chair of the finance committee, said: "We can't do it on our own."

You will likely never hear those words coming from Branson or Bezos. Indeed, word is that Bezos has a new yacht so large and complex that it requires its own tender vessel to accompany it wherever it goes. Apparently, when you're that rich you have to invent new ways to spend your money. In the case of our local councillors, they have to invent new ways to beg for a few dollars to help their fellow residents.

One has to wonder what kind of opaque bubble these multi-billionaires live in not to see what good they could do for a lot less than it costs them to propel themselves into "space." What cures could be found, how much homelessness could be eradicated, how much hunger could be relieved if these wastrels had a mind to be civic-minded? They should remember that it wasn't the wealth of the nobility that led so many of them to the guillotine during France's Reign of Terror: it was their arrogance.

The next time you find yourself wondering why the township can't do this or fix that or build the other, ask yourself if you have ever purchased something from Amazon. Seems to me, if you have, you're just enabling the spendthrifts.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Power via experience, not gender

It was 1983. Canada's new Constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which had become law the year before, faced an important test. A constitutional conference had assembled then prime minister Pierre Trudeau and Indigenous leaders to debate the incorporation of Indigenous rights. Trudeau seemed frustrated that one Indigenous spokeswoman was not satisfied.

"I wish you and your sisters would take it out of your head that somehow we're deliberately trying to frustrate the concept of equality," Trudeau said. "At least in the law, everybody is assured here that we are not. In a sense, you're equal when you think you're equal. And if you think you're unequal, the law won't change much."

The camera swish-panned to a young woman, whose mother was Inuk, and her father was non-Indigenous. Consequently, under the stipulations of the Indian Act, she had lost her Indigenous status. Mary Simon felt that she and those like her were consequently excluded from the Canadian Constitution.

"Mr. Prime Minister, I consider myself an equal," Simon said unequivocally. "I am an aboriginal representative. ... I feel as people we have an interest and that is our collective and individual rights. And all I'm saying is that as someone that represents both sides, I'd like to see the equality clause once and for all settled."

It took 38 years, but in 2019, partly due to Mary Simon's continued presence and pressure, legislation ensured that Indigenous women received the same recognition under the Constitution as Indigenous men, allowing women to pass along their status to their children and grandchildren. And now two years later, that same champion of Native causes has become Canada's 30th Governor General. But Mary Simon didn't just challenge prime ministers. She has devoted her life to public service, the Arctic, reconciliation and education. She helped negotiate the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement. The first and only Arctic ambassador from Canada at the Arctic Council, she worked with circumpolar nations including the U.S., Russia, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland to protect northern environment. She helped create an Arctic University for Indigenous youth as stewards of the region facing the worst effects of climate change.

"Simon is a true north star capable of shining a path to a more inclusive and better future," wrote one observer.

Coincidentally, last week, members of the Assembly of First Nations voted RoseAnne Archibald as their grand chief. Remarkably dif-

ferent challenges await her as she attempts to build new relationships between the federal and provincial governments and her national Indigenous assembly. In the wake of the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential schools, perhaps no leader commands greater power or importance than the chief of the AFN. Over the next 100 days, Chief Archibald said she plans to focus on the unmarked burial sites, as well as implementing national action on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Like Simon, Archibald has worked for decades on issues - such as inclusive governance and creating safe and healthy workplaces for all - and now gets the chance to implement change.

"It's important that 80 per cent of the chiefs across Canada are men, and they elected me," Archibald said. "That, to me, speaks to the change that is happening, that our brothers understand the importance of creating space."

There will always be the naysayers who insist these roles are encumbered by centuries of tradition, regulation and symbolic power only. How can a Governor General depart from her viceregal chair when she's only the figurehead of state? How can the AFN dictate policy when superseded by the 154-year-old Indian Act? Well, I suggest the same way they have risen to the seats of power at Rideau Hall and around the Assembly of First Nations council table, so will two extraordinary women help to change Canada.

Last week, Governor General appointee Mary Simon was asked how she would serve in a largely apolitical role. She said she recognized there were limitations. But she quickly added, as the Queen's representative, that she was very concerned about relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians.

"We need to stop to fully recognize and memorialize and come to terms with the atrocities of our collective past that we are learning more about each day," she said.

The past decade, Canada has attempted to get at the truth about relationships with Indigenous peoples and to find new ways for reconciling our collective mistakes. So, may the way we are governed change for the better because two extraordinarily capable women now represent the Queen in Canada and Indigenous women at the AFN. Others have had a chance - mostly men - but as the glass ceiling begins to shatter because they willed it so, let's give Mary Simon and RoseAnne Archibald the chance they've truly earned.

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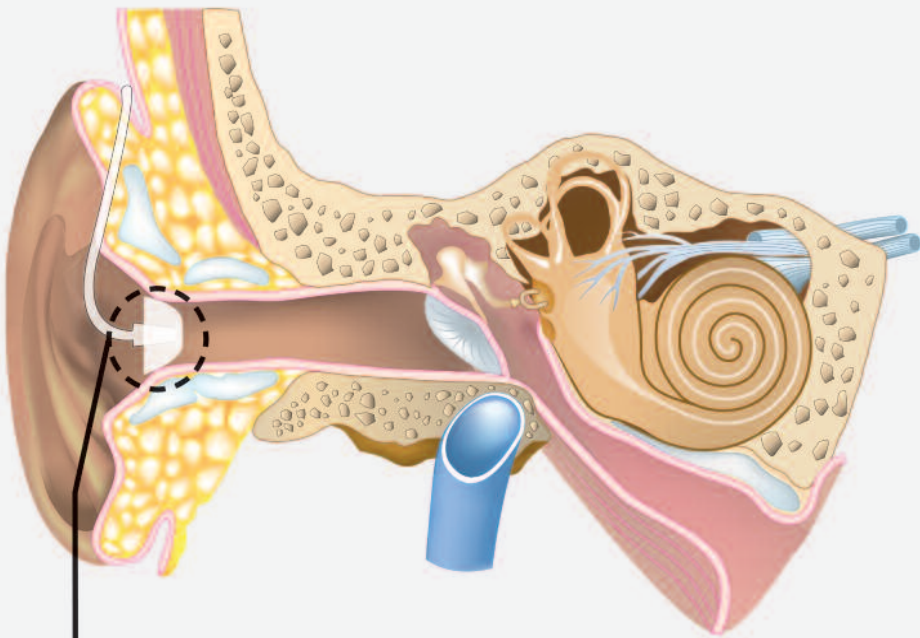
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Youth Centre set for in-person summer fun

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

The Uxbridge Youth Centre (UYC) is gearing up for the province's move to Step 3 by announcing that it's running free outdoor and online events for youth 11 - 18 to enjoy all summer long.

"We're going to be hosting lots of fun activities, such as colorful art projects, messy science experiments, coding workshops, outdoor movie nights, sports days, and much more!" says Dale McKnight, program facilitator for the centre.

The UYC will set up under the pavilion at Herrema Fields (85 Herrema Blvd., Uxbridge) almost every weekday from 12 - 4:30 p.m., weather permitting. A few special events at other locations are planned throughout the summer, as well, such as a geocaching hike and a movie night under the stars.

If it rains, the UYC will still run online programming, including hosting game nights, art challenges, creative writing prompts, at-home science experiment guides, and fun cooking tutorial videos. Those participating in any of the events are asked to keep an eye on the event pages at uxbridgeyouthcentre.com to see where the online and offline programs are taking place.

To claim a spot at one (or more) of the UYC's Summer Fun events, fill out the registration form online. Participants are asked to check out the UYC's safety policies, and everyone is required to complete a "passed" screening result and wear a mask in order to attend in-person events.

Starting next week the outdoor programme is as follows: Monday, July 19 - Make It Monday. At this arts and crafts workshop, participants will create a bird feeder from popsicle sticks. Tuesday, July 20, is Sports Day Tuesday. This is a free, drop-in, casual sports program, and youth are invited to drop by and participate in whatever game is going on at the moment, whether it's soccer, blowing bubbles or playing an outdoor board game. July 21 is Wacky Wednesday, which involves all kinds of science experiments; this particular day, participants will make their own lava lamp. On Thursday, July 22, youth interested in Coding & Circuits are invited to join beginner-friendly

coding tutorials on Raspberry Pi systems. Finally, on Friday, July 23, at What's Cooking Friday, design and eat your dream cupcake!

To register, visit uxbridgeyouthcentre.com



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7. Thunder Ridge Bison
8. Banjo Cider



9. Foraged Floral Design
10. Concession 6 Studio
11. Greenmantle Pottery
12. Pepperlaw Creek Farms
13. Tindall Farm & Market
14. Leaskdale Country Store
15. Rooster's Fries
16. Francis Muscat Glass Art

Second Uxbridge athlete named to Canadian Olympic team

by Justyne Edgell

Another Uxbridge athlete is headed to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Mountain biker Haley Hunter Smith heads to Tokyo in just a few short weeks to join the Canadian Olympic team as it goes for gold!

Smith grew up in Uxbridge, dancing, playing hockey and loving anything outdoors. It wasn't actually until she was in high school that she got introduced to mountain biking by her dad and brother, who used to do 24-hour relay events.

"My first race was actually as a member of the high school relay team; I was in eighth grade, but my brother's team needed a girl in order to enter and there weren't any on the high school team," recalls Smith. "I had only ever ridden a bike on dirt a few times, but the deal was that I would get to skip a day of school to do the race if I went. So, twist my arm, I went!"

Smith said that she was quite quick right off the bat but was lacking the technical skills, which she says "made the sport both incredibly frustrating and addicting at the same time."

After her first foray on the bike, Smith says she had to take a bit of a mental health break from all sports, but picked mountain biking right back up midway through high school. She has now been competing internationally for 10 years.

Smith says the past year has definitely had its struggles. Along with facing the uncertainty of the upcoming Olympic season, Smith says her mental health took a bit of a hard hit this year, and she actually found herself in a place of crisis.

"It's hard to put into words the level of stress I experienced because of that. But I'm feeling better now than I have in a long time and I'm really looking forward to getting to Tokyo!"

Along with her world class mountain biking, Smith is also a Cam's Kids Ambassador, advocating for mental health and in youths. Cam's Kids is a local organization that provides support to young people struggling with anxiety.

Smith says that after working towards this for the past decade, she is very excited to represent Canada on the Olympic stage.

"I can't wait for the moment when I first pull on my Olympic team uniform. My only expectations are that I'll give my best, learn and experience as much as

possible, and give a performance that I can be proud of."

From now until the games, Smith says she will be taking a break from social media; however, she will be sending photos and snippets to her husband, Andrew, who will be posting on her behalf to her Instagram page @Haley-huntersmith.

"I honestly just feel so lucky that I get to live this experience," says Smith. "And it's really only been possible because of the people who have supported me through it all. I am thankful to have grown up in Uxbridge, to be blessed with the family that I have, and to have discovered this sport in the first place."



Uxbridge native Haley Hunter Smith has been chosen to be a part of the Canadian Olympic Team for mountain biking. Photo from haleyhuntersmith.com



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Be a part of the Loop, from page 1

Organizers said they want to encourage people from Uxbridge, the Durham Region and the GTA to come spend the day exploring the unique and diverse vendors all located within a 10 minute drive of one another.

Some businesses are organizing spe-

cial activities, including a Lucy Maud Montgomery-themed children's art show. Concession 5 Studio will collect artwork through July into early August, and hopes to have a show opening that coincides with the township launch of a Lucy Maud driving tour. Rooster's Fries is donating ice cream for children under 12 who submit work.



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4 Summer Teas

August 4th: "100 Years of Rilla of Ingleside"
The LMSO will share interesting details about the life of Montgomery, before and during World War I, that inspired her to write this novel.

August 11th "Slabtown Cider"
This local food producer is a destination for refreshingly crisp craft ciders from 100% Ontario produce (speaker TBA).

August 18th "Sarafino"
Join Angelo Tramonti, certified olive oil taster from Calabria, Italy, for a discussion on the truth about olive oil. You will learn about the different grades of olive oil, how fraudulence in the industry affects the quality and benefits of commercial olive oils and more!

August 25th "The Passionate Cook's Essentials"
With Lisa Hutchinson, owner of The Passionate Cook in Uxbridge, Lisa will speak of her passion for all things food, including top of the line kitchenware, fine foods, and artisan cheese. She will also talk about the evolution of her business.

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Focus on Finance with Tammy Scuralli, Edward Jones

What does an unplanned career transition mean for you?

The COVID-19 pandemic has unsettled the country's employment picture and will likely continue to do so for a while. However, the nature and terminology of this disruption varies greatly among individuals – some have seen their jobs disappear, others have been “furloughed” and still others have been offered an early retirement. If you're in this final group – those either offered, or feeling forced to accept, an early retirement, how should you respond?

Try to look at your situation holisti-

cally, rather than strictly in a short-term manner. Consider four areas.

Retirement: What does retirement really look like to you? Are you ready to fully retire or would you like to work part time? Are you confident that you can work somewhere else for a few years before retiring on your own terms? If you're not certain you can work elsewhere, how can you adjust your desired retirement lifestyle – what you planned to do, where you hoped to live, etc. – to meet your new reality?

Income: just how financially affected you'll be from an early retire-

ment depends on several factors: how much you've already saved and invested, whether you're married and have a working spouse, whether you've paid off your mortgage, and so on. In any case, though, you'll need to answer several questions, including these: Do I need to start taking withdrawals from my Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) and my Registered Retirement Savings Account (RRSP)? If so, how much can I afford to take out each year without running the risk of outliving my resources? Should I adjust my current investment mix? If I haven't yet started collecting my Canada Pension Plan (CPP)/Quebec Pension Plan (QPP), should I do so now, or

can I afford to wait until my monthly payments will be bigger? Are there any other sources of income I can leverage? You may want to work with a financial professional to address these and other key income-related issues.

Insurance: if you received health insurance through your employer, an early retirement could present you with a dilemma. As an alternative, you might be able to negotiate an extended severance package, which could provide you with health insurance for several months. Or, you might be able to get on the health insurance plan of your working spouse.

Legacy: many people want to take care of their family while they're alive

– and leave something behind when they're gone. If you take an early retirement, you might lose your employer's group life insurance. Of course, if this plan was not sufficient, you may have already supplemented it with your own policy, but, if you haven't, you may need to shop around for some coverage, particularly if you have children still at home. You also may want to take this opportunity to review your key financial accounts to make sure your beneficiary designations still accurately reflect your wishes.

Going through an unplanned career transition is certainly challenging. But looking closely at the four areas described above, and making the appropriate moves, may help you reduce some of the stress and can put you in a better position to start the next phase of your life.

This column, written and published by Edward Jones, Member Canadian Investor Protection Fund, presents general information only. Insurance and annuities are offered by Edward Jones Insurance Agency (except in Quebec).

For more information, please contact Tammy E. Scuralli, Financial Advisor at Edward Jones, at 905-852-1244.

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Foster Memorial Cemetery Decoration Service 2021

Due to COVID-19, the service in the mausoleum on July 18th is cancelled.

The Virtual Service will be available at
www.fostermemorial.com
on/or before **Sun. July 18, 2021.**

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Tom Cullen

Rev. Cullen can be heard Sundays at 8am on
“Hope Today” on 105.5 Hits FM and on YouTube.

Music: “Reflections”

When on the grounds, please remember your mask and keep two metres of distance from others. Thank You.

For any assistance or to make a donation please email
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Letters, from page 4

white guy is rather missing the point of him. The point of Prince Charles is to be a living embodiment of an aristocracy that believes some should have inherited wealth and land and others should not. We might all have an 'interest in farming and architecture' if we had received from birth massive amounts of both categories.

Cultural genocide is not just removing an existing culture, but forcibly imposing another in its place. Renaming the school Creston Valley Secondary School makes perfect sense when looked at from that point of view.

*Fly Freeman
Uxbridge*

Re: Gardens of Uxbridge Tour a success

Our 25th Anniversary Gardens of Uxbridge Tour was an outstanding success!

Kudos to the eight generous homeowners who made sure their fabulous gardens were looking their very best, and opened them to the public for the day. They all had the reward of listening to the compli-

ments and glowing comments.

Thank you to our sponsors, who helped us along the way: Schell Lumber, Hickling Pools and Spas, Douglas Crossing, Wel Done Landscaping, Betz Pools, and Dr. Vi Tu Banh.

We were glad to welcome Native Plants of Claremont to be part of the tour. Many visitors enjoyed that part of their visit.

Many thanks to over 70 volunteers who cheerfully followed the COVID-19 protocol: restricting numbers in gardens, encouraging sanitizing, and greeting and directing people through the gardens.

And we are especially grateful to whoever was in charge of the weather in Uxbridge on July 10, 2021. It couldn't have been better!

*For The Lucy Maud Montgomery
Society Garden Tour Committee
Barb Pratt*

Re: UMST Rising Stars 2021

On June 28, the Uxbridge Music Scholarship Trust (UMST) launched its first virtual video concert. These have been trying times, and although it took a year to come to terms with the effects social distancing has on musical interaction, not performing was not an option.

Music is, as MC Ted Barris eloquently pointed out, a fundamental form of human expression. It is a basic need and extremely important to human development, and giving our young people a safe place to spread their performance wings is one of the UMST mandates.

Kudos to the team, as it was a success, according to the Douglas Crossing viewing event on Monday evening. The applause was spontaneous and grateful, just as at a live concert.

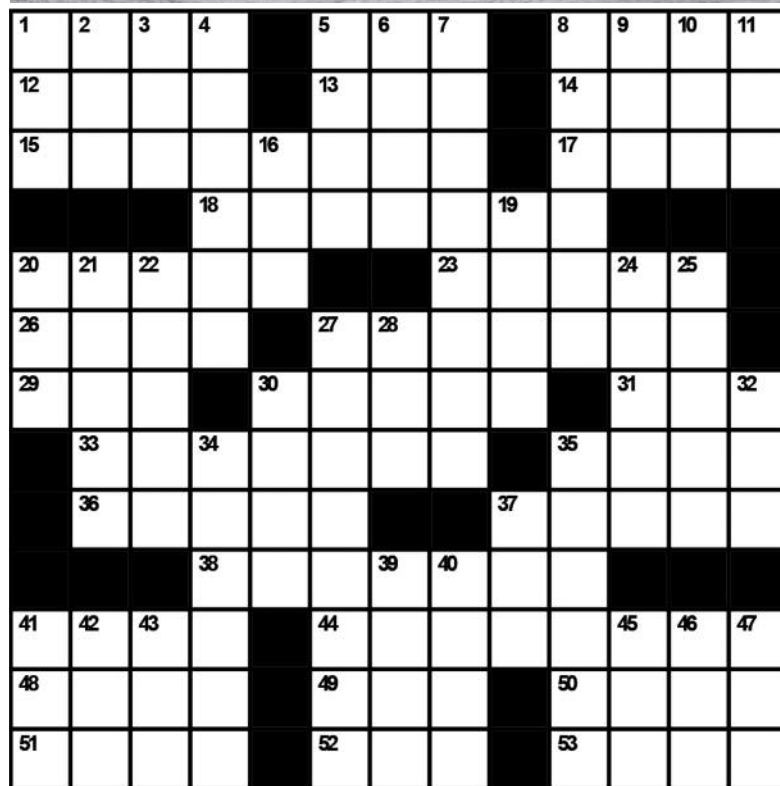
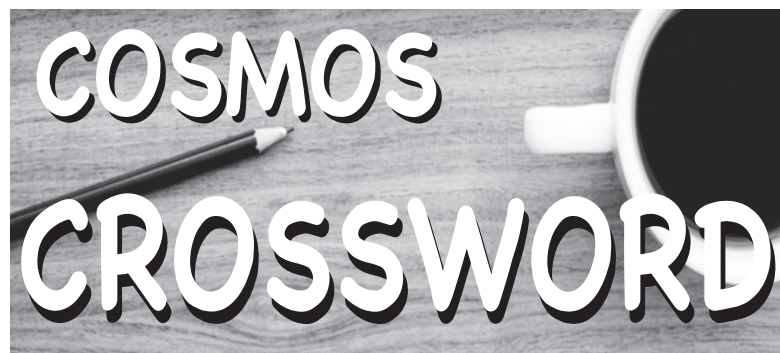
Thank you very much for the donations from the Douglas Crossing residents.

The video is now public and available on YouTube until September 30 at youtu.be/Ebv1OqTRHFI. If you are inclined to make a donation, please visit uxbridgemusic-scholarshiptrust.com

The UMST thanks the performers who worked hard to prepare concert-ready material.

The UMST also thanks the Optimist Club, which contributed a substantial sum. The UMST is grateful for all the contributions from the many service clubs and corporations that have supported it throughout its 23 years.

*Kathy Normandeau
UMST Chair*

**Across**

- 1 Cat's scratcher
- 5 Madam sheep
- 8 Snoozing
- 12 Unthought-out
- 13 Mont Blanc, e.g.
- 14 Therefore
- 15 Represented
- 17 Prompts unpleasantly
- 18 Office wear, perhaps
- 20 Perform penance
- 23 In abeyance (2 words)
- 26 Creative
- 27 Traveled on snow
- 29 Shack
- 30 Dictation whiz
- 31 Razor-billed ____
- 33 Half woman half fish
- 35 Spore bearing containers
- 36 Not humble
- 37 Spruce up
- 38 Work up
- 41 S.A tubers
- 44 Courtesy
- 48 Family member
- 49 .001 inch, for short
- 50 Stage solo
- 51 Singer, Alicia
- 52 Ethan Hunt, for one
- 53 Actor Green of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"

Down

- 1 Computer monitor, for short
- 2 Nonprofessional person
- 3 Cleopatra's undoing
- 4 Neigh
- 5 Heroic
- 6 Half a fortnight
- 7 From first to last (3 words)
- 8 Poem by Virgil
- 9 Lingerie item
- 10 Grade A item
- 11 ____ and don'ts
- 16 Doctor's charge
- 19 ____ China
- 20 Expression of delight
- 21 The "Donald"
- 22 Aquatic mammal
- 24 Stop
- 25 Draw out
- 27 Sports areas
- 28 Garland
- 30 Complacent
- 32 Siblings
- 34 Coffees
- 35 Spheres
- 37 Mom-and-pop grp. for short
- 39 Cause to fall
- 40 With competence
- 41 Furniture tree
- 42 Pool tool
- 43 One or more
- 45 Incense
- 46 Small songbird
- 47 Exclamation of impatience

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If interested please contact **Sally Kotsopoulos • sallykprodev@gmail.com**



Uxbridge & Area Networking Group

Congratulations to the Uxbridge Music Scholarship Trust for successfully launching its first virtual video concert.

Enjoy the 2021 Rising Stars Concert by visiting youtu.be/Ebv1OqTRHFI

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Life returns to Uxbridge as Roxy plans reopening

by Justyne Edgell

The Roxy theatre is making its post-pandemic come-back, opening next Friday, July 23, with double matinees as a special opening day feature!

“We are way beyond excited to be opening again,” says Cathy Christoff, owner of The Roxy. “We have been planning this for months and were caught a bit by surprise at the recent government announcement last Friday, so efforts are being accelerated as we speak!”

Christoff says the exact movie choices won't be known until next Monday, which will be the North American movie booking day, but she is hoping to get *Boss Baby 2*, *Quiet Place 2*, *F9*, and possibly one other film.

“Four different movies to offer our very patient and loyal patrons!”

Christoff says the theatre will have a limited number of patrons based on social distancing and up to 50 per cent capacity. Show times will be staggered to allow for easy traffic flow through the front-of-house concession and into the theatres.

A new online booking feature will also be opening on The Roxy's website, along with regular ticket booth sales, depending on the volume booked online.

“We are hoping, fingers crossed, to have online ticket sales and concessions available by July 23 or sooner but it might take a bit longer to set up,” says Christoff.

To help ensure a safe environment for both customers and employees, plexiglass barriers have been installed at the concession counter and the ticket booth.

“Fortunately, we already were quite “tidy” before COVID (yes, I am a clean freak!). So extra sanitizing won't be as much of a chore other than sanitizing between shows in the seating areas instead of just picking up garbage,” says Christoff.

The Roxy has a target to be open seven days and nights a week, as the regular schedule for a non-pandemic summer

season.

“We also have a few surprises for our patrons too,” says Christoff with a sly grin. “But I have to save that for another update...”

Lamont, Keith

Passed away peacefully at Mackenzie Health on Monday, June 21, 2021, in his 86th year. Loving husband of Joan for 61 years. Dedicated father to Diane (Fred), David (Christina) and Lorraine (John). Proud grandfather to Natasha (Sam), Cameron (Lindsay), Bradley (Adriana), Benjamin, Victoria, Caitlin, Rebecca and Patrick. Great-grandfather to Blake, Berkeley and Asher. Keith is survived by his siblings Joseph and Lynn, and brothers-in-law John Simmons (Elaine) and Alec MacDonald. He is predeceased by his parents Turner and Irene and his siblings Jean, George, Wilmer and Eleanor.

Cremation has taken place, and a service to celebrate the life of Keith will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2021, at the Low and Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Uxbridge (905-852-3073). In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Keith may be made to the Trinity United Church. Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca



James Horace Edgar Hird

March 6, 1944 -
July 3, 2021



Jim, a lifelong resident of Uxbridge, passed away peacefully in his 77th year at the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. He will be deeply missed by his family and many friends.

Jim will be fondly remembered for his passions over the years and for always being willing to lend a helpful hand. He enjoyed woodworking, skating, golfing, biking, cheering on hockey & baseball, and his Tim Horton's daily social. His greatest passion was his love for custom hot rods and vintage classics. Jim was well known for his involvement with the Uxbridge Cruise-In, which gave him an opportunity to proudly show off his own 1978 Dodge Lil' Red Express.

Jim should be so proud of his lifelong accomplishments and friendships made along the way. We all love and miss you dearly, Jim. We hope you are cruising along in peace.

Many thanks to Uxbridge Cottage Hospital and Markham Stouffville Hospital doctors and staff.

Jim's wishes were Cremation and a Celebration of Life. Jim will be laid to rest alongside his predeceased father (Horace James Hird), his mother (Marion Norene Hird), and his grandparents at Quaker Cemetery in Uxbridge (to be announced).

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge, L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073). In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in memory of Jim may be made to the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital or a charity of your choice.



Graeme Melcher

January 11, 1989 - July 10, 2021

Devoted husband of Kate Icely, beloved son of Nancy and Mark Melcher, adored son-in-law of Nancy and Peter Icely.

Graeme was a remarkable young man and he accomplished much in his 32 years. He was many things: bright - earning three university degrees; intelligent - with a lightning-fast wit and quirky sense of humour; creative - as a member of successful competitive improv teams; loyal - he was a powerful and cherished friend; curious - always building things; well-read, and a published author and poet.

He grew up in Uxbridge and attended the gifted program in Port Perry, making life-long friends. He was a fixture at Blue Heron Books, working part-time there for 6 ½ years. In high school he played rugby, was very active in the drama department, and enjoyed performing on electric bass in “Peapods Blues Review” and “Eleven.”

He followed his grandfather's advice, attending different universities (Queen's, York, Dalhousie), while pursuing higher education. In addition to his regular academics, Graeme studied overseas twice (Herstmonceux Castle, Lund University), tutored inmates at Kingston Penitentiary, played bass in the Queen's Players' band, and wrote for and served as editor of Queen's Golden Words newspaper. This was where he met Kate, the love of his life.

Upon completion of his law degree, he articulated with Bennet Jones LLP in Toronto. Called to the bar in 2018, he joined The Supreme Cannabis Company. In early 2021 he moved to McKesson Canada.

Graeme was an accomplished actor and musician, performing with local community theatre companies. He balanced work and play through his love of music and supported his friends who pursued music as a career, sometimes joining them onstage for a few songs. He was an active person, enjoying mountain biking, snowboarding, hiking, kayaking and canoeing at the cottage.

Graeme leaves behind his wife, parents, in-laws, extended family and myriad friends. We are devastated by his sudden death - a parent's worst nightmare come true. In lieu of flowers, please make a generous donation to Graeme's preferred charity, the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Foundation, in his memory. A celebration of his life will be held at a future date. We are grateful to the staff of St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton EMS and the good samaritans who helped Graeme.

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