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A dark grey Mazda CX-9 SUV is shown from a front-three-quarter view, driving towards the right. The car's headlights are illuminated, and it has motion blur in the background, suggesting speed. The car is positioned in the center-right of the frame.

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A photograph of the Whitby Mazda dealership building, which is a modern structure with large glass windows and a blue sky above.

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The official Mazda logo, consisting of a stylized 'M' inside an oval.

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The official Mazda logo, consisting of a stylized 'M' inside an oval, with the word 'mazda' written in lowercase below it.

\* Mazda CX-9 All-In Price (QVSM86-AA00) includes freight and PDE. OTS (\$29.20), PPSS, OMVIC (\$10), Air tax (\$100), HST and licensing are extra where applicable. Dealer Trade may be necessary while quantities last. Visit [WhitbyMazda.com](http://WhitbyMazda.com) or [whitbymazda.com](http://whitbymazda.com) for details.



## Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson*

# The photo's a turnoff - but we beat Vaughan



With more than a modicum of pride we can now boast about living in Ontario's best city to do business. So states profitguide.com, which Travis Fortnum has written about on this page.

It's no piffling honour. Given Whitby's, and especially Brooklin's, expected growth, more business in the region is good for everyone. This includes pubs, coffee franchises and local newspapers.

The site includes the requisite soporific economic stats prospective businesses revel in. Here's one: Our peak electricity cost for mid-size industrial business, in \$/kWh, is 0.1210. I had no idea. It even references Brooklin's Secondary Plan.

To help identify each city, profitguide.com includes photos of each one. Let's keep in mind none of the places on the list is home to an iconic visual like the CN Tower (Toronto didn't make the cut) or Montreal's cross atop Mount Royal (Montreal also didn't make it). Unfortunately the photo selections scream that the list's compilers did some serious groping for effective images.

Whitby's image is of a row of homes next to a power line, on a cloudy day, no less, a dull uninspiring long-shot. Hardly a turn-on for a business looking for a landing pad. If a photo speaks a thousand words, ours mutters just one: Whazzat!? Personally, I would have used one of our pics of Music in the Park. But they didn't ask.

Number one city, Grande Prairie, has an image of a street scene that, given all the flags, might've been on Canada Day. Then again, it also could've been on Canada Day in Churchill

Falls or Victoria or Halifax or, yes, Brooklin. Edmonton (No. 2) shows people frolicking in a downtown wading pool. What, the statue of Mister Gretzky wasn't iconic enough? Lethbridge (No. 4) has a photo of a huge sign that says "Welcome to Lethbridge," which seems redundant.

Most importantly, Whitby is the first community east of Manitoba to make the list. Vaughan is right behind us though it has more than twice our population. Clearly we're doing more with less.

Here's also why we're ahead of Vaughan: While our photo may be a puzzler, Vaughan's is terrifying. Since Vaughan is home to Canada's Wonderland, profitguide.com chose a shot of the Leviathan roller coaster. This would only be enticing to businesses that manufacture heart medications.

The site also features a line in each description about why businesses should locate to the particular city. For Vaughan, it wrote, "Vaughan is home to the Vaughan International Commercialization Centre, helping local small and medium-sized enterprises adapt technology from abroad for local application, and helping local companies prepare products for export."

Translation: "Vaughan businesses make stuff."

At least the Whitby descriptor gets right to the point. "Location, location, location - come to the crossroads." The omission of Brooklin's Spring Fair must have been a copy editor's oversight.

No matter. They have a year to fix it.

# Whitby Ontario's Number One for Business

By Travis Fortnum  
Special to the Brooklin Town Crier

Whitby is the best city for business in Ontario and seventh in Canada, according to a top 25 list posted last July on PROFITguide.com.

PROFITguide.com is an online source for up-to-date and reliable business information, boasting 30 years of service to the Canadian business world. Its annual list, 'Canada's Best Places for Business', provides a ranking of the top 25 cities across the country. Cities are ranked based on how business-friendly their governments are, balance of costs in the areas, and how the local markets are projected to grow.

The site states that Whitby is seeing a population growth of 1.29 per cent and has nearly 5.5 million people living within a one hour commute. But what does Whitby's high ranking mean for Brooklin, currently home to about 22,000 with expectations of hitting over 56,000 by 2031?

Deputy Mayor Derrick Gleed feels it helps with the town's current plans to grow the presence of business in the community. "It just adds to the fact that Brooklin is a very favourable place to invest money," he says.

In 2014, local government began to develop a vision for the community, referred to as the master plan. That

vision has led to goals, including the creation of a "main-street feel" on Baldwin Street, a range of transportation options, improved traffic flow and more.

"The focus right now is the downtown," says Gleed, "and that hinges on our ability to gain control of Baldwin Street from the province."

Moving forward, Whitby continues to grow its star on the map of Canada with the recent announcement of the expansion of Flanagan Foodservices. This alone will bring over 100 jobs to the area.

"The challenge for Brooklin," says Gleed, "is the fact that when you talk about investment in business, the town of Whitby has more on-stream employment land. This means lands that are on the marketplace right now that corporations can invest in.

"Brooklin will have more employment land coming on-stream as we proceed with the master plan."

With the completion of highway 407, traffic through the area has increased and so has the opportunity for commercial expansion. Although land near the recently expanded highway has not yet become available for marketing, that is only a few years away.

## Time for Your Flu Shot

Flu season is here and Durham Region Health Department is reminding area residents to get their flu shots.

"The flu shot is the most effective way to prevent the spread of the flu," said Bianca Williams, a public health nurse with the Health Department. "By getting the flu shot you're not just protecting yourself, you're also helping to protect those around you, including those who are most vulnerable to the flu."

The flu vaccine is recommended for all Canadians six months and older. The vaccine protects against the influenza virus, also known as the flu, which can cause serious respiratory illness. The vaccine is particularly recommended for individuals considered at high risk of complications including older people, pregnant women, Aboriginal peoples, people with chronic medical problems, and residents in nursing homes and long term care facilities.

"Children under five-years old, especially those who are younger than two, are also at a higher risk of complications from the flu," added Ms. Williams.

The flu virus spreads easily through coughing, sneezing and direct contact with unwashed hands, surfaces, or objects that have been in contact with the flu virus. Ms. Williams



explained that the flu virus can be very contagious, especially among children in child care centres and schools, as children share close quarters in these environments. Children are also more likely to get the flu because their immune systems are not fully developed.

The flu vaccine will be widely available throughout Durham Region through local health care providers. Participating pharmacies will also offer the flu shot to anyone over the age of five. New this year, the Health Department will be offering flu shot clinics for infants and children six months to five-years old.

To book appointments for infants and children at these clinics, please call Durham Health Connection Line at **905-666-6241** or **1-800-841-2729**.

For more information about the flu or the flu vaccine, visit [durham.ca/flu](http://durham.ca/flu). To find flu shot clinics in Durham Region, visit [ontario.ca/page/flu-clinics](http://ontario.ca/page/flu-clinics).

## Top 10 Best Cities for Business

1. GRANDE PRAIRIE, ALTA.
2. EDMONTON, ALTA.
3. SASKATOON, SASK.
4. LETHBRIDGE, ALTA.
5. HIGH RIVER, ALTA.
6. WINNIPEG, MAN.
7. WHITBY, ONT.
8. VAUGHAN, ONT.
9. MOOSE JAW, SASK.
10. BURLINGTON, ONT.



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Editor, Richard Bercuson

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Next Issue: Friday, December 2, 2016

Deadline: Friday, November 25, 2016





# As Good As Gold!

Melanie Stelatos, profiled in our Oct. 21 issue, captured three medals at the 2016 IDO World Ballet, Jazz and Modern Championships in Germany. Her golds came in the Children’s Ballet Formation, Children’s Ballet Small Group, and Children’s Jazz Formation competitions. She also finished 6th and 11th in two children’s modern categories. Her mother, Krista, thanks her Team Canada choreographers Christie McKay (jazz), Irina Egorova (ballet), and Kathrine McCarthy (modern) for their instruction and choreography. “Melanie thoroughly enjoyed her first experience dancing on a world stage,” says Krista. Melanie will perform with her studio, Hoofers Performing Arts, in their upcoming Christmas ballet production of *Swan Lake*, at Bowmanville High School on Nov. 26 and 27. For tickets, please visit [www.onstagedirect.com/hoopers](http://www.onstagedirect.com/hoopers).

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## Our Brooklin Kids By Leanne Brown



# How do I explain this election to my child?

At SK graduation, when asked what she wanted to be when she grew up, my daughter proudly said, "Prime Minister."

"Awesome!" I said. "Maybe you can be Canada's first elected female Prime Minister." (Kim Campbell was appointed, not elected.) After discussing there'd had never been a female leader, she asked if there had ever been a "girl president."

"Not yet" I explained "But maybe someday soon."

When she realized Hillary Clinton was on track to become the first female president, her interest in politics piqued. Like many families in Canada, this presidential campaign became a discussion topic. We talked about the candidates and the campaign and how Hillary Clinton might become the first female president.

The morning after, she woke up and asked who won. I was faced with the tough job of telling her the results. When I told her Trump had won, I tried to keep my disappointment under wraps. I also explained how many of the people who voted for him are

struggling to care for their families. Many feel Trump may bring about the changes they think are needed to make things better.

She looked at me quizzically and then asked, "But he's a bully. Why did the bully win?"

I was at a loss for words. For the last little while, I've been talking with her about how some of the things Trump believes in aren't what she shouldn't model herself on. This now makes for a tough conversation to have.

From her innocent perspective, I could see why she saw him as a bully. We hold our leaders to a higher standard than the one put forth by a candidate who used people's worst fears and prejudices to sway opinions. Trump is loud, opinionated, and uses fear to promote his ideas, without listening to others' opinions. In many ways, he is like the playground bully. When you see a man who doesn't necessarily embody Canadian ideals of diversity and acceptance, finding a way to explain racism and gender inequality and the fear of diversity, can be challenging.

Hillary Clinton wasn't without her own

controversy. But as a parent who had hoped she would make history, it was especially hard to tell my daughter that even though there was a good strong candidate to break the glass ceiling, she didn't win. Clinton herself even her disappointment during her concession speech, sending a message to young women.

"Someday," she said, "someone will crack that glass ceiling. To all the little girls who are watching this, never doubt that you are valuable and powerful and deserving of every chance and opportunity in the world to pursue and to achieve your own dreams."

In the end, my husband and I decided to reinforce how every vote matters and that being popular doesn't always mean you win. We pointed out that while Trump won the election, he doesn't rule the United States. Just like in a family, people don't always agree. Yet by working together, we can make sure everyone's opinion and needs are heard. It takes a large group of people to make decisions. Making and enforcing rules is never based on one person's ideas.

After pondering all this, my daughter said, "It's like (at school); everyone gets a turn to be the star student. But it doesn't mean you can be bossy. Everyone matters."

It's your turn to be the star student, Mr. Trump. Show us what you can do!



## A Brooklin Toddler's Random Thoughts

"Nobody pooped on the potty today."

## Community Calendar

If you have a community not-for-profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to [editorofBTC@gmail.com](mailto:editorofBTC@gmail.com) with the subject line "calendar." Priority will be given to Brooklin events. Some editing may occur.

**Sun., Nov. 20:** Mt. Zion United Church annual Turkey Dinner - two settings: 5:00 pm or 6:30 pm. Adults \$18.00, children \$5.00. Tickets available from Jones: 905 649-5200 or Taylor: 905 649-3332. Email: [evelynjones02@gmail.com](mailto:evelynjones02@gmail.com)

**Sat., Nov. 26: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** Group 74 and Keller Williams Energy host their 9th Annual Turkey Drive. Our mission is to feed 1800 families a full turkey dinner this holiday season. Drop by the Brooklin Community Centre and help make a family's Christmas special. \$35.00 feeds a family an entire dinner...including all the trimmings and dessert. Dinners may be paid via chq. For more info pls contact [Group74@hotmail.ca](mailto:Group74@hotmail.ca)

**Sat., Nov. 26:** Group 74's Santa's Snowman Workshop Tickets now on sale on-Line! This year's theme is "Snowmen" and we look forward to welcoming all of our Snowmen-in-Training. Tickets usually sell out quickly - be sure to sign up for the morning or afternoon session. Tickets are \$20.00 per child and adult admis-

sion is a donation to the Salvation Army Food bank. <https://whitby.snapd.com/#/events/view/994824> Visit our Facebook page to see the exciting things your children will be experiencing. <https://www.facebook.com/Group74/> Our Charities of Choice for this event are: Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre and Salvation Army Food Drive. Contact us at [Group74@hotmail.ca](mailto:Group74@hotmail.ca) if you have questions.

**Sun., Nov 27, 7:00 pm:** Brooklin Pub Quiz Night \$15.00 per person gets you a platter of wings and fries and a mug of beer. Teams of 4-8 people, 6 is best. Winning team receives a \$10.00 per person gift certificate to return to the Pub another day. Hints are: 1. Adams Family 2. Toronto Santa Claus Parade, (history) Any questions please call/text Carolyn at 905-449-1162. All proceeds go to Pulmonary Hypertension of Canada

**Fri., Sat., Sun., Dec. 2,3,4:** Mt. Zion United Church Craft and Bake Sale with over 30 vendors selling homemade crafts and baking. Free admission and wheelchair accessible. We

accept donations for the food bank and new toys to support families in need. At Mt. Zion Community Centre, 4230 Salem Rd. For more info, email [mtzioncraftsale@gmail.com](mailto:mtzioncraftsale@gmail.com)

**Sat., Dec. 3, 2:00 - 7:00 pm:** Ritson Rd Alliance Church, Oshawa. Brooklinites Jessica Berube and Brittany King join fellow musical artists Daniel Richter, Jessica Thompson, and Brieonna Locche with songs and musical theatre. \$10 per ticket. For more information: [www.universe.com/musiquedelanuit](http://www.universe.com/musiquedelanuit)

**Mondays 6:30-7:00 pm:** French Family Storytime: Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join Madame Sue for our weekly French Family Storytime! Enjoy a half hour of stories and songs in French, with a dash of English too! Registration is not required. Just drop in! LOCATION: Central Library - Children's Program Room

**Tuesdays:** Brooklin Toastmasters, 7:15 pm for Meet & Greet, Meeting from 7:20 to 9:14 pm at the Brooklin Community

Centre & Library, 8 Vipond Road, 2nd floor Boardroom. For more information, contact John at 905-683-4439 or [jajhj@sympatico.ca](mailto:jajhj@sympatico.ca) or Loran Weston-Smyth at [lorn@lornawestonsmyth.com](mailto:lorn@lornawestonsmyth.com) or 416-910-4109. Brooklin Toastmasters provides a supportive and positive environment where members have the opportunity to develop their communication and leadership skills.

**Basic Foot Care:** Community Care Durham provides basic foot care services by registered foot care nurses on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. Please call 905-668-6223 for more information.

**Thursday evenings:** Love to sing! The Brooklin United Church adult choir welcomes new voices to join us. Practices are Thursday evenings 7:30 - 9:00 pm. You do not need to read music to be part of the choir. Practice CD's are made available. For more information, please call the church office at 905-655-4141 or by email at [office@brooklinunited.ca](mailto:office@brooklinunited.ca)

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Wednesday 10:00 a.m.  
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**Brooklin United Church**  
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## Brad’s El Camino - Part 3: The shooting star and the Purple Heart

*BTC contributor Brad McIlwain has been documenting his 800 km-plus El Camino de Santiago walk. This is the third installment in the four part series.*

One evening, in the mountain village of Santa Catalina, I was hanging my wet clothes to dry in the courtyard and admiring the Milky Way. A shooting star with a bright golden tail lit up the sky. It was a magical moment and one of many spectacular Camino sights. The shooting star filled me with a sense of wonder for what was ahead.

I was still about 14 days from Santiago but that night, after my walk, I didn’t feel well. I asked one of the staff where I was staying if there was a pharmacy nearby. No, the closest one was in a city two days away, so I settled my stomach with tea and bananas. With another long hike the next day, I needed energy.

A few weeks into my Camino I developed a pain in my right knee. I wore a tensor bandage Graham from Australia had given me before parting in Viana. It helped at first, but as the terrain changed, my knee worsened. One night, during a pilgrim dinner, Liana, whom I met earlier, asked how I was doing. I told her about the knee pain. She’s a physician and distance runner from Albuquerque, New Mexico. She examined my knee and determined it was my medial collateral ligament that was stressed from continuous walking. She taped it and cut some extra strips I could use later. I was grateful for her kindness and friendship.

One memorable thing about walking the Camino is the camaraderie and people offering help, whether it’s sharing supplies, preparing a meal at a hostel, or wishing someone Buen Camino to brighten their day.

You form intense bonds with people you’ve have only known for a short time and although you might not see them for several weeks, suddenly they emerge from a cafe or crowded street corner and it’s like reuniting with a best friend.

In Leon, it was raining and I was exhausted. I was sipping hot chocolate in a shop when I looked up and saw a pilgrim passing by. I recognized the green poncho and rushed to the street. It was Silvia from Italy. Together we walked for three days, exploring abandoned churches and drinking espresso. We had this saying: La vida bella è con il cioccolato. Life is beautiful with chocolate!

The day after Halloween would be a challenging and rewarding day. I’d be climbing to O’Cebreiro, originally an ancient Celtic settlement in the region of Galacia and the highest point on the Camino..

Terry, the U.S. army vet, and I stopped at a roadside bar, about 15 km into our day, for a quick break to talk about our next plan. I ordered us two cafe americanos.

“I have bad news - and more bad news,” Terry said. “Which one do you want first?”

I asked for the bad news.

“It’s going to rain a lot sooner than we thought.”

“What’s the more bad news?”

“We have to climb O’Cebreiro today.”

O’Cebreiro is at about 1,300 meters, I was still tired from my push to Cruz de Ferro two days earlier. It would mean another 15 km up a slope. With inclement weather coming, we had no choice but to try.

We reached the base at about 3 pm. The hills were steep and even the animals seemed to have a hard time. A donkey fell on its side, then quickly pulled itself to its feet like a prize fighter.

When we finally reached O’Cebreiro, it



Brad on his approach to the ancient village of O’Cebreiro.

was dusk and drops of rain began to fall. We got the last room at an inn and shared a single with two double beds. I was thankful for a place to rest.

The room had wood paneling and stone walls. We opened the shutters to reveal a brilliant view of the church, which glowed in the dark.

“I think this is one of my proudest mo-

ments...and the coolest,” Terry said. I knew what an accomplishment it was for him. He’d seen the movie The Way and decided to make it his goal to try and walk again. You see, Terry was wounded in the Iraq war and was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

*Read Brad’s story in the Dec. 2 issue where he describes the completion of his long journey.*

Mayor Don Mitchell and  
members of Council invite you to

## Brooklin’s Christmas in the Village

Friday November 25

6:00–8:00 p.m.

Grass Park  
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Free hot chocolate and  
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## Notice of Public Open House

### Draft Proposed Amendment to the Town of Whitby Official Plan

**Take notice** that, Pursuant to Section 17 and Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended, the Town of Whitby is proposing general amendments to its current Official Plan.

An Official Plan is a policy document that guides land use planning decisions regarding long-term growth and development in a municipality. The Draft Proposed Official Plan Amendment outlines proposed policy and map changes being made through the Town’s comprehensive Official Plan Review. The Amendment applies to all lands within the Town of Whitby, therefore there is no key map. The purpose and effect of the Amendment is to update the Whitby Official Plan to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, and to conform with the Province’s Greenbelt Plan, provincial policy directions, and the Durham Regional Official Plan as well as to propose other general amendments throughout the Official Plan. This Amendment concludes an extensive review and consultation process.

### Public Open House

You are invited to participate by attending the Public Open House.

**Date:** Thursday, December 1, 2016  
**Times:** 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Whitby Municipal Building,  
575 Rossland Road East, Whitby  
**File:** OPA-2007-W/04

The purpose of the Public Open House is to provide the public with an opportunity to review and discuss the Amendment with Town staff in an informal setting. There will be no formal presentations.

### Your Input

If you are not able to attend the Public Open House, there are other ways to participate. Comments can be submitted by:

- Mail: Town of Whitby Planning and Development Department, 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario, L1N 2M8
- Email: [officialplanreview@whitby.ca](mailto:officialplanreview@whitby.ca)
- Fax: 905.668.7812
- Online: [www.whitby.ca/en/residents/yourinput.asp](http://www.whitby.ca/en/residents/yourinput.asp)

### Statutory Public Meeting

A Statutory Public Meeting regarding the Final Recommended Amendment will be held separately at a later date, early in 2017. The meeting will provide an opportunity for Council to receive input from the public and stakeholders, prior to adoption of the Amendment. Once the Amendment is adopted by Whitby Council, it will be forwarded to the Region of Durham for final approval.



### Information and Material

Interested persons are encouraged to review information and material regarding the Amendment, which is available for review at:

- [www.whitby.ca/officialplanreview](http://www.whitby.ca/officialplanreview)
- Planning and Development Department, Whitby Municipal Building, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- Whitby Public Library (all branches)

For more information about the Amendment, including information about preserving your appeals rights, you may contact the Town of Whitby Planning and Development Department by:

- Email: [officialplanreview@whitby.ca](mailto:officialplanreview@whitby.ca)
- Phone: 905.430.4306
- Fax: 905.668.7812

### Public Advisory

If the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or does not make written submissions to the Town of Whitby, before the proposed Amendment is adopted or approved, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of Regional Municipality of Durham to the Ontario Municipal Board and may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

### Notification

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the Amendment by the Town of Whitby, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk, Corporation of the Town of Whitby, 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario, L1N 2M8; [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca).

If you wish to be notified of decision of the Regional Municipality of Durham on the Amendment, you must make a written request to the Commissioner of Planning, Regional Municipality of Durham, 605 Rossland Road East, Box 623, Whitby, Ontario, L1N 6A3; [planning@durham.ca](mailto:planning@durham.ca).

### Collection of Information

Personal information from those that make either an oral or written submission regarding the Amendment is collected under the authority of the Planning Act R.S.O 1990 and the applicable implementing Ontario Regulation, and will become part of the public record for this Amendment.

Questions about the collection of personal information should be directed to the Clerk’s Office, Town of Whitby, 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby, ON L1N 2M8, by calling 905.430.4315, or by email to [clerk@whitby.ca](mailto:clerk@whitby.ca). (Please quote File: OPA-2007-W/04)

Robert B. Short, MCIP, RPP  
Commissioner of Planning  
Corporation of the Town of Whitby



# STOP For Smokers Returns

For many smokers, the cost of nicotine replacement products can be a barrier to quitting. The STOP (Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients) Program workshops offer eligible participants in Durham Region five-weeks of cost-free nicotine replacement therapy and smoking cessation information to help smokers in their quit attempts.

Nicotine replacement therapy has been shown to effectively help people quit smoking by easing withdrawal symptoms. Workshop participants also receive educational material with quit smoking and relapse prevention strategies, along with information to address other unhealthy lifestyle factors that are known to accompany smoking.

A STOP workshop will be held in Whitby on Nov. 21. For more information on the program and to find out if you are eligible to participate in the workshop, call Durham Health Connection Line at **905-666-6241** or **1-800-841-2729**.

The STOP Program is led by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), and is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as part of its Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy.

# Whitby Enhances Health Club Memberships

Whitby Council approved a number of enhancements to Whitby Civic Recreation Complex (CRC) Health Club memberships to encourage families to stay active and increase opportunities for active living.

A reciprocal membership is now available between the CRC Health Club and the Abilities Centre. This partnership agreement allows members of both facilities greater access in the community to physical activity opportunities. Associate Memberships are available for \$10/month per individual or \$20/month for a family.

Public skating and drop-in family gymnasium programs are now part of the Family Health Club membership option, which already includes access to public swimming. A monthly flat fee of \$10 per child for babysitting services is now available for Health Club members.



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# Flanagan Foodservices Creates 100+ Jobs

Canada's largest independent food service distributor, and Best Managed Companies award winner, is creating more than 100 local jobs.

The new jobs come as part of the company's \$20 million investment to expand the facility located at 295 South Blair Street by more than 100,000 square feet. This will bring the warehouse to more than 178,000 square feet.

"Flanagan Foodservice is a large, well-known, family-owned company that we're proud to welcome to our town," said Mayor Don Mitchell. "Whitby is the only location east of Toronto and this investment will help our local economy and add good local jobs."

"Purchasing the Whitby site is a key pillar in our expansion plans and aligns with our strategy to grow our foodservice distribution business by providing flexible, responsive service to restaurant operators in Ontario," says Dan Flanagan, President and CEO.

Flanagan's currently has distribution centres in Kitchener, Owen Sound and Sudbury. Beginning as a food wholesaler, the company has grown to provide full service to more than 6,000 restaurants and foodservice operations across the province.

# DRPS Launches Annual Festive R.I.D.E Campaign

The Durham Regional Police Service is launching its 2016-2017 Festive R.I.D.E Campaign in an effort to combat impaired driving this holiday season.

This DRPS traffic initiative is an annual commitment to keep our roads safe for citizens in our community. Over the past six years, the Festive R.I.D.E. Team has taken 750 impaired drivers off our roads during the holiday season.

The Festive R.I.D.E launch is held in conjunction with Mothers against Drunk Driving (MADD) Durham Chapter's annual Red Ribbon Campaign Launch.



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## Blooming in Brooklin *By Ken Brown*

# A Month for Procrastinators



This November weather is a procrastinator's dream. I've been very slow at cleaning up the garden. Being able to do it in my shirt sleeves instead of my parka has been delightful.

Some of that procrastination has been dictated by the warm weather. I'm not about to rip good looking begonias from their containers until the frost has knocked them down. Dahlias are one of the most frost-sensitive plants in the garden and they all turned quite black with the first frost. The tubers have been dug up and are temporarily in the cold frame. They sit in that dry warmth so the soil around them will dry out and become easily removed. Once that's happened, I'll them put into cardboard boxes filled with shredded paper and store them in a cooler part of the basement. They don't go into the actual cold cellar because it can occasionally freeze, a death sentence for dahlia tubers.

With the first hard frost, 95% of begonias are done and the leaves on the large hibiscus standard are looking pretty sad. I'll wait to see if they fall off. When they do, I'll cut that hibiscus back by about 2/3 and then bring it indoors for the winter. That's been my technique for the last two years and it's far superior to repeated spraying to stop any creatures moving in with it. The frost kills the spider mites and white flies that might be hiding on the plant. If there are no leaves, then there are no spots for the few survivors to hide. The woody part of the tree will happily leaf out again in a very short time. Another procrastinator's delight.

We ate our first brussels sprouts last

week; they were delicious. That's a good thing because they liked this summer's conditions and have produced a bumper crop. We'll be eating them boiled, roasted, shredded and in several other forms until Christmas dinner when they are a family tradition.

The front porch still has several boxes of tulip and narcissus bulbs waiting to be planted. They'll be just fine as the soil is still relatively warm. I've planted tulips on New Year's Day and had them perform just fine, albeit a bit late. Take advantage of this wonderful late warmth and head to the garden centre where you'll probably find a great assortment of bulbs on sale. A great spring garden at reduced prices and with a minimum of effort. What could be better?

The week's predicted warm weather will make it comfortable to dig in my planters and find the tubers the begonias have created. They'll get the soil dried and removed just like the dahlias and then stored in the same conditions.

The hard part is trying to keep track of which colour each one was so I can pretend to care when I'm starting them up again next March. Many of those wonderful begonias produced a mass of seed as well and it's always fun to grow some of it and see what I get.

The begonias are all hybrids so you rarely get something identical to the parents. Sometimes the new ones are better and you wonder why you wasted the time and effort.

That's one of the joys and adventures of this gardening thing I do and love to share with you.

## Walk down Christmas Lane

Children are invited to join in a community event full of decorations, lights and holiday spirit, all for free, at the Kids' Safety Village of Durham Region. This year, the business community and volunteers have come together to help celebrate the 22nd Anniversary of the Kids' Safety Village with nine magical nights for the entire family.

This special event is open to the

public nightly from Friday, November 18, to Saturday, November 26, from 5:30 - 8:00 pm and will include 26 miniature buildings and storefronts, holiday inflatables and projections all decorated in the spirit of the season. Kids' Safety Village of Durham Region is located at 1129 Athol Street in Whitby. Everyone is welcome!

On November 18, 19, 25 and 26, enjoy a free hot chocolate from the Optimist

## Our Councillor's Report *by Rhonda Mulcahy*

North Ward Councillor, Town of Whitby • mulcahyr@whitby.ca

# Those Accursed Orange Traffic Cones



Want to know when we will see the removal of the traffic cones over the bridge at Baldwin Street and the 407? So do I!

This is one of the most commonly asked questions. (Yes, my lucky husband hears it every week in the hockey dressing room) And I understand why. It's causing traffic turmoil. This is, however, not a Town of Whitby project. We are continuously asking the MTO for updates on this and when the cones are coming down. We are told weeks and then watch while no progress is made. It is frustrating but I assure you that staff and council are continuously asking. The positive side is that the bridge further up Baldwin Street seems to see continuous work. This again is MTO, but at least we are seeing work being done.

In the meantime the Town of Whitby project that is complete is the service improvements along Cassels Road. I thank everyone for their patience during that project.

Here's a shout-out to the residents of Aster Crescent, Carson Avenue, Dodge Drive and Queen Street who attended a public meeting at Town Hall a couple of weeks ago. The meeting was in regards to the proposed infill project at the north end of Queen Street on Baldwin Street. While it hasn't yet come to Planning, this was a great opportunity for residents to express concerns to both us at council and the developer and builder. This is how mu-

nicipal government works.

While I live in the community and have heard them first-hand, the meeting gave the rest of council a better understanding of the project and of the community's concerns. We won't see this come back to us until approximately the second quarter of 2017, but the large turnout and well thought out comments have been documented and won't be easily forgotten. Thank you for caring enough to take the initiative to both attend and speak.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 1st, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to visit Council Chambers at Town Hall for another important Open House. This is about Whitby's Official Plan. It's difficult to engage people in this process as it's not like the aforementioned project that has a direct impact on your own street. This though is the backbone of what our entire community will look like. It will shape the community for years to come and is structured by conforming to the Region's Official Plan and the province's policies. The project has been underway for some time. There will be a final opportunity for input in 2017, but we are getting near the end of the process before we submit it to the Region for approval.

In the meantime, I shall continue to pursue the traffic cones problem. Just remember: when you're cursing them out, you're not alone. I, too, have mumbled expletives when I drive by. Hopefully no one can read my lips.

Club, have fun creating festive decorations with Station Gallery volunteers, and meet members of Durham Regional Police in the police station, Durham Region firefighters in the village fire hall, and members of the Rotary and Lions Clubs.

Visit the Kids' Safety Village Church with the original Journey to Bethlehem from Cullen Gardens and



Miniature Village. Support the new Kids' Safety Village Fire Safety Smoke House Classroom project by donating your change. Register at: [www.durhamsafetyvillage.com](http://www.durhamsafetyvillage.com). For more information, visit: [www.durhamsafetyvillage.com](http://www.durhamsafetyvillage.com) or call 905-668-9893 or email [safetyvillage@drps.ca](mailto:safetyvillage@drps.ca).

5-10% of preschool children have undetected vision problems. Eye exams for children can start as early as 6 months of age, and are covered by OHIP until age 19.

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