



# THE HALDIMAND PRESS



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Haldimand's best source for news & local event coverage since 1868

## SO MUCH TO DO, SO MUCH TO SEE HALDIMAND KEPT BUSY OVER THE WEEKEND

### 25TH ANNUAL DUNNVILLE FAIR



DUNNVILLE—Hali Berniquer (6) of Dunnville shows her excitement as she rides the dragon ride on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at the 25th Dunnville Fair.  
—Haldimand Press photo by Valerie Posthumus.

### CALITHUMPIAN PARADE & SWEET CHEEKS PAGEANT



SELKIRK—Taylor Fess won in the 7 to 12 months category for females at this year's Sweet Cheeks Baby Pageant, hosted by Haldimand Museums, on August 10, 2019. She is shown with her cousin Addison Lymburner.  
—Haldimand Press photo by Rachel Vaarkamp

### GRAND RIVER ANTIQUE SOCIETY'S TRACTOR PULL



CAYUGA—Brock DeVries of Smithville takes the final pull of the day at the Grand River Antique Society's tractor pull on Sunday, August 11, 2019. He pulled 260 feet with his John Deere 4027.  
—Haldimand Press photo by Valerie Posthumus.

SEE MORE EVENTS ON PAGES 9 & 10

## Haldimand: 13th best place to live in Canada First time breaking top 25 on Maclean's list

By Kaitlyn Clark  
The Haldimand Press

HALDIMAND—Maclean's magazine released its list of the best places to live in Canada on Thursday, August 8, 2019, and, for the first ever, Haldimand cracked the top 25 with spot number 13.

The annual ranking gathers information on 415 communities across the country to calculate which areas offer the best quality of life. Maclean's considers 10 categories in its ranking: wealth and economy, affordability, health, weather, crime, commute, taxes, demographics, culture and community, and amenities.

Ontario towns and cities made up 28 of the top 50 spots. The list also showed that many of the best communities to live in are rural, with more than three-fifths of the top 50 having fewer than 40,000 people. Maclean's noted that its small towns have the least crime in the country, and Ontario has Canada's lowest health care wait times.

"Contrary to the popular image of the struggling small town, these communities rose to the top of the ranking because of their high incomes, strong population growth, and access to thriving regional economies," said Maclean's writer Claire Brownell. "They're supercharged small towns, and residents don't have to com-

promise—they've got access to the same amenities a suburb might offer, the natural splendour of a rural area, and the opportunities of an urban centre."

Brownell added that while small towns in remote areas struggle with issues like slow job growth, lack of internet, and difficulty accessing health care, "less remote small towns – like the ones at the top of our ranking – don't face these challenges".

"For all of us who live in and appreciate Haldimand County, this recognition is a testament to what we already know. Our proximity to nature, incredibly dedicated citizens, cultural and heritage assets, low tax rates, economic development potential, and extensive recreation opportunities all contribute to the exceptional quality of life we've been recognized for," stated Mayor Ken Hewitt. "This achievement wouldn't be possible without the dedication of County staff and all of the residents and businesses that make Haldimand County such a vibrant and welcoming place. On behalf of Council, thank you."

The ranking said Haldimand's top feature is the weather, followed by wealth and economy in second, and health in third. The ranking notes Haldimand sees 153 days a year with rain or snow, 245 days above zero degrees Celsius, and 117 days above 20 degrees.

#### HALDIMAND BY THE NUMBERS

- 47,635 population
- 4.7% regional unemployment rate
- \$84,225 median household income
- \$629,581 average household net worth
- 2.3% property tax as % of income
- 117 days above 20°C
- 42 crime severity index 5-year average\*
- 102 family doctors per 100,000

\*The lower the better, national average = 73

Note: Estimates used where statistics were unavailable.

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