



**Contributed Photo**  
 OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED: Dufferin-Caledon MP David Tilson and MPP Sylvia Jones officially announced funding for two infrastructure projects in Orangeville, resulting in provincial and federal funds of \$2.2 million for rehabilitation of the Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre and the reconstruction of William Street. Phase one of the Tony Rose project will cost \$1.5 million, with each of the municipal, provincial and federal governments contributing \$500,000. The William Street project will cost \$1.8 million, with each level contributing \$600,000. Posing, left to right, Town CAO Rick Schwarzer, Councillor Mary Rose, Facilities Manager Ed Brennan, MPP Sylvia Jones, Director of Parks & Recreation Sonya Pritchard, Mayor Rob Adams, Managing Director of Operations & Transportation Ed Gill, and MP David Tilson.

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# Summer no time to relax for MPP Jones

By DAN PELTON  
 Staff Reporter

When George Gershwin penned the lyrics "summertime, and the livin' is easy," he was definitely not writing about the upcoming schedule of Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones.

The Progressive Conservative Community and Social Services critic has just completed a tour across the province as a member of the Select Committee on Mental Health and Addictions, as well as launching a petition drive against the

McGuinty government's proposed Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) and campaigning for the removal of Health and Long Term Care Minister David Caplan over the e-Health Ontario scandal.

The all-party select committee is focussing on the mental health issues of children, the increase of suicide among young people, the mental health and addiction problems facing the homeless, the delivery of programs across the province, access to services among aboriginal communities, and the needs of those in long-term care facilities.

"We've been working since March listening to experts in the field," said Ms. Jones. "One of things we're learning is there's a huge discrepancy across Ontario about the type and amount of mental health services available."

The select committee has been struck specifically to investigate mental health issues, she says, and has been given some timelines to offer up solutions. The committee will report back to the legislature, not just a particular ministry.

This week, the committee will visit Windsor, St. Thomas, Hamilton and Kingston.

## Life, dreams chronicled in debut album

By DAN PELTON  
 Staff Reporter

A Dream, the debut album of Orangeville musician Bruce Laing, is a country and rock mix in which the performer opens up the book of his life and lays it on the table for all to read.

With the title track, A Dream, Laing pays tribute to "anyone who has their own brass ring they are reaching to grab. It sets the tone for the album."

The song is under consideration to be played at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

My Angel, the second track on the album, predates the other nine songs and carries a deep meaning for Laing.

"Three of my friends were dying," he recalls. "I was sitting alone in my place and jumped out of my chair at about 10 at night, thinking that one of them had just passed

away. As it turned out, that wasn't the case, but the words and the emotions came out. I had the song together in about an hour."

A week after this incident, he lost his three friends; two died of cancer and the other "of old age."

This traumatic chain of events was a major motivating factor in Laing deciding it was time to record the album. He got in touch with Sean Baillie, a Juno-nominated producer, and, over the course of time and as finances permitted, he put the album together.

Not all the tunes have melancholy undertones.

For instance, the listener may want to consider listening to the fourth track, Hotel Motel Time, and fast forwarding to the seventh; The Next Day.

Hotel Motel Time — inspired by Laing's memories of the old Ivanhoe bar in Orangeville — is an up-tempo, somewhat

raunchy tune about a last-call Don Juan on the prowl for female company at closing time.

The Next Day — with its pulsating rock rhythm — is an anthem of all those who would be financially secure if they had a dollar for every time they woke up in the throes of a throbbing, dry-heave hangover and declared they will never drink again.

There is a definite symbiotic link between those two tunes.

Still, the album as a whole has been well received and Laing, who figures he "still has eight or nine albums in me," has already sold out his first run and is in the process of pressing more CDs.

His eventual aim is to push his work in stores and on the radio. For now, though, his work can be obtained on Friday nights at The Deck, where the Bruce Laing Band performs.

"We were talking to a former health minister and he mentioned that select committees generally bring forth recommendations that actually get implemented," she said. "There's much less party affiliation. It's much more about seeking solutions."

As far as the e-health issue is concerned, Ms. Jones is much more to the point. David Caplan "should be fired. Is there anything else that should be done?"

"I'm very angry about this whole e-health issue. He's pinning it all on the e-health board and he's taking no responsibility for the fact that the board is under his (authority)."

Premier Dalton McGuinty did shuffle his cabinet this week, but Mr. Caplan kept his health portfolio.

Sarah Kramer, the CEO of eHealth Ontario who was fired two weeks ago, was given \$317,000 in severance, in addition to the \$114,000 bonus she

had collected five months into her job.

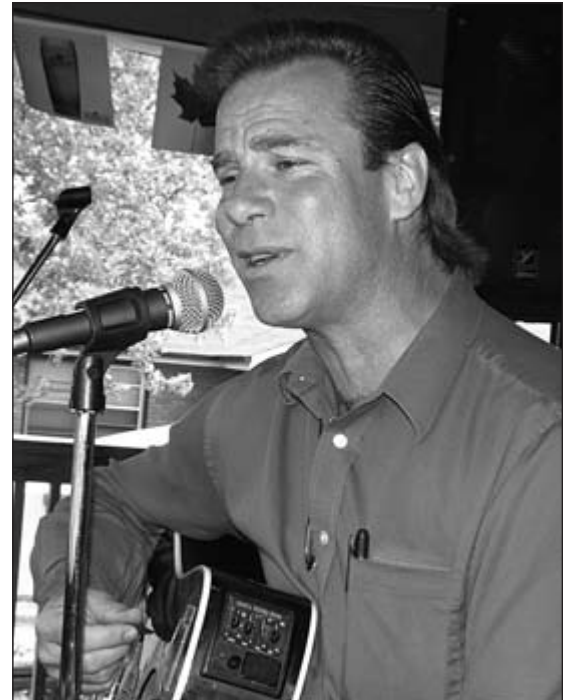
Despite the outcry that the e-health scandal is an example of bureaucracy run amuck, Ms. Jones is confident the Canada's commitment to a universal health care system will remain strong. She also feels the e-health concept is a good one.

"I think that electronic health records will come. I don't believe they will come in with David Caplan as the minister."

"Electronic health records will become part of the Ontario health system because we need them to. Patients need to have the confidence to know that when they go to their specialist, their records will come back in a timely and accurate way to their general practitioner, and vice-versa."

As for the HST petition being circulated via her website and her constituency office, she says

• Please turn to page A6



Photo/DAN PELTON  
 BRUCE LAING, a local musician, chronicles the ups and downs of life in his debut album, A Dream.

**Happy Birthday Canada!**

"I hope you and your family have a wonderful July 1st holiday. I look forward to seeing you as we celebrate Canada Day by taking in some of the fun festivities going on right here in our community".

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