

# Council and committee meetings to be live streamed

Missed a Town Council or standing committee meeting? Residents will soon have the opportunity to watch meetings from the comfort of their own homes either in real time or via an archived video. It's all part of the Town's efforts to increase transparency and keep the public informed.

"Our Council and committee meetings are open to the public," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "But I understand that spending

hours at Town Hall may not appeal to the majority of people despite their interest in municipal business. That's why I am so pleased we are moving to a live streamed process where the meetings can be viewed at any time."

Five discreet cameras placed in the Council Chambers will operate on a sound-activated basis to capture speakers including podium presenters. Audience members should be aware that they

may appear on screen.

The video will be streamed from the Town's website at: [haltonhills.ca](http://haltonhills.ca).

Barring any technical issues, live streaming will be used for the Town's two standing committees: Community and Corporate Affairs and the Planning, Public Works and Transportation Committee beginning on April 30. The first Council meeting to be live streamed will be May 7.



**GRASS FIRE:** Guelph/Eramosa Deputy Fire Chief Jim Petrik said crews responded to a large grass fire at a rural property on Highway 7 west of Acton on Monday afternoon. A significant amount of smoke could be seen as crews arrived. Crews were able to protect outbuildings on the property from flames, which were spreading rapidly due to wind conditions. Pumpers from Acton and Guelph helped get the five-acre blaze under control. The shocked property owner—at work when the fire broke out—arrived home to blackened fields. - Vivien Fleisher photo

# Proposed 2018-2019 School Year calendar approved

Proposed at the April 18 Board meeting, trustees of the Halton District School Board approved the proposed calendar dates for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Final approval of the calendar by the Ministry of Education is anticipated later in Spring 2018.

The school year calendar is developed with input from the School Year Calendar Committee consisting of representatives from interested and affected groups, including parents/guardians. The 2018-2019 school year calendar is aligned with the Halton Catholic District School Board calendar, to save resources on school bus transportation, which is shared between the boards.

Earlier this month, the Board conducted a survey with parents and guardians for feedback regarding their date preference for the Professional Activity (PA) Day in October 2018. The date choices were October 5 and 22.

Based on the results, 70 per cent preferred October 5 as the PA Day.

These dates have been provided to schools to be shared with students and parents/guardians, and they are also posted on the Board's website at [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca)—refer to the Calendar on the home page.

At the April 17 Regular Board Meeting, the Halton Catholic District School Board approved the proposed 2018-2019 School Year Calendar. The calendar dates will now be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval.

Once approved, the first day of school for Halton Catholic students will be on Tuesday, September 4.

The 2018-2019 professional activity (P.A.) days are: September 17, 2018; October 5, 2018; November 23, 2018; February 1, 2019; February 15, 2019; April 12, 2019; June 7, 2019—elementary schools only—and June 28, 2019—secondary schools only.

## Quick Facts:

- The school year calendar was developed through the work of the Board's School Year Calendar Committee, comprised of a parent representative of the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC), OECTA Unit Presidents—elementary and secondary—CUPE 3166 and 5,200 representatives, Principal Association representatives, and one Trustee.
- The Education Act requires each school Board to establish a School Year Calendar, identifying instructional days, professional activity (P.A.) days and holidays for each school year.
- The 2018-2019 School Year Calendar consists of 187 instructional days, which includes 10 days—five per semester—that are classified as secondary school examination days.

Police release details of their Distracted Driving Campaign in Milton and Halton Hills

During March, officers from Milton and Georgetown set about the task of trying to educate and enforce the Highway Traffic Act in cases where motorists were using their cell phones while driving.

During the month, a total of 336 charges were laid and 48 warning tags were issued, for a total of 384 traffic stops where drivers were observed using their cell phone.

Police would like to remind motorists that driving while holding or using a hand-held wireless communication device places all road users at risk and carries a set fine of \$490 and three demerit points.

Some of the explanations drivers provided to Officers were:

- I thought I could use my GPS.
- My phone fell off the mount...I was just holding it.
- I was turning up the volume for my Bluetooth.
- I had it on speaker so I'm good right?
- I know better, but I'm running really late for

picking up my son.

- My Mom called and I was worried that I was in trouble for something...I thought about pulling off somewhere, but then I didn't.
  - I wasn't doing it for that long.
  - My phone is set up in my car, but I borrowed my wife's car today and it's not set up on this one.
  - I had to check a couple of things and if I pulled over, I would have been late for my one ski lesson: by the way, is this going to take long?
- Sgt. Rudall of the 1 District Response Unit commented, "All of the reasons offered to officers

following these traffic stops did not prevent a ticket from being issued, but all of these reasons could have caused the driver to lose focus on their driving which could result in a collision. I'd urge all drivers to recognize the risk they put themselves in when they drive distracted. No officer wants to attend a collision where somebody is seriously hurt or killed because of a decision that could easily have been prevented."

The Halton Regional Police Service remains committed to road safety through prevention, education and enforcement initiatives.

## St. Alban's ACW

# Cream Tea



**May 5, 2018**

**2 p.m. - 4 p.m.**

**19 St. Alban's Drive, Acton**

**Admission: \$12, Children \$6**

Hillview Active Living Centre presents...

## Mother's Day Lunch

**Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Acton Arena  
Community Hall  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

TEA ROOM  
\$8.00 - Adults  
\$5.00 - Children  
(10 & under)

Tea Room, Bake Table, Book Table,  
Penny Table, Spring Patio Set Raffle  
50/50 Draw

**Everyone Welcome**



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