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Crazy about CornFest

The annual Mexican Fiesta and CornFest was held at Andrews' Scenic Acres Sunday to honour Mexican workers across Halton who toil on area farms. (Left) Two-year-old Teresa Hornowska-Sanchez enjoys some of the fresh picked corn while (below) Emilia Santos, 21 months, enjoys some time on an old tractor under the watchful eye of mom Edna.

Photos by Jon Borgstrom



Tax hike of \$110 a possibility for next year

By CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

The average Halton Hills resident could be looking at a tax hike of nearly \$110 next year. Town staff presented its starting point for the 2014 operating and capital budgets at council on Monday night.

Based on the average Halton Hills home assessed at \$400,000, local taxpayers may have to pay \$108 more than this year. That's

a \$27 per \$100,000 of assessed value of home increase. Total taxes per \$100,000 of assessment including the Town (\$403), Region (\$382) and education (\$221) is \$1,006. That's a 2.8 per cent increase over 2013 taxes. Broken down, Town taxes may go up 5 per cent (\$19 per \$100,000 of assessment), Region taxes could rise 2.2 per cent (\$8) and education taxes remain unchanged.

Town Treasurer and Director of Corporate Services Ed DeSousa said, in his presentation

to Budget Committee, Halton Hills is in the middle of the pack when its taxes are compared to surrounding municipalities.

Staff will now work on a more detailed 2014 budget, following Budget Committee's direction. The \$11.873 million capital budget will be presented to the Committee November 13-14, and the \$37.019 million operating budget, January 20-21. All meetings are open to the public.

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