

Georgetown Hospital's New Year's Baby was in a rush

By Lisa Tallyn
ltallyn@theifp.ca

Maren Zeehuisen didn't let a little thing like no obstetrician stand in the way of her being named Georgetown Hospital's New Year's Baby.

The hospital's Obstetrical Department has been temporarily redirecting women in labour to other hospitals since just before Christmas because the hospital's only obstetrician is unexpectedly off.

Natalia Zeehuisen said her daughter, who was to be born at Credit Valley Hospital, was actually due Friday. But Maren had different plans.

Natalia woke up at 6 a.m. Thursday (Jan. 8) with labour pains. She and her husband Mark quickly packed up her things then got in the truck to head to Credit Valley. But by the time they got to Norval, just a short distance from their Georgetown home, Natalia's water broke, and as this was her second child, she could tell there wasn't much time.

"I said, we're not going to make it, I just knew," said Natalia. She told her husband

to take her to Georgetown Hospital.

Mark called 911 and was advised to head back home where an ambulance would meet them to rush Natalia to Georgetown Hospital.

When they got home a few minutes later, police officers were there, but the ambulance hadn't arrived yet. With Natalia already in Mark's truck, police suggested the quickest option would be that they escort the couple (with lights and sirens going) to the hospital.

With one cruiser clearing the way, another following behind, and an ambulance joining at Sinclair Ave., they rushed to Georgetown Hospital.

Police blocked the intersection at Mill and Guelph Streets and shortly after 7 a.m. they pulled up at Georgetown Hospital's Emergency Department.

Natalia was rushed to the obstetrical unit where ER doctor Kelly Williams, with the assistance of OB nurse Nicole, delivered Maren (8 lbs., 2 oz.) at 7:22 a.m.—earning her the distinction of being the first baby born at the hospital in 2015 and a great story.



Mark and Natalia Zeehuisen with Maren, the first baby born at Georgetown Hospital in 2015.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Region spends money to prepare for future storms

By Bob Mitchell
Special to The IFP

Halton will be much better prepared if severe weather strikes again this year, Regional councillors heard last month.

The Region will use \$5.2 million from its capital reserves to install generators in four new warming and rescue centres.

It's one of the major expenditures included in the proposed 2015 Regional budget presented by Mark Scinocca, Halton's Finance Commissioner and Regional Treasurer.

The centres will be strategically located in each of Halton's four municipalities as well

as the Halton Regional Centre. Each municipality will decide where their centre will be located.

For an average home assessed at \$400,000, the budget, which will be finalized Jan. 27, will see homeowners paying about \$1,332 in 2015, or \$20 more than they paid for Regional services in 2014.

But the cost of the generators will have no impact on property taxes because they will be funded by capital reserves, according to the proposed budget.

Two major storms have struck Halton in the past 12 months—the ice storm that hit Dec. 2013 resulting in a loss of power for thou-

sands of residents and a flood, considered the worst to hit Burlington in 20 years—caused wide-spread damage last August.

"Weather patterns have changed over the past few decades with more localized storm events of greater intensity occurring with greater frequency," said Scinocca. "The 2015 budget includes strategic investments to increase the Region's capacity to respond and recover from emergencies such as severe weather events."

Staff has also recommended another \$378,000 be spent to upgrade the existing 311 emergency phone system to handle the high volume of calls during emergencies.

Hydro customers to pay more to cover ice storm costs

Starting this month through Oct. 2016, Halton Hills Hydro customers will be paying more on their hydro bills to cover the utility company's \$1.56-million 2013 ice storm costs.

Monthly cost per customer class will be on average:

- Residential—\$2.23
- Small Commercial—\$4.87
- Large Commercial—\$51.28
- Street Lights—\$.63 cents per light (\$55,000 in total from the Town over 22 months)

HASSELL

AUTOMOTIVE SALES & SERVICE

45 Mountainview Road North
Georgetown, Ontario
905.877.7958

e-mail: hassellsauto@bellnet.ca
www.hassellautomotive.com

Warranty



2010 Nissan Altima S

- Auto/4 cyl
- Certified & E-tested • A/C
- Steering Wheel Controls
- Power Windows/Mirrors
- Cruise Control

\$13,600

+ HST/LIC

Warranty



2006 Nissan Altima S

- Auto/4 cyl
- Certified & E-tested • A/C
- Power Seats/Trunk
- Power Door Locks
- Cruise Control

\$9,600

+ HST/LIC

Warranty



2008 Pontiac Montana SV6

- Auto/6 cyl
- Certified & E-Tested • A/C
- Keyless Entry
- Bucket Seats • Fog Lights
- Cruise Control

\$7,450

+ HST/LIC

CALL

Dave

