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Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper serving Acton & Georgetown

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UP FOR THE CHALLENGE

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Mustangs on the March

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Halton Hills Fire Department found a blaze in the garage of a home on Beardmore Cres. in Acton on Monday night. The fire was contained to the garage.
Photo by Ryan Hamilton

Fire damages Acton home

By Cynthia Gamble

cgamble@theifp.ca

Damage to an Acton home is estimated at \$40,000 to \$50,000, after a blaze broke out in the garage Monday night.

Halton Hills Fire Department crews found the garage at 10 Beardmore Cres. fully engulfed in flames upon arrival around 10 p.m.

"As a result of our quick response and quick actions of our firefighters, the fire was quickly extinguished and contained to solely the garage area," said Harry Olivieri, Deputy Fire Chief, Prevention

and Public Education.

There was no extension of the fire into the home and no water or smoke damage was visible in the interior.

No adjacent homes were damaged, however one of the cars in the driveway received heat damage.

Neither the home's occupants nor firefighters were injured.

At this time no cause has been determined, said Olivieri, but it is under investigation by the investigators from the HHFD and the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office.

Council sets prelim budget direction—\$60 increase

By Melanie Hennessey

Special to The IFP

Preliminary numbers from Town staff indicate taxpayers may be forking over at least \$60 more for their Halton Hills property taxes next year.

Town council adopted a motion Monday evening directing staff to prepare the 2016 budget with no greater levy increase than 3.9 per cent, consisting of a base budget increase of 3.3 per cent and dedicated fire services levy of 0.6 per cent. This would translate into an additional \$60 for the average Halton Hills home assessed at \$400,000.

Paired with the Region's potential tax increase of 2.3 per cent, or \$28, and a typical homeowner could be paying an extra \$88 in taxes next year.

In Halton Hills, the increase is needed to fund the Town's \$42-million operating budget that covers everything from the cost of running facilities like arenas to staff salaries. Over 75 per cent of the net budget is dedicated to direct service delivery for Halton Hills residents, said Town Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer Ed DeSousa.

"We are in the service delivery

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