

# Project Holiday's second week: Domestic Violence

The Halton Regional Police Service launched its second-annual Project Holiday campaign last week to target a number of different types of crime that show an increase of incidents during the month of December.

Following is some information for those who may be in an abusive relationship or someone who suspects that domestic violence may be taking place.

Domestic violence is defined as the use or threat of physical or sexual force, including emotional or psychological abuse, or harassing/threatening behavior directed between partners with whom there is, or has been, an intimate

relationship.

Domestic violence can be a single act of abuse.

The violence is used to intimidate, humiliate and/or frighten victims, or to make them feel powerless.

The police, not victims, lay domestic violence charges. When a charge has been laid, neither the police nor the victim can withdraw the charge.

Often the police are called to deal with child custody issues. Responding officers will need to review the most recent court order to determine if there are enforcement provisions for police.

If the order does not specifically

direct the police to enforce the order, then the involved parties will be directed to go back to Family Court or seek guidance from a family law lawyer. If no court order exists, police have no authority to intervene with access issues, unless a child is in need of protection.

A peace bond is a court order requiring the person to whom it is directed to keep the peace, be of good behavior, and comply with other conditions that can include not contacting a specific person.

A person may apply for a peace bond without police involvement by making an appointment with a Justice of the Peace at a Provincial Court. If the Justice of the Peace

agrees with the applicant's concerns they will issue a summons requesting the other person to appear in court on a specific date to determine if a peace bond is required.

Domestic violence is a serious issue, and often times victims do not want to come forward. These people are still victims of violence, and witnesses of this are encouraged to contact police immediately. Any charged cellular phone will call 9-1-1, even if you don't have a plan or minutes on the phone. Both men and women can be victims of domestic violence.

Resources:  
Halton Police non-emergency



line: 905-825-4747  
TTY: 1-800-990-8199  
Halton Family Services: 905-845-3811  
Halton Women's Place 24-Hour Crisis Line: 905-878-8555  
Halton Children's Aid Society: 905-333-4441

## Cambridge pair charged for stolen property and drugs

Halton Regional Police have laid several charges against a man and woman from Cambridge after a traffic stop resulted in the discovery of stolen property and drugs.

An officer on patrol on Saturday, Nov. 30 conducted a check of a vehicle in George-

town that was registered to a woman found to be wanted on a warrant.


When the suspect vehicle was pulled over, a man in the passenger seat fled the scene.

Charged with three counts of possession of narcotics and a failure to comply with re-

cognizance is Bernadette Halladay, 43.

Following an investigation, Darren Higgins, 45, was charged with possession of stolen property obtained by crime under \$5,000, shoplifting at an LCBO outlet in Burlington and fail to comply with recognizance.





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