

Officers help round up trucks for commercial vehicle safety blitz

By Catherine O'Hara
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Overweight trucks, insecure loads and flat tires were some of the many issues identified by officers representing a number of law enforcement agencies from across the Greater Toronto Area on the first of a two-day commercial vehicle safety blitz hosted by the Halton Regional Police Service in Milton last week.

Officers with Durham, York, Toronto, Peel, Wa-

terloo and the Ontario Provincial Police services joined Halton's finest and officials from the ministries of transportation, finance and environment in rallying commercial vehicles and directing them to the Mohawk Racetrack parking lot, where trained technicians conducted safety inspections.

"We've had a really busy day today," said Halton Regional Police Traffic Services Unit Detective Ryan Snow during the massive multi-jurisdictional, inter-agency initiative aimed at improving road safety for all users.

"The things that we are looking for are licensing, paperwork, trip logs, inspection logs, load security, load weights and mechanical fitness," said the detective.

Time and again, officers came across the same types of issues. These ranged from flat or bald tires, insecure loads, expired inspection stickers and overweight trucks.

"It's just been constant the sorts of issues we are seeing," said Snow, expecting to see more of the same today (last Thursday) — Day Two of the blitz.

While sharing the roadway with unsafe commercial vehicles should be troublesome to motorists, there is a silver lining.

"Our charge rate is starting to drop," said Snow. This means that compliance among commercial vehicle drivers is on an upward trend.

During a similar two-day blitz last year, Halton police officers and their peers from neighbouring jurisdictions carried out 472 truck inspections. Of the total number of vehicles inspected, 167 were taken off the road — a 35 per cent out-of-service rate. In all, police issued 348 provincial offence notices and seized 29 sets of plates.

"I would love to see a 100 per cent compliance rate," said Snow. "But that's a little pie high in the sky."

Inspection results

Results from the October 5-6 commercial vehicle safety blitz hosted by the Halton Regional Police Service at Mohawk Racetrack indicate that commercial motor vehicle operators need to be more diligent in complying with safety rules and regulations, according to police.

Officers conducted 470 commercial vehicle inspections. Of those, 179 were taken out of service. This represents a 38 per cent failure rate.

Overall, 476 charges were laid and 35 sets of plates were seized. Of the charges laid this year, the top six offences were:

- Failure to complete annual inspection — 88
- Insecure loads — 56
- Failure to complete daily inspection — 55
- Improper brakes — 45
- Commercial vehicle operator's certificate violations — 33
- Overweight vehicles — 32

SOURCE: Halton Regional Police Service

In most cases, drivers know the rules but, for one reason or another, fail to maintain their vehicles or secure their loads.

And this disregard for safety can have potentially deadly consequences.

"If you have a tire or an axle come off a

IT'S YELLOW-JACKET WASP SEASON!



"WASP FACTS"

- Nests built in wall cavities could have up to 800 wasps
- Populations "explode" in mid-August
- Wasps start feeding on carbohydrate found at your picnic table in mid-August
- Wasps do not produce honey, keep children away from active nests

Follow us on @infoHRPC

Protect your Home and Family!

Call us now!

905.876.1941



HALTON REGION

Pest Control
SPECIALISING IN RESIDENTIAL PEST MANAGEMENT

Halton Region Pest Control has been protecting Families of Milton for over 25 years

End Of The Roll's

30th Anniversary SALE

Flooring Canadians for 30 years!

BRING IN THIS COUPON AND GET...

20% OFF

when you purchase our in-stock, area rugs

*See in-store for details. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires October 31, 2016. Valid at the Burlington (1510 North Service Rd) and Mississauga West (2273 Dundas St W) and all of the Roll locations only.

BRING IN THIS COUPON AND GET...

PAY NO TAX

We will pay the equivalent of the HST for you when you purchase our in-stock flooring.

*See in-store for details. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires October 31, 2016. Valid at the Burlington (1510 North Service Rd) and Mississauga West (2273 Dundas St W) and all of the Roll locations only.



Brand Name Flooring. Low Prices. Always in Stock.

ENDOFTHERO.COM

Burlington | 1510 North Service Rd | 905.319.2299
Mississauga West | 2273 Dundas St W | 905.820.7655



IB Open House October 27th @ 7pm

- Are you an academically motivated student?
- Do you love to learn?

White Oaks
has Oakville's largest IB
Diploma Programme

Questions? Contact :

Maureen Paci (Pre-IBDP)
pacim@hdsb.ca
905.845.5200 x 232

Erin Davidson (IBDP)
Davidson@hdsb.ca
905.845.5200 x 234

White Oaks Secondary
School
South Campus
1330 Montclair Drive

