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RCMP Const. Mike Flood (left) and Halton Regional Police Const. Rob Legget: getting some hands-on experience.

Halton police helping train RCMP officers

Program gives them opportunity to experience life of uniformed officers

> **By Howard Mozel** OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

RCMP Constable Mike Flood has never been busier...or happier.

Flood, 35, recently became an RCMP officer, is the proud father of an 11-week-old baby and is now working alongside the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) to gain valuable uniformed street experience.

Originally from Montreal, Flood said he

joined the RCMP with an eye on becoming a federal investigator and, with his economics background, he sees a bright future in the commercial crime department.

Right now, though, he's paired with HRPS coach officer Constable Rob Legget for the important joint training program, which he said came as something of a surprise.

"I'm very fortunate to have this opportunity," said Flood, who started his four-month stint with the Halton police in May. "I never imagined having this chance, so I'm very grateful.'

According to RCMP spokesperson Constable Sandra Basso, the initiative is the result of the fact that in Ontario and Quebec the RCMP perform strictly non-uniformed federal policing duties and therefore cannot provide new recruits with uniformed experi-

"Uniform patrol is the foundation, especially at the start of a policing career." said Basso, who explained that a wealth of investigative skills can be built this way. "It's a very important part of the broad spectrum of polic-

Flood - who is assigned to the RCMP's Milton Detachment - is the third RCMP recruit to train with area police services since April. (One is in Burlington, the other in York Region.) By next March, Basso anticipates another 14 recruits will have been on the road alongside municipal officers.

(See 'Program' page A2)

Development meeting was a debacle

Town Council not prepared for massive public turnout

> By Angela Blackburn OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

What if they held a public meeting and everybody came? It would probably end up a fiasco similar to one at the Planning and Development Council Meeting at Town Hall, Monday night.

Hundreds of disgruntled and skeptical residents left that meeting wondering how the Town could possibly plan for future development of lands north of Dundas Street (Hwy. 5) when it couldn't even adequately plan a meeting on the same subject.

While the town had set aside three nights this week to hear people speak about northern development, it hadn't expected everyone to show up on the same night.

But that's apparently what happened.

The subject drew twice as many people as can be legally accommodated in the council chambers.

Councillor Kevin

compromised

Flynn: fire regulations

And after being crammed in like sardines for 45 minutes, while councillors dealt with other business, they were told to

Discussion on northern development had just begun when Ward I Councillor Kevin Flynn questioned the size of the crowd and fire regulations.

That one question scuttled the meeting.

It was soon determined that while Oakville's council chambers can hold about 250 people, there were at least 500

Following several 10-minute recesses, the meeting was postponed until last night.

(See 'Meeting' page A5)

Retiring principal set student's mind on teaching career

By Wilma Blokhuis OAKVILLE BEAVER FOCUS EDITOR

She was the apple of her teacher's eye.

Somehow Phyllis Kingsley knew that one of her Grade 8 students would follow in her footsteps. It was the 1986-1987 academic year. Gillian Sherratt admired her teacher and aspired to become a teacher herself. "She was a very conscientious student," says Kingsley of

her prodigy.

Two years ago, their paths crossed again. Sherratt was hired as a teacher at Sunningdale School, where her mentor is the principal. Previously Sherratt taught at Lorne Skuce and E. J. James.

"I took what she taught me and put it into practice." reflects Sherratt, who teaches Grade 5.

"Phyllis was always extremely organized and very well respected," she continued, considering herself to be "one of the lucky ones" to have benefited from Kingsley's mentoring. (See 'Principal' page A5)



Photo by Peter C. McCusker

Phyllis Kingsley, Principal of Sunningdale School is retiring and was congratulated by Gillian Sherratt who is not only a teacher at the school but was also taught by Kingsley.

Liberal policy conference coming here in November

Oakville has been selected as the site of the 2001 Policy Convention for the Ontario Liberal Party.

According to Ontario Liberal Party president Greg Sorbara, the event will be held from Friday, Nov. 16 through Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Holiday Inn Express and Oakville Convention Centre on Wyecroft Road.

More than 400 delegates are expected to attend from Liberal riding associations from across the

The conference is being held in order to assist in the preparation of a policy framework for the next provincial election, which is expected to be called in

Co-hosting the event will be the Oakville, Burlington and Halton provincial Liberal riding associations. The three riding associations will also share the proceeds from a fundraiser prior the conference on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 15 in the Convention Centre.

Updated information will be available at www.oakvilleliberal.com.

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Motorcyclists seriously injured

A pair of Oakville motorcyclists remain in hospital after they both collided with a parked car Sunday

According to Halton Regional Police, the accident occurred around 10 p.m. when Stanley Patchett, 16, and Jeremy Riopelle, 22, were traveling east on Sheridan Garden Drive, about one kilometer east of Ford Drive, and collided with a car parked on the south side of the road. Both riders were thrown from their motorcycles.

Police, ambulance and fire personnel attended the scene. Patchett was transported by ambulance to Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital with injuries to his head and body. At press time, he had been transferred to Hamilton General Hospital.

Riopelle was taken by ambulance to Toronto's St. Michael's Hospital with serious head and leg injuries, where he remains in the Intensive Care

Sheridan Garden Drive was closed for six hours and the accident is still being investigated by the Public Safety Unit. According to police, initial indications are that the two riders may have been racing.

According to investigators, police have not had an opportunity to speak with either rider, although 4747 ext. 5056.

several witnesses have come forward. The two motorcycles have been impounded awaiting

mechanical inspections. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision is being asked to contact the Public Safety Unit at 825-

MD to set date for forgery, perjury trial

Provincial Court on Aug. 7 to set a date for trial in connection with charges stemming from his treatment of a 14-year-old patient who died in

Dr. Anthony Laws made a brief appearance in court on Tuesday.

Halton Regional Police laid charges of forgery, perjury and two counts of uttering forged documents based on testimony Laws gave at a 1999

A local doctor will appear in Oakville disciplinary hearing held by the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Laws pleaded guilty before the College to professional misconduct for falsifying medical records and letters related to his care of Mississauga teenager Jonathan Bain. Laws was subsequently given a three-month suspension by the College's disciplinary committee.

Since serving his three-month suspension in 1999, Laws has continued his Oakville practice.



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