

**Santa's mailbag**

# Toy robot to march on Acton

Dear Santa,  
I want a toy robot, a toy T.V. and a radio. I think I need some new cars and a bulldozer for me and Kelly. I also want a light bright. I am four years old and last night I broke Mommy's lamp but have been a good boy most. I will leave you some apples and crackers, oranges, sandwiches and everything.

Jerry Minto,  
Acton

Until then, Heather, be a good girl!

Love, Santa



Dear Jerry,  
Acton is very far from the North Pole, but I like to come to Acton because a lot of good little boys and girls live there. You and Kelly are two of my favorite friends in Acton. Rudolph, my reindeer, just whispered in my ear that he's seen the elves making what you want, so we're going to be bringing you lots of special packages soon.

Love you, Santa



Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Here are the few things that I would like for X'mas. A) set for 4 outfits. Doll and toter with 7 piece clothing set and accessories. Winnie the pooh stroller. I am 8 years old. I love you.

Heather Nicholson.

Dear Heather,  
I'm so glad to hear you've been behaving yourself this past year again. Now I can put another gold star next to your name in my big book. Do you know what that means? That means I'm going to try my best to find all the things you've asked for and bring them to your house on Christmas Eve.

Dear Santa Claus,  
My mommy will help me write my letter to you. I'm only three years old and I don't know how to write all of my ABC's. I wanted to call you on the telephone but mommy said you were so busy it would be better to write.

I've been a very good girl this year. My Christmas wish is for a doll bed and a new baby doll.

I will be sure to leave you raisins, milk, juice and cookies on Christmas Eve. Will you share the raisins with the reindeer?

Thank you and I love you Santa Claus.

Shalon Lewis,  
Georgetown

P.S. I almost forgot - I will be at my Grandma's house, in Tulsa for Christmas. I hope you will find me.

Dear Shalon,  
So you're off to Tulsa for your Christmas holidays! That's a lot of travelling for a little girl who's only three! But you don't need to worry about me finding your very own Christmas tree and Christmas stockings, even though you're in Tulsa. My reindeer and I have to visit all the good little boys and girls in Tulsa as well, so we'll just put a different address next to your name and find you there! Bless you, Shalon.

Bye for now, Santa

Dear Santa,  
My name is Melissa Watts and I am 4. I have a brother Michael who is 1 year old. We have both been real good

children.  
For Christmas I would like a toaster and kettle, a doll, a game, and some clothes. Michael would like a truck, an airplane, some pyjamas and slippers and a housecoat.

Michael and I want you to remember that we'll leave some carrots for your reindeer and some cookies and milk for you, Santa.

Please have a nice Christmas, Santa. We love you.

Melissa and Michael

Dear Melissa and Michael,  
Now how did you know I love cookies and milk almost as much as your reindeer love carrots? Thank you so much for thinking of me. Michael, you should be very proud of your big sister; she's done a great job of writing to me for both of you. Maybe she'll make you some tea and toast if I can find what she wants for Christmas! And Melissa, thank you for your lovely letter. Take good care of your brother, now.

Lots of love, Santa



Dear Joy,  
I have a new cat. I am sending you your picture. I am sending a surprise in 3 envelopes this year. Have a Merry Christmas.

Love, Joy,  
Harold Street,  
Georgetown,  
7 years old

Dear Joy,  
What a wonderful package of surprises I found in my mailbox this morning! There was a pretty Christmas card with a picture of two mice dancing (we all got a chuckle out of that), plus another card with a clown and your letter written on it, plus a great big Santa face just like the one I have! And all this from a seven-year old. You've been very busy,

Joy. Thank you so very much.

Love, Santa

Dear Santa,  
How are you? How is Mrs. Claus and your reindeer. My name is Sean James O'Rafferty. I'm 4 years old. Can you please bring me and my little brother Jeff some nice toys. We want a toy love boat, a dukes of hazzard car and some trucks. We've both been very good boys this year. Please bring daddy and mommy something nice too.

Love Sean and Jeff,  
I think I can find some fine

gifts for your whole family, Sean, and I think it's just great that you've written me this nice letter to ask for presents for Mom, Dad and little Jeff, as well as yourself. I'll see if I can get you all the presents you've asked for since you've been so nice.

Bye for now, Santa



To Santa,  
I want key cars, hockey game, lego, typewriter, desk organizer, thanks Santa.

Love Tara Green,  
Moore Park Crescent,  
Georgetown

Dear Tara,  
Well I was just writing to your brother, David, and it looks to me like you two are going to have some fun together with your key cars. I'll try and find a desk organizer, a hockey game and a Lego set for you, too, Tara. Be a good girl, now, and I'll be at your house soon.

Love, Santa

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## Queen's Park report

By JULIAN REED, M.P.P.  
HALTON-BURLINGTON HOSPITAL FUNDING  
The Minister of Health has announced a number of changes aimed at helping hospitals wipe out their annual deficits, which this year reached \$100-million. These changes are due to take place April 1, 1982. Among other things, hospitals will be permitted to increase their revenues by charging more for private and semi-private beds next year, as well



JULIAN REED

as converting some public ward space, now set at 50 per cent of a hospital's beds, to private or semi-private use. Previously, revenue from this type of accommodation has been split 65-35 between the Province and the hospitals respectively. Under the new plan, the hospital will be able to keep all the revenue, and apply it to other programs.

Liberal Leader Stuart Smith's reaction to the Minister's announcement was that "Medicare is now being systematically dismantled". Hospitals "are now being told to declare more of their beds as private and semi-private, so if you are waiting for an operation you'll be told: 'Look, we can't accommodate you in a standard ward, but if you would come in as semi-private we just might get you in a little sooner.' The only way the hospitals can survive now, according to the government, is to gouge people who want semi-private care".

Stuart Smith has tabled a motion calling for a debate on a "matter of urgent public importance, namely the imposition of two-class health care in Ontario announced outside the Legislature by the Minister of Health whereby supplementary hospital insurance will become a necessity, even longer waiting periods will be imposed on ordinary citizens, and user fees are to be entrenched, thus further eroding universal Medicare".

stores within the next 18 months, the Minister of Agriculture has announced a one-time only grant program for beef producers, under which the Province will pay \$40 a cow to Ontario beef-calf operators, if the cow had a calf in 1981. To be eligible, farmers must have had the cow as of August 1st, and must have a minimum of five cows. The head of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, while not wishing to "look down on a \$20 million program", said it would still not be enough to get farmers out of their financial trouble.

Describing the man as an "arrogant prima donna" who doesn't understand farmers, Stuart Smith has called upon the Minister of Agriculture to fire his deputy for saying farmers should "quit crying the blues" and wait for provincial government assistance. Liberal Agriculture Critic, Jack Ruddle, M.P.P. for Huron-Middlesex, told the Legislature that farmers are so upset about farm foreclosures and high interest rates that they are "forming vigilante groups to see that no-one, but no-one, tries to foreclose" on them.

**ONTARIO'S ECONOMY**  
In a lengthy speech about spending estimates for the Ministry of Treasury and Economics, the Treasurer spent half his time on "fed-bashing". Liberal Finance Critic David Peterson (London Centre) has complained. "We are in a major decline today in Ontario with all the layoffs. They are testimony to an eroded and corroded manufacturing sector", he said. "We need immediate aid in a number of areas and you have exhausted your options by this gargantuan purchase into Sunco". He told the Treasurer:

**PROSTHESES COVERAGE**  
The Minister of Health, responding to Opposition questions, has stated that he has asked the Cabinet to approve coverage of the cost of prostheses under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan. Liberal Members Patrick Reid (Rainy River) and David Peterson (London Centre) pointed out that the Opposition has been demanding OHIP payment for such items for more than five years.

**ODOMETERS**  
According to the Minister of Consumer and Commercial Affairs, the number one consumer fraud of rolling back odometers on used cars is increasing, due to high interest rates and the high cost of new cars. Dependable, low-mileage, used cars are in great demand, and "uplifting" odometers has become even more popular among "unethical car sellers". Since the Ministry launched a crackdown on odometer tampering in 1979, over 1,000 charges have been laid against 249 private and registered car

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