

# Special Report

## GST will affect numerous items

By **BEN DUMMETT**  
the Herald

An initial examination of the Federal Government's new Goods and Services Tax Consumer Information Office Price Guide shows that an equal number of goods will both increase and drop in price, but a more thorough investigation of the guide shows that, on average, the price increases will be much larger than the price decreases. As well, the predicted price drops apply mainly to items that people infrequently buy such as vehicles, refrigerators and microwaves.

There are approximately 175 items listed in the price guide, approximately 83 of which should rise in price and another 83 which should drop. The prices of another nine are expected to remain unchanged or change slightly, according to the price guide.

For instance, a \$270 mens business suit should increase by \$16.58; a five dollar tube of lipstick should decrease by two cents; a \$10 men's haircut should go up by 59 cents and \$20 monthly cable television rates should decrease 87 cents.

In general, restaurant costs, utilities and shelter, clothing and footwear, car repairs, transportation and personal services will cost more if the senate gives final approval to the tax legislation, expected to be implemented in 1991.

New cars, household fur-

nishings, groceries and most recreational items are expected to be cheaper.

The GST will replace three other taxes that currently apply to various goods. The 13.5 per cent Manufacturing Sales Tax, (MST), the nine per cent building supplies tax and the 11 per cent telecommunications tax. It will also apply to a wider number of goods than are currently taxed.

Consumers in Halton Hills should expect a significant increase in the price of dry cleaning with a drop in the cost to purchase hardware-related goods if the GST becomes law, according to Mani Mitara of Barrager's Cleaners and Murray Lawton of Canadian Tire, both in Georgetown.

Mr. Mitara predicts the cost of dry cleaning a shirt could increase by approximately 15 per cent, even though the GST will only tax goods seven per cent. He attributed the extra increase to the cost of administering the new tax.

According to the government's price guide, if the cost of dry cleaning a woman's dress is \$7.50 the cost will increase by 40 cents once the GST takes effect. The cost of dry cleaning a man's suit will increase by a similar amount.

Mr. Lawton said on average the price of the approximately 27,000 items he sells will decrease by between four and five per cent.

All of the merchandise now af-

ected by the MST will drop in price once the GST takes effect, said Mr. Lawton.

When asked if the cost to administer the new tax will offset some of the expected price reductions, Mr. Lawton replied no. He said he wouldn't pass on any extra administrative costs for fear his competitors would undercut him.

The government's price guide indicates that a \$22 four litre can of house paint is expected to drop in price by 52 cents, a 2.4 per cent drop. A \$26 hammer will drop 23 cents while an \$85 electric drill will decrease \$2.35.

Neil Young, of Young's Pharmacy said prescription drugs will drop by seven per cent, noting that prescription drugs are exempt from the GST.

The price guide states a \$9 bottle of the antibiotic Tetracycline will drop six cents in price. Non-prescription drugs which will be subjected to the GST, will increase. A \$4.50 box of cold tablets will increase by 10 cents and a box of ASA will increase by 11 cents.

Once the GST replaces the MST, car prices will decrease but by how much is unclear, said Norm Armstrong, sales manager of the Autohaus car dealership in Georgetown.

The government estimates that an \$8,400 sub-compact car will decrease in price by \$374 representing a 4.5 per cent decrease. A full-sized car costing \$27,500 will drop

\$1,006.66. Only the price of used cars is expected to increase, according to the guide. A two year old used compact car now selling for \$8,000 is expected to go up by \$63.93.

Used cars are expected to increase in price because the amount of the MST that the GST is replacing is much less compared to the amount of MST the GST will be replacing with respect to a new car.

Dave Callaghan, manager of the Carpet Barn in Georgetown said the price of carpets should drop but not by much. Although the replacement of the MST with the GST will cause an initial drop in the price of carpets, said Mr. Callaghan, the GST will increase the cost of installing the carpet. The cost of labor to install a carpet is currently tax free, he said.

According to the government's price guide one square metre of broadloom carpet selling at \$40 should drop by 38 cents.

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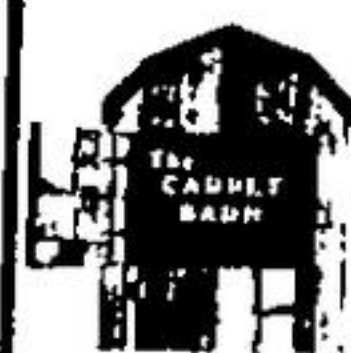
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### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO CLOSE PART OF A PUBLIC HIGHWAY

This advertisement is to notify the public that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills has made application to the Ontario Court (General Division) for an Order closing part of Todd Road in the Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown). The part of the road being closed measures approximately 270 feet in length, includes the full width of Todd Road as shown on Registered Plan 617, and is located immediately west of the intersection of Todd Road with Armstrong Avenue. This application is made in accordance with the provisions of the Registry Act.

The Application will be heard on Thursday, October 25, 1990 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon after as counsel can be heard, at the Court House, 491 Steeles Avenue East, Milton, Ontario L9T 1Y7.

This advertisement is made pursuant to the Order of Mr. Justice Speyer, dated Thursday, September 20, 1990.

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Solicitors for the  
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Ad No. 1306

## Continent-wide search

Everyone is looking for four-year-old Luke Boudreau of Milton, who was abducted by his father on April 22.

Police forces throughout Canada and the United States are looking for the 27 kg, blond-haired, brown-eyed boy. Over 30,000 posters have been distributed throughout Ontario, eastern Canada and the U.S. Numerous appeals have also been made via major newspapers and publications in Ottawa.

Hundreds of callers have offered potential leads regarding the whereabouts of Luke and his 35-year-old father, Brian Vernon Boudreau.

Because of the number of tips

generated in the abduction case, Det. Tom Nicholson, of Halton Regional Police Major Crime Bureau was brought in to oversee the investigation.

Every force is following up every call, said Det. Sgt. Mike Eacrett, head of Halton Criminal Investigations Bureau.

Organizations also involved in investigations are Child Find and the Salvation Army plus family and friends.

Luke is described as male, white, 110 cm, 27 kg with blond hair and brown eyes. His father, Brian Boudreau is described as 173 cm, 74 kg with brown eyes and hair.

Mr. Boudreau's maroon 1979 Thunderbird, bearing OMEGA 7 licence plates, was found during a search of an Etobicoke storage unit July 17. Numerous items of children's winter clothing were found in the trunk.

A warrant for Mr. Boudreau's arrest has been issued on charges of abduction, extortion and breach of probation.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Det. Sgt. M. Eacrett at 878-5151, ext. 415 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-668-5151.



Luke Boudreau



Brian Boudreau

### PROBLEM:

Water pipes clogged with hard water scale.



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## IT'S YOUR COMMUNITY BE PART OF IT! LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK OCTOBER 15TH - 20TH, 1990

The Town of Halton Hills during Local Government Week on Wednesday, October 17th, 1990, will hold an Open House between the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., for the Public to view the Town's Civic Centre.

General information will be available in order that residents may become familiar with the operation of it's Local Government.

We invite Halton Hills residents to visit the town Civic Centre located at, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown.

Town Planning Staff will be available to discuss future planning directions for the Town and the planning process regarding the consideration of development proposals.

If further information is required, please contact the Town of Halton Hills, 873-2600, ext. 337.

Russell Miller  
Mayor

Ad. No. 1307