

Support for hospital plans

"Please, raise my taxes."

That request is rarely, if ever, heard in the Town council chambers – but that was the appeal from Georgetown Dr. Debi Zeni, and many others, last Monday at a public meeting to discuss Halton Healthcare Service's request for \$4.5-million from the Town to help expand the emergency department and buy a CT scanner.

After hearing from two dozen delegates on the issue, Town Council voted to defer any action to give Mayor Rick Bonnette time to lobby Queen's Park for funding to renovate the dysfunctional and overcrowded emergency department and to help buy the CT scanner, which one doctor described as essen-

tial as a stethoscope.

Halton Healthcare Services (HHS) CEO John Oliver said he came to Council with an "extraordinary ask" for \$4.5-million of the \$12.1-million needed for the project because the Ministry of Health has indicated there is a 10-year queue of project requests and there could be a seven to eight year wait for funding, with no promises.

To those who want non-Halton Hills residents to pay a user fee, Oliver said 53 per cent of emergency department patients lived in Halton Hills residents, 35 per cent were from Brampton, and the balance from Mississauga, Caledon or Toronto. He also noted that 12 per cent of donations to the Hospital Foundation were from

non-residents, and that 80 per cent of Halton Hills residents needing surgery are referred to other hospitals.

Speaking in opposition to the Town using property taxes to help pay for the hospital's plans, resident Ken Key said it takes more than a hospital to make a healthy community and they "can't steal from arenas to build hospitals." (The Town is waiting for a report after staff suggested they borrow \$25-million to build three new arenas/ice pads.)

Town Treasurer Ed DeSousa said taxes would increase by \$23.56 per year if the Town took a 10-year loan to pay for HHS's \$4.5-million request.

Noting that it is a "difficult decision" for council because health issues are not within its mandate, Mayor Bonnette suggested the deferral. He said the Town has a "special circumstance" because the province legislated the growth, including in east Brampton, which is causing the strain on existing hospital services.

The Town invites more comments on the issue at www.haltonhills.ca



SPIT AND POLISH: Cadets with the Compass Rose Navy League passed inspection last week from Legion Branch 197 President George DeRabbie (right) and Past-president Wes Kutasienski. The Legion presented a cheque for \$2,000 to the Cadets for their annual help with the Poppy Campaign.

– Frances Niblock photo

Tattoo safety check

The Halton Region Health Department is advising those seeking tattoos or piercing to obtain these services only from inspected shops. The Health Department has recently received reports of tattoos and piercing being done at uninspected establishments, including people's homes. Anyone who has received a tattoo or piercing at such an establishment, including

a private home, is asked to contact the Health Department toll free at 1-866-442-5866 or by dialing 311 for follow-up and advice.

"People should ask to see proof of recent Health Department inspection reports and ask detailed questions of the operator before receiving a piercing or tattoo," said Dr. Bob Nosal, Halton Region Medical Officer of Health. "Tattooing and piercing in uninspected establishments can increase the risk of skin and blood-borne infections, including HIV and hepatitis B and C."

It is important for people who are considering getting a tattoo or piercing to ensure that:

- Operators clean their hands and wear gloves
- New sterile needles are used for each tattooing or piercing
- Equipment is appropri-

ately cleaned and sterilized after each client

- Skin is appropriately cleaned and disinfected before tattooing or piercing

- The artist does not re-dip the utensils into ink that has been used on other people

- Only jewellery made of high-grade, sterile, surgical steel or gold is used

- Only ears lobes are pierced with an ear piercing gun; sterile needles (not a gun) should be used for piercing other parts of the body

- Appropriate aftercare instructions are provided on how to take care of the tattoo or piercing until it heals

For more information on safe tattooing and piercing, dial 311 or call Halton Region at 905-825-6000, toll free 1-866-442-5866, TTY 905-827-9833 or visit www.halton.ca.

**2nd annual
Victorian
Valentine Tea**
February 12 & 13, 2011

Enjoy High Tea in historic SS#7 Nassagaweya schoolhouse

Advance tickets \$10 per person ~ \$12 at door
12-1:30pm & 2:30-4pm each day

Limited seating ~ reservations recommended

10802 5th Line at 15 Sideroad, Nassagaweya

For information and tickets call **905-854-4827**
or visit the Scotiabank, Campbellville
info@nasagaweyahistoricalsociety.com

A fundraising project for the Nasagaweya Historical Society

HomesForSaleACTON.ca



Arlene
Lindsay



905-873-6111
Ltd. Brokerage



Helen
McLean

&
Sales Representatives

ALL the Real Estate Services you expect,
plus some you didn't.

*Leading Edge Marketing
Seller's Choice Packages
Pre-Home Inspection
Home Cleaning Services
Virtual Tours*

It's worth the call to...Your True Hometown Realtors!
Working where we live....ACTON!
HomesForSaleActon@hotmail.com

Acton Physiotherapy Centre
10 Eastern Ave, Unit 103 Acton ON

Located in the new
Urgent Medical Care Centre

For details call
519-853-1800
or email actonphysio@yahoo.com

Senior's Mondays
Noon to 6pm

Fish & Chips
with coffee
\$10.00

NO TAX! NO TAX!

Offer redeemable with presentation of this advertisement BEFORE ordering.
Expires March 1, 2011



READY TO SERVE
137 Mill Street East
Acton ON L7J 1H9
(519) 853-0620

Acton Denture Clinic
Tracy Mitchell DD

Not all dentures are created equal...

In my denture clinic I take pride
In knowing and practising the latest
Technologies in complete and partial
Denture fabrication.

Call or make an
appointment for a
Consultation
to discuss what a
BPS Denture is.



(519) 853-0079
130 Mill Street East, #103 Acton



