



At Friday's opening of the new ServiceOntario centre at 324 Guelph St., Unit 10, Harinder S. Takhar, Minister of Government Services (left) was joined by centre co-owner Manuel Soler, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, centre co-owner Alex Soler and acting mayor Ward 1 Councillor Jon Hurst. Photo by Ted Brown

Minister opens new licensing office

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

Georgetown has a new ServiceOntario centre where area residents can renew their driver's licence and vehicle registration.

Minister of Government Services Harinder S. Takhar, who was on hand Friday for the opening of the centre at 324 Guelph St., said it will offer area residents integrated services under one roof when routine health card services are added in late fall.

Takhar said by the end of the year

95 per cent of Ontario residents will be within 10 km of an integrated ServiceOntario centre.

"Ontarians will benefit from a one-stop shopping experience for most health card and driver's licence services at all of our ServiceOntario centres by the end of this year," said Takhar.

The new office is run by Georgetown residents Lori and Alex Soler and Alex's father Manuel Soler.

Also there for the opening were Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott and Councillor Jon Hurst, filling in for Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette.

Local committment to Power Pledge moves town to sixth place in rankings

Local residents, businesses and organizations are signing the Power Pledge and it's putting Halton Hills near the top in the summer Community Challenge.

As of mid-July, thanks to the active participation of Town residents, businesses and organizations, the Town of Halton Hills now ranks in sixth place out of 89 participating municipalities. Within its population category, it's ranked third.

Currently more than 1,000 Halton Hills participants have signed on.

Winning municipalities could earn valuable "green" awards such as a \$10,000 Renewable Energy Award that can be used towards the installation of solar panels on a municipal property.

Mayor Rick Bonnette said, "It is very rewarding to see that so many local residents, businesses and organizations have chosen to take the Power Pledge. By doing so, the community is again demonstrating its interest and commitment to energy conservation, which is one way of helping to make Halton Hills a more sustainable community. I encourage all residents and



RICK BONNETTE

businesses to take The Power Pledge and thank all those that have already done so. With every new Power Pledge, we are that much closer to winning the competition and being considered one of Ontario's most conservation-conscious communities."

To join the 2010 Power Pledge Community Challenge to www.powerpledge.ca.

On Wednesday, August 11, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.:

- Turn off any unnecessary lights.
- Completely unplug any unnecessary electronics (e.g. TV, DVD, computer, etc) or use a power bar. This will reduce the phantom load, which occurs when electronics continue to use power even though they are turned off. Reducing the phantom load can decrease electricity use by 15%.

- Turn off the air conditioner or reduce its use.
- Avoid using major appliances.
- If doing laundry, do so during off-peak hours, use cold water, only run a full laundry load and use a clothesline.

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