

Advocating for Halton

On October 6, Ontarians head to the polls to vote in a provincial election. Provincial policies have significant impacts on the programs and services delivered by Halton Region.

As a result, we've developed an advocacy platform, A Strong Halton for a Strong Ontario— Partners for the Future, to assist the community and local candidates to better understand the challenges facing the Region and what Halton requests of the next Provincial government.

For more information visit www.halton.ca/ontarioelection2011

Today more than 500,000 people live in Halton Region and this number will increase to 780,000 by 2031, as mandated by the Province. Ensuring that growth pays for itself is critical to Regional council.

The extensive growth targets set by the Province must be matched with adequate funding for the infrastructure required to support it. The combined municipal-provincial infrastructure needs of Halton to 2031 are expected to reach approximately \$8.6 billion. Sustainable and predictable funding is needed so that Halton taxpayers do not bear the burden of growth.

We recognize that the movement of goods and people is needed to accommodate population growth, however we object to the development



Gary Carr

of provincial roadways through the Niagara Escarpment and prime agricultural land. Halton Region successfully advocated to the Province on this issue, and on July 26 the Minister of Transportation confirmed that the Niagara-GTA corridor will not proceed as planned. We can all be proud of this great success.

In early September, provincial candidates running in Halton will be asked to respond to a questionnaire explaining how they would resolve critical issues facing Halton. The responses will be posted on www.halton.ca.

Please read this document and ask your local candidates about these issues.

Also, please remember to vote—your vote will help ensure that Halton remains a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

—Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region

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