## Students to display skills at GDHS

The 24th annual Halton Skills Competition will be held today (Tuesday) at Georgetown District High School with nearly 1,000 elementary and secondary student competitors expected to take part.

The Halton District School Board, Halton Catholic District School Board, and Halton Learning Foundation announced this year's event will be presented by Naylor Group Inc.

It's expected 3,000-4,000 students, parents, teachers, corporate sponsors, and industry representatives will be at the event.

This one-day event provides all Halton students with the op-

portunity to showcase their acquired skills and knowledge, and to test and challenge themselves against industry standards. Successful students and teams move on to the Ontario Skills Competition in late April, then on to the Skills Canada Competition in May.

Winners of the Skills Canada Competition go on to represent Canada at the World Skills Competition next year.

"Engaging students in technological education programs is one of the most important factors in creating tomorrow's workforce" says David Lewis, cocoordinator, Technological Education and Pathways, New Street Education Centre.

"In the next 20 years, 40 per cent of new jobs will be in the skilled trades and technology industries. In 1998, the number was less than 20 per cent,' said Lewis.

"In 2007, more than one-third of jobs created in Canada required a skilled trade designation or college diplo-

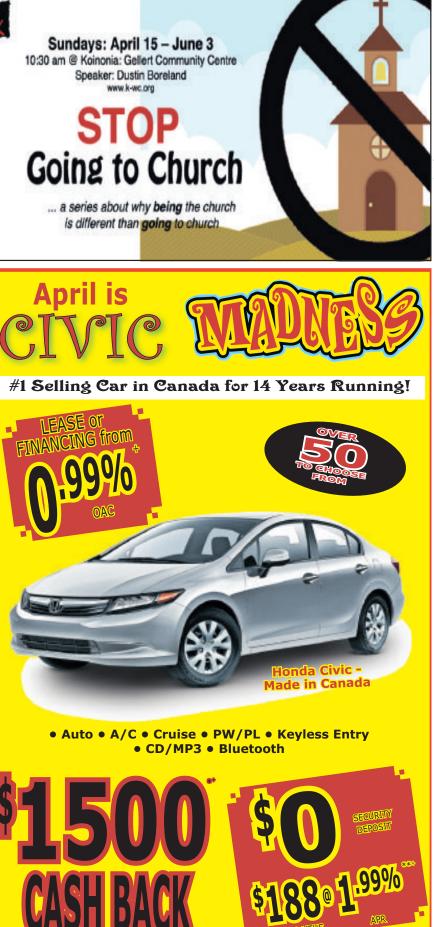
ma. Corporate sponsorship and support of the Halton Skills Competition helps to engage students, and creates a positive partnership between technological education and all post-secondary destinations, which include apprenticeship, college, university, and the workplace.

"Corporate and industry support of this year's competition is outstanding," says Lewis.

"Over 50 companies have partnered in holding this year's event with Halton District School Board and Halton Catholic District School Board, including Naylor Group Inc., Prosperity ONE Credit Union, Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation, UA Local 67, Blue Print Agencies, Halton Learning Foundation, HDBS Pathways, and HCDSB Pathways, to name a few.'

Prosperity ONE Credit Union and the Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation announced Thursday it will make a \$5,000 donation to the Skills Competition today.





\*On cash purchase. \*\* With \$2397 down. +See dealer for details.

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