

Region ready for any emergency

Halton Region, the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton and the Town of Oakville, work together year-round with our emergency preparedness partners to plan for and ensure a co-ordinated response to emergencies.

During the February 26 VIA Rail Canada train derailment in Burlington, plans took effect within minutes of the accident.

More than 100 emergency personnel responded to the incident including Halton Regional Police Service, Burlington Fire Department and Halton Emergency Medical Services. Additional support was provided by Hamilton, which supplied four ambulances and Toronto, which added a patient bus and a supervisor.

Peel Region sent ambulances to help support any other emergency calls in Halton, and York Region sent ambulances to Peel Region to support calls there. Burlington Transit had two buses on site to provide temporary shelter for train passengers.

Injured passengers were treated at Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital, Hamilton Health Sciences, and Credit Valley Hospital and Trillium Health Centre in Mississauga. Red Cross workers and other volunteers also assisted passengers and our emergency responders. It was truly a co-ordinated response.

Thank you to all who were involved in the response activities.

Gary Carr



Our thoughts continue to be with the families affected by this accident.

Our co-ordinated response clearly demonstrated that we were prepared. Individuals also have an important role to play in emergencies.

Are you prepared?

Emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility, and we can all work together to ensure Halton stays a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

For more information about Halton's Emergency Management Program, visit www.halton.ca/beprepared, dial 311, 905-825-6000, toll free 1-866-442-5866. Follow Emergency Management on Twitter @BPreparedHalton for incident updates and preparedness tips.

If you have any Regional concerns or comments you would like to share, please feel free to email me at gary.carr@halton.ca.

—Gary Carr is the chair of Halton Region

TED ARNOTT, MPP Wellington-Halton Hills



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Thank You Halton Hills



By Cory Soal R.H.A.D.

... Lend Me Your Ears

There's hardly any aspect of our lives that doesn't have sound associations. Hearing keeps us in contact with life, with people, with the sounds of the world around us. It is a priceless gift.

Sometimes our hearing fails us. Hearing loss can happen to anyone, regardless of age. Occasionally children are born with hearing defects. Hearing loss may be caused by infections, head injuries, prolonged exposure to loud noise, certain medications and of course the aging process.

The latest development in hearing instruments is known as digital technology, the driving force behind computers, fax machines and satellite communications. This has transformed our lives in ways no one could have imagined. Just as the compact disc (CD) forever changed how we listen to music, new digital hearing aids are revolutionizing the way hearing health care professionals help people hear better. If you or one of your family members suspects a hearing loss, call...

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"BABY BOOMERS" AGING

There will be an increase in "seniors" in Canada between 1997 and 2017 of 36.5 percent. While the boomer generation has benefited from better restorative dental care, there will still be a big need for prosthetic services. It is anticipated that the seniors of 2017 will have 6.6 more natural teeth than today's senior. Even today's senior is demonstrating remarkable differences from previous generations. According to the statistics Canada 1995 census, there are more than 3.6 million seniors in Canada today. 92 percent of them live in their own home and 75 percent of those living at home rate their health as good, very good or excellent.

As a patient demographic, the baby boomer generation is unique.

They are better educated, making them more sophisticated, demanding consumers. They will not age "gracefully". A survey of 1200 boomers found some startling results:

- 76 percent were convinced they look younger than actual age
- 73 percent believe 50-year olds from a generation ago, look older than today's 50-year olds
- 77 percent think women worry more about an aging facial appearance than men.

Esthetics will obviously play a vital role in any removable prosthetic treatment required by this generation.

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