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DELIVERY PERSON NEEDED:
 Weekly Rural Route driver required for Thursday am/pm delivery
Call The New Tanner
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Fix-a-Leak week

Halton Region is encouraging residents to reduce water loss in their homes by checking for and repairing any leaks in their fixtures and plumbing during Fix-A-Leak Week which runs from March 12 to 16. Small drips from faucets or showerheads, and slow leaks from running toilets can add up to significant volumes of wasted water.

"A leak of one drip per second can waste 10,000 L of water in a year which is enough to fill 50 bathtubs," said Halton Regional Chair, Gary Carr. "Wise use of water is not only important for the environment but also helps to ensure reliable water supplies today and

for future generations." Halton Region's municipal water supply is treated to the highest quality standards and is easily accessible at the turn of the tap. Water is essential to our daily lives and by repairing drips and leaks helps to avoid unnecessary water loss and is an important part of making our homes more water efficient.

In order to become more water efficient, checking for leaks and identifying their source is an important first step. Here's how to get started:

- Test for running toilets. Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank.

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Our MPP Reports

by Ted Arnott
 MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



Somewhere at Queen's Park, an old clock ticks as the Drummond report begins to gather dust on a shelf.

And with the passing of each hour, Ontario's debt grows by \$1.8-million. Every hour, 24 hours a day, the clock is ticking and the debt is growing.

Released with such drama and intense media interest just a month ago, the Drummond report has all but fallen off the agenda, with the McGuinty Liberals disavowing many of the key recommendations to save money.

Yet they continue to pretend that they can lead Ontario to a balanced budget in the foreseeable future.

Don Drummond's over-

all baseline projections are quite simple. Hold the line on health spending to an increase of 2.5 per cent per year, contain education spending to an increase of 1 per cent per year, hold post-secondary education to a 1.5 per cent annual increase and social services service at 0.5 percent. Savings would be sought in all other programs of 2.4 per cent each year. This, Drummond said, gets us to a balanced budget in 2018.

But with each cost saving recommendation the Liberals ignore, the goal of achieving a balanced provincial budget in this decade becomes more elusive and unlikely.

For the past eight years,

If any color shows up in the bowl after 20 to 30 minutes, there is a leak (be sure to flush immediately to avoid staining the bowl). Deteriorating toilet flappers are a major cause of running toilets. Check with your local plumbing supply store to ensure you replace the flapper with one specifically designed for your toilet.

- Check pipe connections. Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings such as showerhead connections for any water on the outside of the pipe, as this may indicate surface leaks. You may want to contact a plumber to under-

take repairs.

- Replace the fixture if necessary. Look for the WaterSense logo to be assured you are using the most water efficient fixtures available. Check to see if you are eligible for a \$75 rebate through Halton's Toilet Rebate Program (www.halton.ca/toiletrebate).

- Just add air. Install an aerator on any faucets that don't already have one. They are inexpensive and installation simply requires screwing the aerator on to the end of the faucet.

- Inspect outdoor faucets and in-ground irrigation systems. Each spring, check outdoor faucets and

the Government repeatedly ignored our warnings and demonstrated no interest in getting its overall spending under control. This is Dalton McGuinty's mess and he must assume responsibility for it.

The old clock continues to tick, ominously.

I was glad to have the chance to attend two outstanding community events last week in Halton Hills: the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards dinner and the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Awards. Thanks to all who organized and attended the two dinners.

Neil Cotton deserves congratulations for receiving this year's Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council Award. Heritage Acton, Georgetown Market Place, Christina Kelman

(TD Canada Trust, Acton Branch) and Val Leachman (The Way We Were) were all deserving recipients of the Chamber of Commerce awards.

The GTA West Corridor Study's Alternative 4-3 through Halton Hills is neither sensible nor is it affordable. This is the message I again delivered to the Minister of Transportation in the Legislature last week. A copy of my most recent letter, following up on Town Council's recent resolution, is posted on my website. Working together, I believe we are going to win this one.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott welcomes your comments. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366. His website address is www.tedarnottmpp.com.

connections for drips, and in-ground irrigation systems for leaks before use to make sure they have not been damaged by frost or freezing. Ensure automatic irrigation systems will not come on when it rains.

- Check your water meter. Read your water meter before going to bed, then again in the morning. Assuming that no water has been used overnight, if the meter has moved at all, you have a leak

somewhere.
 • Reduce. Be mindful of how you use water and look for other ways to be more water efficient.

To learn more about Fix-a-Leak Week or to order a free copy of the Household Guide to Water Efficiency visit www.halton.ca/water-conservation or dial 311 or 905-825-6000, toll free 1-866-442-5866, TTY 905-827-9833 Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cancer Assistance Services

of Halton Hills needs volunteers for the major April fundraiser.

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