

Community's newest residents meet with the region's finest

By Melanie Hennessey
Metroland Media Group

refugees to the community.

Then we decided this isn't just about Syrian refugees, but all new Canadians in the Town of Milton and Halton Hills, he said. The underlying purpose of this event is to not only meet our newest community members, but to also ensure them that police are here to help. As most people know, the way police are viewed in different parts of the world is very much different than it is in Canada. We want to work in partnership with them (new Canadians) in preventing crime and fighting crime.

Among those in attendance on Wednesday were Seher Khan and her two boys, who came to Canada from Kenya 18 months ago.

I thought the kids would be interested in checking out what the police station here is like, she said.

The new Milton resident has quickly discovered that Canadian law enforcement is a far cry from what she and her family were familiar with in Kenya.

It's really corrupt there. You're kind of scared of even going to the cops, she said. Here, you respect them and they can help you. That's really different for us. You feel safe here.

With both police and the HMC receiving an overwhelming re-



Adela Enache pets Police Service Dog Parker during a tour of Halton Police's 12 Division in Milton Wednesday.

Photo by Jayson Mills

sponse to the open house concept, Harrower said it could very well become a regular event.

I've received emails and phone calls asking for another event already, said Harrower. There's quite an interest out there.

All local residents will have a chance to get up close and personal with the region's officers soon at their annual Police Day, which will take place on Saturday, May 14. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Halton Regional Police Service headquarters, 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville, and will include a chance to interact with officers and their vehicles, watch live demonstrations and other festivities.

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