

CREEPING FREEZE: With frozen stealth, ribbons of ice stretched across a pond between Acton and Rockwood on Tuesday afternoon. - Marie Shadbolt photo

# Town Digest

Still safe and sound

Halton remains the safest place to live in the GTA. For the fourth year in a row, it was named the safest regional municipality in Canada, according to Maclean's magazine, which based its ranking on 2010 crime data from Statistics Canada on municipal police forces serving Canada's 100 largest populations.

The Crime Severity Index looks at six personal and property crimes including homicide, sexual assault, aggravated assault,

auto theft, robbery and breaking and entering. Understandably, Halton officials are proud of the ranking - Halton Chair Gary Carr noted the safety record of Halton is one of the main reasons people want to live, work and play here.

## Chief to retire

In the New Year, the Halton Police Services Board will meet to discuss how to replace the Chief, as Gary Crowell tendered his retirement notice last Thursday, effective June 2, 2012. Proud Board members will miss the Chief, lauded for his "leadership, integrity and decisiveness.

Crowell, who began his policing career as a Mountie 41 years ago, was Halton chief for six years and Deputy-Chief, beginning in 1999. He thanked the Board, and officers for being part of a "very effective and professional organization," noting Halton maintained its recognition as the safest Regional Municipality in Canada.

## Halton budget approved

For the third year in row, Halton Council has approved a budget with a zero per cent increase for regional services. With

a 3.2 per cent increase in the police budget, a 3.5 per cent increase in water and sewer rates, and a 5.8 per cent increase in the Conservation Halton budget, the "average" resident with a residential property assessed at \$350,000 will pay an additional \$14 in Regional taxes next year.

The \$732.5-million operating and \$689.9-million capital spending plan maintains the existing levels of services, except five new paramedics will be hired, along with other growth-related EMS items. Almost \$5-million will be spent to provide up to 220 rent supplements and up to 100 new affordable housing units will be developed.





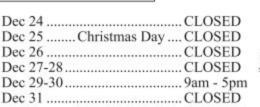


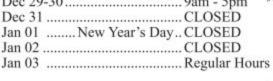
Jan 01 ...... New Year's Day.. CLOSED Jan 02 ...... CLOSED Jan 03 ......Regular Hours



(519) 853-1550 • 1-800-738-9537 • Fax: (519) 853-1559







# **Propane Fills** CLOSED 1pm Dec. 24 REOPEN Jan 3rd





Booking Office CLOSED Dec 23 @ noon Dec. 26 - 27 and 30 ...... CLOSED



		2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	
	Dec 24	9:00am - 1pm	
	Dec 25 Christi	mas Day CLOSED	
	Dec 26	CLOSED	
	Dec 27	CLOSED	
Dec 28 If required by Appointmen		ired by Appointment	
		9:00am - 5pm	
	Dec 31	9:00am - 1pm	
	Jan 01 New Y	'ear's Day CLOSED	
		CLOSED	
	Jan 03	Regular Hours	



... To all the best people we're privileged to know - our customers!

Here's hoping your holiday season if filled with glad tidings, happiness and joy from beginning to end. Thanks from the Acton staff!



1 Mountainview Rd. N., Georgetown 905-873-1339

333 Mountainview Rd. S., Georgetown 905-877-6800

372 Queen St., Unit 15 Acton 519-853-2116