

MP REPORT

By: Michael Chong ~ MP Wellington - Halton Hills



With Christmas quickly approaching, it's a good time to reflect on the past year as we look forward to a new one.

Looking back on 2016, there are many fond memories of meetings and events with people across Wellington County and Halton Hills. It was enjoyable to have the opportunity to listen to your feedback and make sure that your voices were heard in Ottawa.

As a member of the Official Opposition, we spent 2016 fulfilling our constitutional role of opposing the Liberal government and holding them to account. To this end, we have had many successes. We successfully pressured the government to vote in favour of our motion to bring Yazidi refugees, a religious minority that has been brutalized by

the Islamic State (IS), to Canada. We have also successfully made the case that the government must hold a referendum on electoral reform, and we opposed the government's plan to increase income taxes. As we move into 2017, we will continue to work hard on your behalf in Ottawa as the Official Opposition.

Locally, the Christmas season is an important time for the Christian community to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ some 2,000 years ago. It is also a time to give back to our community, a time to give to friends and family, and to neighbours in need of a helping hand to make it through the holidays. As we gather around for Christmas celebrations and dinners, please think of those across Wellington Coun-

ty and Halton Hills who would benefit from your generosity during this season.

As you shop for your holiday meals, please consider donating food to your local food bank. For a complete list of needed items, please contact your nearest foodbank:

Centre Wellington Food Bank: www.cwfoodbank.org or 519-787-1401

Erin Food Bank: www.eastwellingtoncommunityservices.com or 519-833-9696

Rockwood Food Bank: www.eastwellingtoncommunityservices.com or 519-856-2113

Acton Foodshare: www.actonfoodshare.com or 519-853-0457

Georgetown Bread Basket: www.georgetownbreadbasket.ca or 905-873-3368).

Whether you choose to



TRADITIONAL TEA: Andrea Carey (left), Naomi Bedell, Monique Anderson, Linda Denny, and Bonnie Lambert enjoyed a Traditional English Christmas Tea (insert) at Churchill Community Church on Saturday afternoon. - Les Schmidt photos



donate food, clothes, or gifts to local causes, your contribution will make the holidays merrier for those who are in need.

During this Christmas

season, I – along with Carrie and our three boys, William, Alistair, and Cameron – would like to wish you and your family all the best for the

holidays and the New Year! I look forward to continuing to serve you in 2017.

Hon. Michael Chong, M.P.

HILLSVIEW REPORT

By: Julie Conroy

Next Thursday, everyone is looking forward to our Christmas Dinner and Dance at Blue Springs Golf Club. It looks as if it is going to be a sell out.

The people that went to see the Pantomime in Milton really enjoyed the afternoon. The children in the cast were delightful and some were from TDI dance studio in Acton.

Still in the Christmas spirit, the Christmas movie on Tuesday, December 13 will be 'Love the Coopers'. Please Note, it will start at 10.30 a.m. rather than at the usual time of 1 p.m. In the afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Jake Chisholm, an accomplished blues, soul and rock and roll

artist will be performing some of your favourite Christmas classics and a number of familiar tunes.

I am sure that everyone is very busy getting ready for Christmas and the holidays. There seems to be many dinners to attend over the next few weeks, then, when it gets to January, we will all take a big breath and step on the scales. Don't forget there are ways of keeping the weight under control if you take advantage of the programs offered at the Centre. There are several member pay as you go exercise classes including Zumba Gold, Bone Builder and Tai Chi, plus on Friday mor-

nings there is a Weight Watchers class which you need to register for and a nutrition class the first Tuesday of each month (which also includes a healthy lunch).

There is no Men's Breakfast during December. The next one will be on Tuesday, January 31.

Heather has started a new venture for us, a cookie exchange on Wednesday, December 14 at 4 p.m. Come and join us for cookie baking, Christmas music, eggnog, and apple cider. Participants

will be baking cookies at the Centre and then taking a selection home with them. To share your favourite recipe, email a copy to heatherb@haltonhills.ca or drop the recipe off at the Centre by Monday, December 12 so Heather can shop for the ingredients. I am sure it will be as popular as the Secret Santa.

We held the last Bingo for the year on November 19. The next one will be in the Spring. We will continue evening Euchre during the winter on the first Wednesday of the month. The next game will be Wednesday, January 4.

On Thursday while playing Bid euchre Doug

Brown and Shirley Hunter both had two mooners and Thelma Jordan had one.

On Thursday morning Edna Fraser accompanied by her two sons Derek and Colin Ash added another leaf to our Tree of Hope in memory of her husband and their father Ivan Ashe. There are now 244 leaves on the trees.

If you are planning on escaping winter perhaps you would like to renew your membership for 2017. It should be paid by January 1.

The Friday lunch on December 16 will be soup and sandwiches plus dessert, tea and coffee. Why don't you take time out of your busy schedule and enjoy lunch followed by Bingo?

Are you looking for a hostess gift? This is your last opportunity to purchase one of the delicious Shriners Christmas cakes as they will be returned next week.

The weekly 50/50 was not won again this week so next Friday it should be around \$325.

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