

## A NEW CEMETERY IN HALTON HILLS

A new cemetery for the general public is taking shape for residents in Halton Hills and their families. Devereaux Cemetery is located in a quiet country setting on the 17th Side Road, just west of Trafalgar Road. It's adjacent to the Holy Redeemer Cemetery and open to people of all religious faiths.

Contact us for information about available interment options, either at time of need or in advance.

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## Region continues to face funding shortfalls

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Regional taxes pay for a variety of Halton services, such as regional roads and planning, paramedic services, public health and social assistance, children's and seniors services, affordable and assistive housing, heritage programs and economic development.

Ensuring top value for taxpayer dollars is an integral part of Regional council's commitment to being a transparent, accountable and fiscally responsible government, said Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr in a media release. The 2017 budget protects the Region's long-term financial position and financial sustainability while also making strategic investments that support a high quality of life in Halton.

During budget deliberations over the past few weeks, councillors were critical of the Province as it continues to experience funding shortfalls that impact the Region's ability to maintain a high quality of life for its residents.

To responsibly and effectively support provincially mandated growth,

provincial funding investments are required, a memo distributed at the regional council meeting related to budget discussions states.

The Health Department alone is expecting a \$9.8-million shortfall because funding for health programs, including paramedic services and the North Halton Mental Health Clinic, continue to be significantly below the expected levels of cost-shared and 100 per cent provincially-funded programs. It represents a tax impact of 4 per cent on the Regional portion of the property taxes, the memo states.

The Development Charge Act (DCA) is also limiting the amount of money municipalities can collect to cover the costs of infrastructure and services to support growth.

DCA limitations have resulted in an estimated funding gap of \$14.1 million per year and a tax impact of 6 per cent on the Regional portion of property taxes to the residents of Halton, Scinocca outlined in the memo.

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