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Thursday, December 29, 2016

Halton Hills award-winning newspaper serving Acton & Georgetown

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### FOOD BANKS GET BOOST

The Georgetown Bread Basket and Acton Food Share received donations from Town staff. **Pg. 11**

### PLEASE NOTE

With it being the Holiday Season the newspaper will get larger and require more time to prepare. Therefore, deliveries will arrive at your home later. We appreciate and thank you for your understanding.



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**THE BETHLEHEM PROJECT:** The title of this year's always-spectacular Christmas concert at Halton Hills Christian School was The Bethlehem Project and there weren't any empty seats as many parents attended the multi-stage performance involving dozens of students last Wednesday afternoon. Above, the massive Halton Hills Christian School choir helped fuel the festivities at the school's annual Christmas concert. *Photo by Eamonn Maher*

## CRTC broadband decision great news for rural Halton: Councillor

By Graeme Frisque  
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The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) declared broadband internet a basic telecommunications service last week, which could have huge implications for rural communities cur-

rently dealing with access issues. In its announcement last Thursday (Dec. 19), the federal government said it will invest \$500 million over the next five years to improve backbone Internet connections to rural communities. Backbone connections refer the hard-wired fiber cable portion of web-based com-

munication networks. The model is similar to the decades-old implementation of the telephone as a basic and essential service required to be made available to all Canadians. Before last week's announcement, telephone service was the only service considered an essential one.

According to Halton Hills councillor Clarke Somerville, who also serves as president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the initiative is great news for residents in rural areas still dealing with a lack of infrastructure to deliver high-speed access.

Continued on page 18

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