

Catholic board decides to start its own sports league

By Herb Garbutt
Metroland Media

The Halton District School Board was caught off guard by the Halton Catholic District School Board's decision to form its own sports league in the fall.

"We were unaware they were considering it," said HDSB director of education Stuart Miller. "Frankly, we were surprised."

The two boards have operated a joint league, the Halton Secondary School Athletic Association, for more than 40 years.

The Catholic board announced last Thursday that beginning in September, its nine schools will compete in the newly-formed Halton Catholic Athletic Association.

Miller said he had not heard of the Catholic board's intentions until he began receiving texts about it Tuesday. That was the night a report was presented at the HCDSB meeting.

Miller received an official letter on Wednesday informing him

of the decision, but he said it did not provide a reason for the split.

"We've had a rich tradition of the boards working together. For whatever reason, they have decided to go their own way," he said. "We wish them well. As a board, we'll still provide all the benefits athletics bring to kids, and I'm sure the same will be true for them."

In the HCDSB's news release superintendent of education Anna Prkacin said "this decision has come about in response to the continued growth of the board's secondary schools, which now supports the viability of independent athletic programs."

Miller said the boards did share costs such as ice rental, referees and safety training and believes the joint league would have saved money for both boards.

"For one thing, we shared a convener," he said. "We may have got a better deal for rentals. I don't know the exact numbers, but I think it would be reasonable to assume (there were savings)."

The report to the board in-

dicated the Catholic board will hire its own convener to oversee both secondary and elementary school athletics.

There are still many questions to be answered, such as the qualifying process for the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations championships. Currently, the HSSAA champion plays the Hamilton Catholic champion with the winner representing the Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference at the provincial championships.

But the creation of the Halton Catholic league will mean there will be three champions within GHAC vying for the spot at OF-SAA.

Miller said any scenarios would be speculative but said the organization may have to be restructured.

For now, he said there is "a great deal of work to be done" in the coming months but he remains optimistic.

"Sometimes these things have a way of inspiring people to make it even better," he said.



The Catholic board announced last Thursday that beginning in September, its nine schools will compete in the newly formed Halton Catholic Athletic Association.

File photo



**DECIDE TODAY
HOW YOU ARE GOING TO
LOOK TOMORROW.**




RODAN+FIELDS®

Independent Consultant

Lynne Gravelle, Rodan & Fields Consultant
905-703-0574 • lgravelle1.myrandf.com/ca

Toronto Airspace Noise Review

Notice of Public Meetings



As part of the ongoing independent airspace noise review, you are invited by the review team to discuss and express your views on the current options for mitigating aircraft noise through changes to the airspace design and operation. Please join us at the following locations:

MISSISSAUGA
Wednesday 1st March Hilton Garden Inn, 1870 Matheson Blvd, Mississauga, L4W 0B3
at 6:30pm - 8:30pm

OAKVILLE
Thursday 2nd March St. Luke's Community Centre, 3114 Dundas St West, Oakville, L6M 4J3
at 6:30pm - 8:30pm

NORTH YORK
Saturday 4th March Novotel North York, 3 Park Home Avenue, North York, M2N 6L3
at 10:30am - 12:30pm

For further information about the review please visit
www.torontoairspace.com



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. M-F 9am-7pm Sat. 10am-6pm Sun 10am-5pm Like us on Facebook!

****New**
Vegetable Egg
Rolls**
(reg. \$8.99) **\$6.99!**

**Lean Ground
Beef**
(reg. \$19.99) **\$15.99!**

****New**
Harvest Medley Vegetables**
A Special Blend Of Broccoli, Cauliflower, Whole Baby Carrots, Whole Green & Yellow Beans
(reg. \$4.99/kg) **\$3.49!** Or **\$5.99!**

**Stuffed
Chicken Kiev**
(reg. \$10.99) **\$8.99!**

SENIORS 10% OFF EVERY WEDNESDAY
(REG. PRICED MERCHANDISE, CASH & DEBIT ONLY)

NOW 2 locations to serve you!



Acton
HWY. 7, 1 MILE WEST OF ACTON
519.853.0311 1(800) 387.4039



Guelph
715 WELLINGTON ST. W., GUELPH
519.265.5592