

## Council takes advantage of provincial program to upgrade ActiVan fleet

By **Graeme Frisque**  
[gfrisque@metroland.com](mailto:gfrisque@metroland.com)

Halton Hills council approved the purchase of two new vehicles to add to its fleet after an application for funding was approved by the provincial government.

The town has been awarded \$130,000, or half the purchase amount through a Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF) Transfer Agreement and Metrolinx Transit Procurement Initiative.

In October 2016, staff submitted a project funding request to the Ministry of Transportation for the purchase of two accessible transit vehicles to be added to the ActiVan fleet. The proposed vehicle purchase met the eligibility requirements of the PTIF and will advance public transit service delivery in the Town of Halton Hills, wrote staff in the report.

Council has approved its contribution matching that of the province and has also set aside \$30,000 to cover other costs, such as radios and decals.

The current ActiVan fleet is currently

made up of four accessible vans and one eight-metre accessible bus.

Town staff said the current fleet is experiencing service shortfalls when one any of the existing vehicles is taken out of service for maintenance, which is being made up by contracting outside services to fill in the gaps.

The 2014 ActiVan Master Plan recommends the purchase of additional ActiVan fleet vehicles to accommodate increased passenger demand and re-establish the operational policy of maintaining a spare vehicle, staff added in its report.

No additional funding adjustments are required as a result of the decision since council already earmarked the required amount in its 2017 budget.

Staff has also recommended council purchase the vehicles through the Metrolinx Transit Procurement Initiative (TPI), which could realize further cost savings and offers options that would suit the town's needs.

No timeline has been set for the launch of the two new vehicles.



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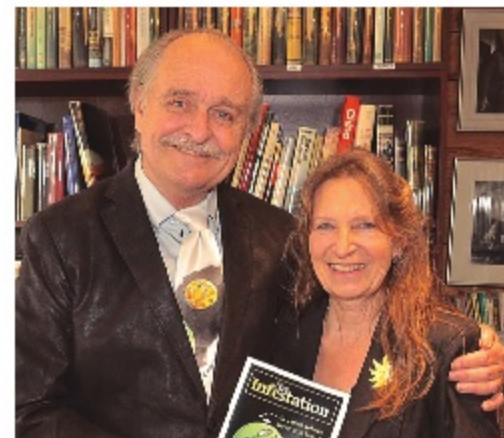
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