

Utility rates to increase next year

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Halton Region is expecting an increase to utility rates in 2018.

Next year, water utility rates will increase by 5.7 per cent, or \$24 a household. Wastewater will increase by 2.2 per cent, or \$11 per household. In total, water utility rates will raise by 3.8 per cent, or \$35 per household.

The numbers are based on a zero per cent consumption growth, and 1.6 per cent customer growth.

Of the 3.8 per cent increase, a 3.1 per cent increase is for capital financing of the state-of-good-repair program.

The other 0.7 per cent increase is to operate and maintain the system.

Commissioner of finance and regional treasur-Mark Scinocca explained to committee the region has the lowest rate average between Toronto (8.5 per cent), Peel (7.2 per cent), Durham (6.4 per cent) and Hamilton (4.8 per cent).

Hospital Foundation recognized

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The Georgetown Hospital Foundation (GHF) has been awarded the 2017 Outstanding Small Organization Excellence in Fundraising Award presented by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), Golden Horseshoe Chapter for its creative approach to fundraising.

The Georgetown Hospital Foundation's current \$1.5 million Project X Cam-

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paign to acquire leadingedge digital equipment is a prime example of this strong community support. Patients and staff are already benefiting from a new portable digital X-ray machine that was recently acquired through funds raised by this campaign.

"We are absolutely delighted with this prestigious award. It is an unbelievable honour to have our foundation recognized by the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the AFP," said Jennifer McNally, director

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of development, GHF.

Sharing the occasion with the Georgetown Hospital Foundation, was Alex Hilson, the 2017 recipient of the Association of Fundraising Professional's Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy award.

"Alex has been very involved with our Halton communities," McNally said in a statement. "t is really refreshing to see that the spirit of philanthropy is flourishing among the youth of our community."





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