

COMMENT

**'Quote
unquote'**

'The Internet is full of false claims.'
—Mark Loeb of McMaster University
see story pages 1, 3

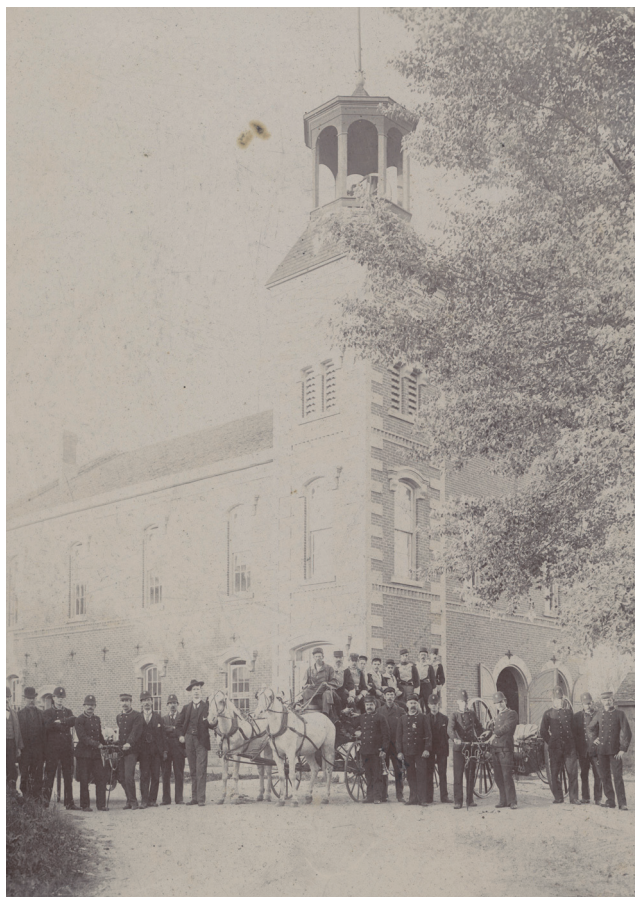
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•The IFP• Halton Hills, Thursday, November 7, 2013

The way we were

Fire department circa 1893

Service to the community has long been important to the residents of Halton Hills, as seen in this photo from 1893 of the Georgetown all volunteer Fire Brigade. Proudly serving a community of more than 59,000, today's fire department is a professional organization composed of full and part time personnel. For more information, visit www.haltonhills.ca/fire

*Photo courtesy of the Esquesing
Historical Society;
Content by Heritage Halton Hills*



From our readers

AIDING THE HUNGRY

Students at St. Francis of Assisi School in Georgetown pose with the items they collected after recently holding a food drive. Donations went to the Georgetown Bread Basket.

Photo by Louise Neely



**Got a photo you want to
share?**

Email: jmcghie@theifp.ca.

Trade deal good for Canada

On October 18, the Government of Canada announced an agreement-in-principle with the European Union (EU) on a new trade deal. This deal, if implemented, is the largest in Canadian history, opening up to Canadian companies the world's largest and wealthiest market of consumers.

Opening up foreign markets for Canadian goods and services is a key part of our government's Economic Action Plan to create jobs and economic growth. It is estimated, conservatively, this trade deal will create 80,000 new Canadian jobs and add about \$12 billion to Canada's economy, representing an addition of \$1,000 annually to each Canadian household's income.

The trade deal, formally called the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA), will see improved access for Canadian companies to the EU market of more than 500 million people. By removing trade barriers between Canadian exports to Europe will increase, while making European goods more available to Canadians. This will benefit Canadian manufacturers and workers, especially in Ontario.

When CETA comes into force, Canada will be the only G-8 country and one of the only developed countries in the world to have preferential access to the world's two largest markets, the EU and the U.S. This will make Canada an even more attractive destination for investors and manufacturers looking to benefit from this access. The expanded opportunities for Canadian companies and new investors will lead to growth in Ontario manufacturing.

The negotiations for the trade deal took longer than expected because the Canadian government bargained hard to protect our system of supply management, the system that has protected

Canadian dairy, chicken, egg and turkey farmers since the 1970s. In order to secure the overall agreement, Canada agreed to increase the amount of cheese imported from approximately 20,000 to 36,000 tonnes annually, out of a total of 400,000 tonnes of cheese consumed a year in Canada. The increase in cheese imports is expected to be more than offset by the future increases in cheese demand in Canada. In return, the Europeans agreed to allow Canadian beef and pork, as well as Canadian cheese, into Europe tariff-free. Canadian beef and pork farmers have estimated that this tariff-free access for their products will add about \$1 billion annually to their industry.

Since the announcement of CETA, I have met and talked with a number of dairy farmers in our area. Many are still learning the details of the agreement and I want to assure them that I continue to strongly support the system of supply management. I also want to assure them that in the event that they are negatively affected, the government will provide financial compensation to those affected. In addition, the government has committed to invest resources in marketing and take action at the border to strengthen Canada's system of supply management.

This trade deal is the biggest in Canadian history, opening up to Canadian companies a market of 500 million wealthy European consumers. It will secure Canada's economic future by diversifying trade away from our overreliance on trade with the United States.

More details on the trade agreement can be found at: <http://goo.gl/sOtV4>

If you have any questions you can reach me by phone at (866) 878-5556 or by email at michael.chong@parl.gc.ca.

—Michael Chong is the MP for
Wellington-Halton Hills



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