

Halton Region crime rate plummets to historic low

By **DAVID LEA**
Metroland Media Group

Halton may be growing, but its crime rate is apparently not, dropping to a historic low last year.

In a Crime Statistics Overview of 2012, unveiled last week, police said there were 1,602 fewer criminal offences reported (12,076) than in the previous year (13,678).

This marks an overall 13.9 per cent decrease in the crime rate— once the region's population

growth is factored in.

Halton Regional Police say this is the lowest crime rate Halton has seen since it officially became a region in 1974.

Halton Hills's crime rate fell 14.6 per cent.

"Many factors contribute to that (the lower rate) and we know that among the demographics, an aging population, less youth between the ages of 15 and 23, a positive local economy and relatively high incomes all contribute to these statistics," said Halton Police Chief Steve Tanner. "But we also work very closely with our citizens in areas of proactive policing and crime prevention that also contributes to these results."

Police said violent criminal offences in Halton dropped by 18.5 per cent from 2,569 incidents in 2011 to 2,095 in 2012.

Property crime also fell by 10.5 per cent from 10,025 occurrences in 2011 to 8,969 in 2012.

Some individual crime categories that showed decreases in 2012 compared to 2011 included:

- Sexual assault— down 17 per cent from 171 to 142
- Assault— down 22.1 per cent from 1,717 to 1,337
- Break and enter— down 9 per cent from 1,094 to 996
- Auto theft— down 33.9 per cent from 481 to 318
- Theft under \$5,000— down 2.8 per cent from 4,975 to 4,834
- Fraud— down 29.9 per cent from 1,416 to 993

The news in the overview was not all good with incidents of robbery showing a 1.1 per cent increase from 87 in 2011 to 88 in 2012. Theft over \$5,000 increased by 2.6 per cent from 114 in 2011 to 117 in 2012 while possession of stolen goods went up by 3.7 per cent.

• For more visit www.theifp.ca

8 more sleeps until the Big DADDY Festival
Father's Day Weekend in Halton Hills
The Place To Be!
www.BigDaddyFestival.ca



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PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 38 Guidelines Public Information Centre

Halton Region is preparing a set of guidelines to aid in the implementation of Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 38. The seventeen ROPA 38 Guidelines address a wide range of policies and are organized into four categories: agricultural/rural, infrastructure, health and resource. You can access and review the draft ROPA 38 Guidelines online at www.halton.ca/ROPA38guidelines.

To gather feedback on the draft ROPA 38 Guidelines, a Public Information Centre will be held to provide residents and interested parties with an opportunity to review, comment on and discuss the draft guidelines in person.

Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Place: Halton Regional Centre, Auditorium
1151 Bronte Road, Oakville

You can also submit your questions or feedback online by visiting www.halton.ca/ROPA38guidelines. The deadline for all comments on the draft ROPA 38 Guidelines is June 30, 2013.

For more information, contact:

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Advocating for a Strong Halton

The Provincial *Places to Grow Act* mandates Halton Region's population grow to 780,000 residents by the year 2031. To facilitate this growth and maintain the high quality of life that is currently enjoyed in Halton, there are a number of critical supports required from the Provincial and Federal Governments.

Advocating for a Strong Halton is a series of documents highlighting Regional Council's position and asks on a number of key challenges facing the Region. The documents can be viewed online at www.halton.ca/advocacy.

Regional Council is committed to protecting the Region's taxpayers from costs associated with growth and ensuring that Halton remains a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.



Gary Carr
Regional Chair

Halton Regional Meeting Schedule

Meetings can be viewed at www.halton.ca/meetings

June 12 9:30 a.m. Planning & Public Works Cttee. **June 19 9:30 a.m.** Regional Council Meeting
June 12 1:30 p.m. Administration & Finance Cttee.

Please contact us, as soon as possible, if you have any accessibility needs at Halton Region events or meetings.

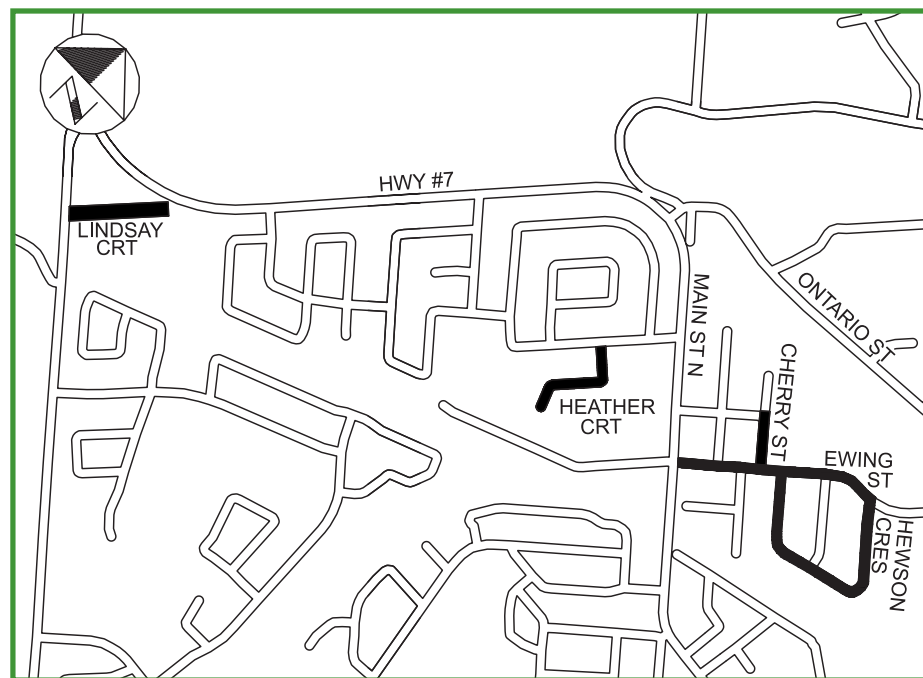
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NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

Watermain and Wastewater Main Replacement in the Cherry Street Area and on Lindsay Court Town of Halton Hills



Contract Number: WS-2737-13
Scheduled Start Date: June 2013
Scheduled Completion Date: December 2013
Project Manager: Brenda Kingsmill
1-866-442-5866 x 7622
Brenda.Kingsmill@halton.ca



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