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## Halton is in 'state of readiness'

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"We are always in a state of readiness when an event like this happens," Mac-Caskill said.

"We are in contact regularly with the chief of (Halton) police and monitoring the media."

Halton Police Chief Stephen Tanner spoke at a brief press conference at police headquarters at 3 p.m. Wednesday flanked by several regional and municipal politicians.

He offered his service's sympathies to the family of those killed or wounded in the shootings this week, later noting he has heard the soldier killed at the war memorial was a reservist with a Hamilton regiment.

He said a rumour that the victim is connected to Halton police is untrue, but that he doesn't know if the dead soldier has any connection to Halton Region.

"I want to reassure the public that there is no imminent threat to public safety in Halton and the immediate area.... (but) the public needs to be increasingly vigilant" and not let suspicious activity go unnoticed or unreported," said Tanner.

The police chief said, "Terrorism changes our world in many ways," adding that if the killings in Quebec and Ottawa this week are terrorism related, "it affects us all."

Tanner said he did not feel the need to



## HALTON POLICE CHIEF STEPHEN TANNER

Photo by Riziero Vertolli, Metroland Media Group

call in extra officers on overtime, under the circumstances.

He didn't know if police would lower its flags to half-staff as the victim is part of the military and there are specific protocols surrounding such measures.

—With files from Tim Whitnell, Herb Garbutt, Kathy Yanchus and Rachael Williams, Metroland Media Group

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