

Region's unemployment rate drops to four per cent

The unemployment rate in Halton has dropped to four per cent.

According to the Region's most recent economic update, the unemployment rate in the second quarter of the year (April-June) was significantly below Hal-

IN BRIEF

Halton Police are reminding area residents to lock their vehicles and remove valuables after an increase in car entries in Georgetown recently.

Police report vehicles were entered on Russell St. and Oak St. late Monday or early Tuesday. Items taken include a GPS, iPod and wallet.

Halton Hills firefighters responded to a two-vehicle collision at Mountainview Rd. S. and 10 Sideroad Wednesday (Dec. 3) about 5:30 p.m. Halton Regional Police were already on scene.

No one was trapped in the vehicles. Three people suffered minor injuries. Fire crews provided patient care until ambulance arrived.

ton's five year average rate of 5.5 per cent.

The number of Halton residents participating in the labour market was 74.5 per cent, edging up from 74.4 percent in the previous quarter and higher than the 70.5 per cent during the same quarter in 2013.

"Our most recent unemployment figures are an indication that Halton Region's 10-year Economic Development Strategy is right on track," said Regional Chair Gary Carr. "While we are less than half way through the life of the strategy, I am pleased to report that we are well on our way to achieving our vision by 2021 that Halton will be a preferred location for innovative businesses and entrepreneurs who need highly skilled talent, quality infrastructure and a positive business environment in order to contribute to sustainable regional economic prosperity."

Other highlights include a 40 per cent rise in the second quarter compared to the same period in 2013 in the value of building permits in Halton, the result of a resurgence in industrial investment activity (78 per cent increase). Halton's commercial retail and office permit value also rose 11 per cent from the same time last year.



An armed robbery happened at Choi's Convenience Store on Main St. N. in Georgetown yesterday afternoon. Photo by Eamonn Maher

Cops respond to armed robbery call

Halton Regional Police are investigating an armed robbery involving two male suspects at Choi's Convenience on Main St. N. about 12:20 p.m. Wednesday.

A gun was seen by the store clerk. No one was injured.

Police searched the area, but the search was called off, as the suspects were believed to have fled. The HRPS canine unit was also on the scene.

At press time police had no further details.

IN BRIEF

Firefighters were called to a two-vehicle collision at Trafalgar Rd. and Hwy. 7 about 5:50 p.m. Wednesday. On scene, fire crews disabled the batteries on both vehicles. Ambulance staff had one patient they were transporting to hospital.

Firefighters responded to a two-vehicle collision at Wildwood Rd. and Confederation St. in Glen Williams Dec. 3. On scene, firefighters found a small car and pickup truck had collided head-on. No one was injured. Firefighters blocked off the road until the salter came through.

Halton Police launch Project H.O.L.I.D.A.Y.

Halton Police have launched Project H.O.L.I.D.A.Y., which will run through Jan. 31 in Halton Hills and Milton.

The project targets specific crimes that often increase in frequency at this time of year.

"An increase in opportunity for criminals to victimize can lead to an increase in criminal activity," said Det. Sgt. Nick Milinovich.

Patrol officers, officers in specialized units, criminal investigators and community partners will be working together focused on the

following areas:

HIGH ENFORCEMENT ON REPEAT OFFENDERS

- An enhanced focus on recidivism through enforcement of offender release conditions

ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME/PROPERTY CRIME

- Thefts from Vehicles: Education, Strategic Deployment, Enhanced Investigative Strategies

- Residential Break and Enters: Education, Directed Patrols, and devotion of additional investigative resources

- Organized Retail Crime: Increased levels of visible/plain clothes police, Partnered work between Police and Retail Representatives (Loss Prevention)

LINKS TO SERVICES/MENTAL HEALTH

- Emphasis on intervention prior to crisis through Crisis Outreach And Support (COAST)

DOMESTIC INCIDENTS

- Enhanced focus on intervention and support

ALCOHOL RELATED ISSUES

- Strategic co-ordination of holiday ride program with other projects focused on alcohol related crimes

YOUTH ISSUES

- Increased focus on youth and related issues

Visit the Safety and Security Tips page for helpful tips at <http://www.haltonpolice.ca/CommunityPolicing/SafetySecurity/Pages/default.aspx>

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