

Permits show business is booming in Halton Region

By Bob Mitchell
Special to The IFP

Business was booming in the construction sector in Halton over the last quarter of 2014, according to a report presented to Halton Region's Finance and Administration Committee this week.

An expansion of the Mid-Halton Wastewater Treatment plant in Oakville helped pave the way for a 49 per cent increase in building permits in the fourth quarter of

2014 over 2013.

In fact, industrial, commercial and residential values all rose during the same period.

A total of 2,065 building permits were issued in Halton during the fourth quarter of 2014—a 59 per cent increase from the same period in 2013.

Residential permits accounted for nearly half of all building permits issued.

Altogether, \$224 million of the \$677.6 million in building permits issued for the fourth quarter involved the expansion of the Mid-

Halton Wastewater Treatment plant. The treatment plant accounted for 86 per cent of the industrial activity.

The increase was mainly due to the significant climb in industrial construction from just over \$20.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2013 to roughly \$261.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2014, the report indicated.

Other significant industrial projects included permits for:

- the Region's upgrade and expansion of the Fulton Wastewater Pumping Station in

Milton.

- a new 30,000 sq foot bus servicing facility in Milton, making it the largest bus repair and refurbishment company in Canada.

- a new compressor station for Union Gas in Milton.

Residential permits increased by 46 per cent from \$212.4 million in the fourth quarter of 2013 to \$309.5 million in 2014. Commercial retail and office construction also increased by 25 per cent, from \$66 million to more than \$82 million.

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