

# WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY — HCDSB SUPERINTENDENT

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regulations.

In an email statement to the IFP, Anna Prkacin, superintendent of curriculum services with the Halton Catholic District School Board, identified a number of resources provided by Ophea (Ontario Physical and Health Education Association) and the Ministry of Education that local school boards have been using to teach parents and students about cannabis, the risk factors, repercussions and how to engage youth in conversations about it.

"The safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority, and we will continue to ensure that our schools and workplaces are safe environments," she said.

Another local education piece that will be seeing a shakeup over the



next year is B.R.A.V.O. (Building Respect, Attitudes and Values with Others), a partnership between Halton Regional Police Service and Halton District School Board, the Halton Catholic District School Board and members of the Halton Independent Schools.

The program previously saw liaison officers teaching lessons to Grade 6 students over a nine-week period on a variety of topics including substance abuse.

Woods says that while many schools will continue with the program for this school year, she expects it to look completely

different come next September.

"We're coming up with what's the best way to use all of our liaison officers in our schools and how they can better access all students in the school, not just Grade 6 students," Woods said. "So what's basically going to happen is we are creating a document whereby schools can see where their community officers can connect to all aspects of the curriculum and not just deliver a lesson that a teacher can deliver ... Right now we're just finalizing what it's going to look like and how we can use all our community resources, including our public health (figures), firefighters and police officers."

*Next week: Cannabis and your health: What is the Halton Region Health Department saying about the health effects of cannabis?*

## STORY BEHIND THE STORY

How will the legalization of cannabis affect today's students

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## ■ NEWS

# FIREFIGHTERS RESCUE GIRL FROM ICE ON FAIRY LAKE

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The Halton Hills Fire Department executed a successful rescue on Fairy Lake in Acton Sunday evening.

Halton police reported a 12-year-old girl had gone missing and had last been seen around 5 p.m. Sunday in a neighbourhood close to Fairy Lake.

The fire department responded to a call at 6:45 p.m. of a person on the ice. They arrived at Prospect Park where they found the girl standing on the ice about 100 feet from shore.

Firefighters from the technical rescue team used a water and ice rescue boat and in a few minutes were able to bring the girl safely to shore.

Halton EMS were on scene to care for



Halton Hills Fire Department photo

Members of the Halton Hills Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team prepare for an ice rescue Sunday evening on Fairy Lake. The team was able to successfully rescue a girl who was standing on the ice about 100 feet from shore.

the girl, who was uninjured.

"This emergency was resolved without incident," said Fire Chief Harry Olivieri, "but it's a good reminder to everyone not to go out on frozen waters yet as this year's fluctuating temperatures have meant that ice surfaces are not safe."

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