

# HALTON REGION MAINTAINS TOP CREDIT RATING FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Moody's Investors Service has once again awarded its highest credit rating to Halton Region.

The company's analysis, based on an extensive and objective review of Halton's performance, cites the Region's prudent financial management policies as the basis of its decision, which was outlined in a recent credit opinion report.

Halton has upheld this rating for more than three decades, and the agency also assigned a stable outlook for positive and consistent fiscal outcomes in the years to come.

"Our top credit rating is critical to maintaining a strong financial position, and we are proud to have earned this distinction once again," said Regional Chair Gary Carr. "By recognizing the quality of our financial plans, practices and reports, Moody's has confirmed that regional council and staff continue to govern responsibly.

With this credit rating, we will keep property taxes low to support residents and businesses as we invest in Halton's future."

According to the Region, maintaining a top credit rating minimizes long-term infrastructure capital financing costs by providing Halton and its local municipalities with continued access to the best capital financing rates available. As a result, public funds go further when invested in regional works, such as road, water and wastewater projects.

Moody's analysis highlighted the following credit strengths as the basis of its decision: Halton's track record of posting strong fiscal results each year, supported by stable operations and an effective multi-year budgeting process

The Region's forward-looking operating and capital plans to address pressures and spending requirements early on

Halton's low and declining debt burden  
The community's diversified economy and strong population growth

In June 2018, S&P Global Ratings also upheld its top rating for the Region. Maintaining this distinction from both agencies is an objective of Halton's 2019 budget and business plan.

For more information visit halton.ca.



Metroland file photo

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By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

## ... Lend Me Your Ears

### LEARNING NEW STRATEGIES

A diminished social life is one of the most difficult aspects of age related hearing loss. Many people avoid drawing attention to their hearing loss by having fewer social contacts when it becomes difficult understanding what is being said. The result is an altered and lonely existence that family and friends may mistake for dementia.

Learning new strategies to cope with hearing loss could go a long way to restoring confidence and improving communication. The Hearing Clinic recommends the following: Inform people of the hearing loss so they may modify their speech; eliminate background noise; watch the speaker carefully and sharpen natural lip-reading abilities; ask the speaker to repeat what was said if necessary, and above all else; have your hearing thoroughly tested and properly fit with one of today's modern hearing instruments. Contact The Hearing Clinic if you or someone you know needs assistance.

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