

TO GIVE OR NOT TO GIVE GOODS TO A CHARITY

CASH DONATIONS MORE EFFICIENT, WRITES SHERRI ARMSTRONG



SHERRI ARMSTRONG
Column

Throughout the year, community members often ask us how they can best make a difference for students in need.

"Is it better to donate clothing and school supplies or cash?"

At the Halton Learning Foundation, we're grateful for this question because it reminds us there are so many individuals and businesses in the Halton community who want to help kids who are less fortunate. It's tempting to respond

that whether you donate items or funds, you're helping low-income students to succeed.

But there are a couple of good reasons some charities prefer cash donations to help vulnerable children and families.

Efficiency: Physical donations like clothing and school supplies need to be sorted, transported and distributed, which can take more time than using cash or gift cards to purchase only items that are needed. Although in-kind donations may be perfect for some charities, other organizations do not have the space or the resources to facilitate them.

For the latter, cash donations can be more efficient, allowing staff to spend more time raising funds or getting help to those who need it.

Suitability: Although people always have the best

intentions, there is a good chance the donated supplies are not what's needed.

With four growing kids and a minimum-wage salary, Burlington mom Denise struggles every year to come up with additional funds for back-to-school items.

"I don't want people to think I'm not grateful for donations, but the downside is you get what someone has chosen for you, and they don't know my kids. I still have to purchase many things and end up re-donating what we can't use."

Personal donations are even trickier. Older kids, especially, just want to fit in, and they may be embarrassed by clothing or backpacks that simply aren't suitable for them.

As much fun as it can be to shop for others, when it comes to charitable donations it's always best to check with your preferred

charity first to see whether in-kind goods or cash donations will make the most difference to those you want to help.

Sherri Armstrong is the communications manager at the Halton Learning Foundation. HLF provides gift cards and subsidies for backpacks and school supplies, shoes and clothing, hygiene items, school lunches and learning opportunities - whatever a student of the Halton District School Board requires to go to school prepared and excited to learn. For more information, visit haltonlearning-foundation.ca.

MORE ONLINE

SIGN UP FOR
OUR WEEKLY
NEWSLETTER AT
THEIFPCA

COMMUNITY

Georgetown's Elma Harlow, surrounded by her family, receives a plaque in recognition of her 100th birthday from local councillor Bryan Lewis.



Ray Lavender photo

RELATIVE OF GEORGETOWN FOUNDER CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY

MELANIE HENNESSEY
mhennessey@
metroland.com

A lifelong Georgetown resident has been alive for a century and counting. Elma Harlow celebrated her 100th birthday on Aug. 23, and a party was thrown in her honour the following day at

Knox Presbyterian Church. The local woman's great-great-grandfather is George Kennedy, one of Georgetown's founding fathers and the namesake of the town. Harlow was also well known in the Knox church community, as she sang in the church choir for an impressive 80 years.

She raised two children alongside husband Herb in Georgetown. Today, she also has three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

The centenarian currently resides at Mountainview Residence, which marked her milestone birthday with an open house celebration.

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

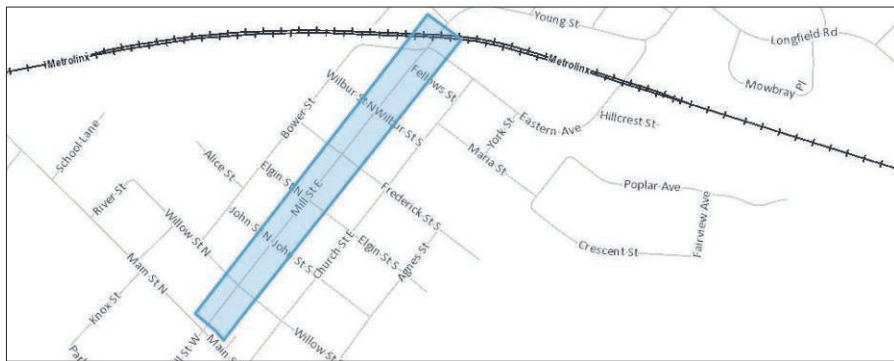


Metrolinx Railway Crossing Repairs

The following road will be closed to through traffic from 7 p.m. on September 6, 2019 to 7 a.m. on September 9, 2019.

Mill Street East (Hwy 7) between Main Street and Wallace Street

If you require any additional information regarding this road closure, please contact the Transportation & Public Works Department at 905-873-2601, Ext. 2215.



1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2 | 905-873-2601 | 1-877-712-2205 | haltonhills.ca

brilliant with
beards and banter



A stylist for
everyone.



First Choice HairCutters®

FirstChoice.com