

# HALTON POLICE SEIZE GUN, DRUGS AND CASH

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Three men have been arrested following a four-month investigation by Halton Regional Police Service's drug and human trafficking unit.

In the early morning hours of Dec. 5, members of the tactical rescue unit and plain clothes officers executed a search warrant at two homes, one on Eighth Line in Halton Hills and one on Caulfield Crescent in Mississauga, as well as a business on Steeles Avenue in Milton. Officers later executed a fourth search warrant at a residence on Ferguson Drive in Milton.

**During the investigation police seized:**

- A loaded Taurus G2S handgun
- 3.5 ounces of cocaine
- 38 oxycodone tablets
- 37 Xanax tablets
- \$5,500 in Canadian currency
- \$1,000 in US currency

Carlos Jebaili, 33, of Mississauga, has been arrested and charged with: Trafficking a controlled substance, two counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking, unauthorized possession of a prohibited firearm, possession of a firearm knowing its possession is unauthorized, possession of a prohibited firearm with ammunition, and careless storage of a firearm in contravention with storage regulations.

Mekhail Mekhail, 32, of

Halton Hills, has been arrested and charged with: Possession of a controlled substance and failure to comply with recognition.

Brent McGrail, 31, of Milton, has been arrested and charged with three counts of trafficking a controlled substance.

Jebaili and Mekhail were held in custody pending a bail hearing, while McGrail was released on a promise to appear and an undertaking.

Police are reminding the public that all persons charged are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact Det. Const. Kevin Magee of the drug and human Trafficking Unit at 905-825-4747 ext. 4964.

Tips can be submitted anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at [www.halton-crimestoppers.ca](http://www.halton-crimestoppers.ca).

# HALTON HILLS SETS LOWEST LEVY INCREASE IN NEARLY 2 DECADES

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On Monday, the Town of Halton Hills' budget committee approved the 2020 budget.

Included in the budget was the lowest tax-levy increase since 2001, at 3.1 per cent.

The rate is a tax cut from the projected 3.9 per cent levy used as the basis for the long-term financial plan.

When blended with Halton Region and the boards of education, the increase equates to 2.1 per cent.

"This is the lowest tax-levy increase in almost two decades," said Mayor Rick Bonnette, adding that the budget figure was even

more significant, given the challenges of changing provincial legislation.

Compared with surrounding communities, the Town of Halton Hills maintained the lowest increase, alongside Oakville, and the highest levy rate increase was Milton, with a proposed five per cent.

"It's important to note that achieving a tax-rate increase below the projected target is indicative of the town's strong fiscal management and relentless pursuit to keep the tax rate as low as possible," Bonnette said.

**Factors that contribute to the levy include:**

- A healthy assessment growth of 2.26 per cent
- Review and implemen-

tation of efficiencies

- Ongoing receipt of supplementary taxes
- Phased repayment of hydro promissory note

**Highlights of the proposed 2020 budget include:**

- Reserve contributions of \$9.9 million to prepare for growth and unanticipated events
- Acceleration of debt payment

Continuation of special infrastructure gap levy to maintain assets and support recommendations to lower carbon conversions

- Discontinuation of the ice rate surcharge

The budget also accounts for the sale of approximately 5.26 acres of developable area in Hornby Park for the District 1 Halton Region police station.

More information about the 2020 budget is available on the Town of Halton Hills website.

The budget will go to council for final approval at the Dec. 9 meeting.

## Support our littlest patients this Holiday season!

We are fortunate that the majority of births at Georgetown are uncomplicated, and families are able to go home with their healthy newborns. However, we need to be prepared for mothers who experience emergencies - for example, those who are too far along in labour to transfer to an urgent care hospital with a special care nursery.

Your generous gift to our 2019 Holiday Appeal will help us purchase this crucial lifesaving equipment. And when you make your donation before December 31, it is eligible for inclusion on your 2019 tax return.

Visit us online at [www.SupportGHF.ca](http://www.SupportGHF.ca)  
or call **905-873-4599** to make your special holiday gift.

**Thank you** for thinking of our littlest patients during this season of giving.



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