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Dear people of Halton Hills;

During these uncertain times, rest assured we remain open to serve you. We have adjusted services according to the guidance by Health Canada.

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If necessary, I offer mailbox drops as well! Take care, be safe and know this will pass.

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**NEWS** 

## ORNGE **AMBULANCE COMING TO HALTON** FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

**MELANIE HENNESSEY** mhennessey@metroland.com

An Ornge critical care land ambulance will soon be stationed in Halton to be prepared for those requiring a higher level of care during the pandem-

As of Dec. 1, the ambulance will be ready for deployment out of the Halton Paramedic Services headquarters on Bronte Road in Oakville.

'In anticipation of an increased need for transportation of patients due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ornge temporarily expanded the critical care land ambulance program to better service the west Greater Toronto Area," explained a report from Halton medi-



Ornge photo

An Ornge critical care land ambulance.

cal officer of health. Dr. Hamidah Meghani.

'This temporary accommodation is not anticipated to impact paramedic operations and will enable Ornge to provide better service to the four Halton hospitals.'

The critical care ambulance was first stationed in Hamilton at the beginning of the pandemic, but as of December, the city is no longer able to accommodate.

Regional council approved the space-sharing agreement during its October session.

The new temporary Halton location adds to Ornge's existing bases, including Mississauga, Peterborough and Ottawa. Ornge is also still available by helicopter and fixed wing aircraft, as required.

The not-for-profit organization coordinates all aspects of Ontario's air ambulance system, the critical care land transport program and pediatric transport program, and also authorizes air and land ambulance transfers between hospitals.



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