



## ACTON CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

ACTON CHRISTMAS HAMPER COMMITTEE

Acton Rotary Club  
The Salvation Army Acton Family Services  
Knights of Columbus Acton Council 8050  
St. Vincent Charities of St. Joseph, Patron of Canada Church

### 2021 Food & Toy Hampers

For those needing Assistance during this Christmas Season  
The Salvation Army Acton Family Services  
is now accepting applications by appointment

**at 114 Mill St. E. Acton**

From Tuesday thru Friday – November 9th to December 3rd  
**519-853-1140** between **9am-12 Noon**

**To adhere to all public health measures, an appointment must be made**

Applicants are asked to bring current (not expired) identification for all family members, and current proof of residency.

**Applications cannot be taken unless these are provided.**  
**Christmas Assistance will be given by appointment between**  
**December 14th – 16th**

## NEWS

### NEW BYLAW RESTRICTS WATER PIPE SMOKING IN MANY PUBLIC PLACES

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Halton has enacted a by-law that will ban waterpipe smoking wherever cigarettes, cannabis and vaping are currently prohibited. The new regulation was recently endorsed by regional council. Now, at least three of the local town/city councils in Halton must pass motions consenting to the bylaw for it to come into force.

The new rules stipulate that waterpipe smoking (also known as hookah, narghile or shisha) is prohibited in areas such as enclosed public places, workplaces, restaurants and bars, parks and within nine metres from any entrance or exit of municipal buildings and child-care centres.

A report from Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Hamidah Meghani said a recent brief from Public Health Ontario found that waterpipe smoke contains "harmful toxins and chemicals," even when tobacco is not used.

"Exposure to waterpipe smoke is associated with multiple adverse health outcomes, including respiratory diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and chronic bronchitis, lung cancer, heart disease, dental disease and negative pregnancy outcomes, including infants with low birth weight," said Meghani in a report to council.

Halton is one of an estimated 10 public health units out of 34 in the province with operating establishments for waterpipe smoking.

"However, the concerning part is the increasing number of these establishments within the health units," wrote the region's top doctor. "For example, in Halton Region currently there are nine such establishments, compared to three establishments in 2017."

Over the summer, the establishment owners were invited to virtual meetings with Halton Public Health to discuss the by-law and research evidence that supports its implementation.

Meghani said although the new regulation "was not received favourably," the operators who attended were appreciative for the notice and opportunity to comment.

Halton officials intend to enforce the bylaw on a complaint basis, with measures such as education, warnings, monetary fines and other legal tools being used by public health inspectors.

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