

crimination against and disadvantages the sizable percentage of non-Catholic students in board schools.

Andrew Lokan, a lawyer with Paliare Roland Barristers, said in a statement that the policy may well be discriminatory, but Catholic school boards hold a special position within the country.

"Although they discriminate against non-Catholics on their face, they are reasonably related to the special position that Catholic school boards have had since Confederation, as repeatedly reaffirmed by the courts. While there are some recent cases that might support a challenge, it is my opinion that they would likely survive challenge," reads the statement from Lokan.

The requirement that a student trustee be Catholic is one that, arguably, violates both the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, both of which prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion. However, Lokan points out the courts have repeatedly found that Catholic boards hold a unique position that goes back to 1867.

A key case around the issue is *Daly v. Ontario* from the late '90s. In that case, the court found that Catholic boards were permitted to favour Catholic teachers when hiring.

"The Ontario Court of Appeal held that the rights and privileges of denominational schools at the time of Confederation implicitly included the right to prefer Catholics as teachers. As such, a provision in the Education Act that purported to prevent Catholic school boards from taking into account the religion of teachers, as long as the teacher respected the philosophy of the school, was unconstitutional," said Lokan in his statement.

Being a student trustee does come with a number of advantages including providing a \$2,500 scholarship and a letter of commendation from the board chair.

The total cost to receive the legal opinion from Lokan was not available at the time it was reported.

The board of trustees had received another legal opinion on the matter earlier in the year, but that statement was not made public.



## Household holiday waste collection

There are no holiday collection delays for Halton residents this year.

### Holiday collection reminders:



You do not need garbage bag tags on the first garbage collection after Christmas Day. The six garbage bag/can limit applies.



Please make sure containers and bags are visible to collection crews, and are free of snow and ice. Do not place on top of snowbanks or on the road surface to ensure streets are clear for snow removal.



Christmas trees will be picked up during the weeks of January 11 and 18, 2022 on your scheduled collection day. Please remove all decorations, tree stands and plastic bags prior to collection.

To learn more and check your collection schedule, please visit [halton.ca/waste](http://halton.ca/waste).

### Halton Waste Management Site

**Closed**  
Saturday, December 25, 2021 and  
Saturday, January 1, 2022.

**Regular Operating Hours**  
Monday to Saturday | 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
5400 Regional Road 25, Milton

### Put Waste in its Place



#### Blue Box

- Aluminum foil, trays and pop cans
- Boxed beverage containers
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic plates and cups



#### Green Cart

- Leftover turkey, including bones
- Buns and stuffing
- Paper plates and cups
- Napkins
- Tissue paper free of tape or glitter



#### Garbage

- Plastic cutlery
- "Compostable" plastic cups and cutlery
- Styrofoam
- Plastic wrap
- Disposable masks and gloves



### General waste collection tips:

- Place waste securely at the curb by 7 a.m. on collection day and no sooner than 5 p.m. the night before.
- Please ensure containers or bins weigh no more than 23 kg (50 lbs).
- Bag and tie all garbage and Green Cart material.
- Wrap mattresses and box springs in plastic before placing at the curb for bulk waste collection.

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

On behalf of Halton Regional Council and staff, I would like to wish you a joyous holiday season! I hope you enjoy your time with family and friends. Please continue to follow all public health measures to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Thank you to those continuing to deliver essential Regional services over the holidays and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most Regional facilities will be closed from Friday, December 24 until Tuesday, January 4. For assistance, please visit [halton.ca](http://halton.ca), email [accesshalton@halton.ca](mailto:accesshalton@halton.ca) or call 311.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Gary Carr  
Regional Chair

### Meetings at Halton Region

Regional Council meetings are taking place through web conferencing until further notice. Videos will be posted to [halton.ca](http://halton.ca).



Please contact us, as soon as possible, if you have any accessibility needs at Halton Region events or meetings.