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NEWS

NORTH HALTON STEELES AVENUE BUS LINE LAUNCHED

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The first step in Halton Hills' transit strategy is underway.

The first passengers recently jumped aboard a Milton Transit bus with a route through Halton Hills. The new route is a joint project between the towns, and will see buses making stops in Halton Hills six days a week at 45-minute intervals.

The cost will be split 50/50 between the municipalities.

"There's a notion that people don't want transit until the town grows, but you can't grow until you get transit," said Melanie Frazer, executive director of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce. "To attract business, easy transportation is a game changer."

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette said many of the businesses expressing interest in locating in the 401 corridor have mentioned public transit as a way of expanding their pool of potential employees.

"They will ask, do you have public transit?" Bonnette said. "It's definitely part of the discussion."

The Town approved working with Milton Transit to provide the Steeles Avenue line in 2019 as part of its transit strategic plan. However, with COVID-19 there were concerns about starting it during the pandemic when there was uncertainty around how much it would be used.

"The Town is pleased to announce this new transit partnership with Halton Hills that supports businesses along the Steeles Avenue corridor," said Tony D'Alessandro, direc-



Herb Garbutt/Metroland

The Town of Halton Hills and Milton Transit launched bus line on Steeles Avenue this week. On hand for the official launch were (from left) Scott McCammon, Milton Chamber of Commerce president and CEO; Tony D'Alessandro, Town of Milton director of transit services; Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette; Bill Andrews, Town of Halton Hills commissioner of transportation and public works; Matthew Keogh, Hayward Gordon CFO; and Melanie Frazer, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce executive director.

tor, transit services for the Town of Milton. "Milton Transit is committed to meeting the needs of the community and being both a reliable and accessible option to get you where you need to go."

Bonnette said the line will benefit both municipalities, providing people in Milton and Mississauga transportation to jobs in Halton Hills, which in turn will help Halton Hills attract more business.

"We're looking forward to seeing this as a start, as a huge stepping stone," he said. "And hopefully we'll be attracting more industry to come along the Premier Gateway."

The transit strategy also includes plans for north-south routes to help Halton Hills residents

have better access to jobs in the Premier Gateway as well as residents of other communities to have easier access to businesses in Georgetown and Acton.

"The business community has been asking for this for years so that they can grow and scale their operations," said Frazer, noting that many companies have been unable to add a second or third shift without transportation to bring employees into town.

Bonnette said it will be up to the next council to decide when to roll out the next steps in the transit plan, largely depending on the town's budget.

"We have the routes in place," he said, "it's just a matter of when to implement it."

HCDSB Invites Members to its Special Education Advisory Committee

The Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) invites local associations and community members at large and alternates, to apply for membership to its Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).

In accordance with Regulation 464/97, each school board in Ontario must establish a Special Education Advisory Committee with a mandate to provide advice and make recommendations to the Board on anything that impacts the establishment, development, and delivery of special education programs and services.

The HCDSB SEAC consists of:

- Up to 12 local associations or affiliated associations/organizations;
- Up to 2 additional members at large who are not representatives of a local association, trustees of the Board, or members of another Board committee;
- 2 school Board trustees, and alternates.

Apply Now!

The deadline for submissions is **Friday, November 11, 2022 at 4:00 PM.**



For more information on submitting a letter of interest or an application, visit:
hcdsb.info/SEAC-Membership



SEACapplications@hcdsb.org



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