

BE CAUTIOUS WHEN SALES PEOPLE COME KNOCKING: HALTON POLICE

Area residents are being urged to be cautious when it comes to door-to-door sales people. Halton police say when a stranger comes to your home, it's important to protect yourself by being aware and trusting your instincts. A salesperson or contractor asking to enter your home should be concerning, police say, adding when in doubt a homeowner can always call police at 905-825-4747 to report a suspicious person.

Halton police want resi-



Chris Simon/Metroland

Halton police are offering tips on how to deal with door-to-door sales people.

dents to know and practise these additional tips provided by the Office of Consumer Affairs:

- Ask to see the salesperson's company-issued identification and seller's license or registration. Take note of their name, and the name and address of the company they represent.
- Don't be pressured into buying on the spot.
- If you are interested in the product, ask for a brochure, and then compare their prices with those of other merchants.

- Ask for references and be sure to check them. Research the seller's reputation by contacting your local Better Business Bureau and check for reviews.

- Contact at least two more companies and compare the results. Always get estimates before making a decision on large purchases.

Residents should also be aware they are in no way obligated to provide any personal information to salespeople or contractors that come to their door.

OPINION

LET'S PUT THE BLAME FOR RISING COSTS WHERE IT BELONGS

In his latest column, Wellington-Halton Hills member of Parliament Michael Chong correctly stated the global energy crisis increased the cost of home heating fuels and grocery prices have risen 10.8 per cent.

What he did not say was pandemic supply chain issues, simple supply and demand, and the illegal Ukraine war all contribut-

ed to the increases. The federal government cannot control any of them.

Chong called on the government to stop increasing the carbon tax as a way to limit current fuel costs, but he knows the carbon price must rise to meet our Paris commitments.

He claimed the federal climate action incentive payment doesn't offset the cost of the carbon tax. However, it offsets most, if not all of it.

Why did he not complain about grocery companies and the oil and gas industry reaping obscene profits on consumers' backs?

As a reminder, back in July 2008, a barrel of oil hit \$145 (U.S.) and gasoline hit \$1.35 (U.S.) per litre. Now the oil price is US\$90 per barrel, and gas is \$1.76 per

litre. The carbon tax adds \$0.11 to the price per litre.

Simple math says the price today should be around \$90/\$145 times \$1.35 + \$0.11 = \$0.95/litre.

The federal carbon tax is not responsible for current energy prices. Canadians won't go cold this winter because of the tax. The only reason they may have trouble heating their homes, filling their gas tanks and feeding their families, is — in my opinion — the unbridled greed of big business grocery chains and gas companies.

Conservatives, I believe, always want tax breaks for big business. Where is their concern for the average person then?

Let's put the blame where it belongs.

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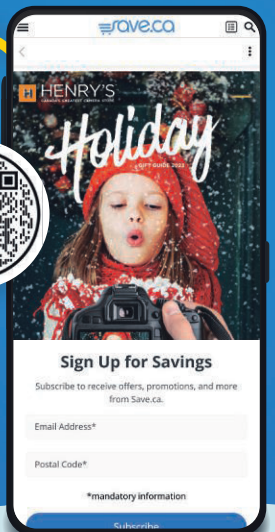
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