

# Affordable Housing AGM

STORY AND PHOTO BY ANN KORNUA

At their Annual General Meeting last Wednesday Affordable Housing Halton presented Community Development Halton with a plaque to commemorate their contributions. The AGM was held at Burlington's Springer House on 2373 Dundas Street to discuss the future of housing in Halton.

"AHH is in the business of building communities," Dick Stewart, president of Community Development Halton commented on accepting the Community Partner Award.

Rob Cressman from the Region applauded the efforts of the board and trustees of AHH. "The message is that affordable housing is an investment for the people as well as an economic and social investment," Rob commented during his speech. "We at the region want to help people remain in the community and we want to further our relationship with Affordable Housing Halton."

In the past year, Affordable Housing Halton has been involved in many different housing issues including the Burlington Second Unit Study, federal and provincial funding announcements, and Halton Region's Comprehensive Housing Strategy. The vision of Affordable Housing Halton is that all people will live with dignity in safe, stable and affordable housing, within an

inclusive and healthy community.

Kathleen Szoke, chair of Affordable Housing Halton spoke out for the need of new volunteers. "We hope to grow the organization because we are passionate about our message and we do not have enough people to do what we want to do," Kathleen Szoke said. "We hope that people will get on board and help us with our message because the big thing that we do is awareness."

In Halton, some residents are at risk of becoming homeless, as they cannot afford to pay their rent due to shifting demographics, old age, and personal events. Often, the individuals who are affected by high rent costs are forced to leave their communities away from family and friends to find affordable housing. Low-income families, single parents, and individuals often find themselves in situations where they must choose between paying the rent, buying food or other requirements for their survival. Affordable Housing Halton believes that residents who live in safe, stable, affordable housing cost their community less in health, social service, education, policing and justice costs.

To find out more about Affordable Housing Halton, go online at [www.affordablehousinghalton.com](http://www.affordablehousinghalton.com).



Affordable Housing AGM- The AHH present the Community Partner Award to Community Development Halton. From left are Rob Cressman from the Region, AHH secretary David Young, Community Development Halton president David Young, AHH Chair Kathleen Szoke, AHH Chair and Milton councillor Wendy Schau, and AHH treasurer Eldon Wheeler.

## Bat Tests Positive for Rabies in Oakville

Test results confirm that a bat found at an Oakville residence had rabies. This is Halton's first rabid bat in 2005. Following an investigation by the Halton Region Health Department, two adults and one child are now receiving rabies vaccine as a precaution after being exposed to the bat.

The Health Department is advising all Halton residents to avoid contact with bats and to be very cautious if around them. Anyone who suspects they have come into contact with a bat should promptly report the incident to the Health Department.

Bat rabies is fatal if a person is infected and not treated before symptoms start. Symptoms can take up to one year to appear. Bats can be found in barns, caves, and occasionally in homes. Infected animals carry the virus in their saliva and pass it to other animals or people through bites and contaminated wounds. Each incident of possible exposure should be reported to the Health Department for investigation, even if you were not bitten.

The rabies virus can infect any mammal. Those most commonly infected are bats, skunks, foxes, and raccoons. There are a number of things you can do to help identify a rabid animal, help prevent the spread of rabies and protect yourself.

- Warn your children to stay away from wild, stray, or aggressive animals to protect themselves
- Do not touch dead or sick animals, unless advised to do so
- Do not feed or touch wild animals
- Do not touch bats, skunks, raccoons or foxes or try to keep them as pets
- Make sure your pet is vaccinated against rabies
- Keep your pet tied on a leash
- Learn to identify the signs of rabies in animals. For details visit [www.region.halton.on.ca/health](http://www.region.halton.on.ca/health)
- Report all animal bites or potential bites to the Health Department
- Seek immediate medical attention if you come in contact with a bat or other potentially rabid animals
- Contact your local animal control department if you see a potentially rabid animal
- Animal-proof your house, cottage, and workplace. Ensure that any holes in your walls or roof are blocked off.

For more information about rabies or if you need to report a suspected rabid animal or exposure, please call the Halton Region Health Department at 905-825-6000, TTY 905-827-9833, Toll Free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or visit the website at:

[www.region.halton.on.ca/health](http://www.region.halton.on.ca/health) <<http://www.region.halton.on.ca/health>>

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## How 50% of Homes Listed for Sale Don't Sell the First Time and What to Do About It

MILTON - If your home has just come off the market and hasn't sold, don't be discouraged. The reason your home did not sell may have nothing to do with your home or the market. In reality, your home may have been one of the more desirable properties for sale.

### So Why Didn't Your Home Sell?

Last year almost half of the homes listed for sale never sold at all, and many sellers found that there was a tremendous amount a homeowner needed to be educated on to sell their home for top dollar in the shortest time period.

Don't risk making the wrong choices and losing both time and money on your investment. Before you hire a realtor, know the right questions to ask to save you time and money.

Industry experts have prepared a free special report called "How to Sell a House that Didn't Sell" which educates you on the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-877-617-1275 and enter ID# 4012. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call NOW to make sure your home sells the next time you list it for sale.

[www.haltonexpiredlisting.com](http://www.haltonexpiredlisting.com)

## 27 Easy Fix Up Tips to Give You the Competitive Edge When Selling Your Home

MILTON - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar". It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips, you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the most profit possible.

In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call 1-877-617-1275 and enter ID# 4023. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[www.halton27tips.com](http://www.halton27tips.com)

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