

Halton riding voters have five running for one seat in Monday's election

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Tom Adams
Green Party



Tim Dobson
Canadian Alliance



Brenda Dolling
NDP



Tom Kilmer
PC Party



Julian Reed
Liberal

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What's Inside



Two pages of photos of Santa's parade by New Tanner staffers Angela Tyler and Frances Niblock are on Pages 4 and 5.



Liberal Julian Reed is defending his Halton riding seat against four contenders. See profiles of the candidates on Pages 8 and 9.



Guelph-Wellington riding candidates are profiled on Rockwood Pages 14 and 15. Liberal Brenda Chamberlain defends her seat there.



Acton hockey clubs chalk up lots of wins and a few losses last week. See sports for stories on Pages 16 and 17.

Lack of Halton affordable housing puts many Region families at risk

Wintry blasts arrive early

You could hear the excited squeals of kids all over Acton early Monday morning when they looked outside and saw SNOW.

Not the dusting of white fluffy stuff that fell on Friday and Saturday, but enough to make snowballs, enough to shovel and enough to make their parents shiver and begin the search for shovels, mitts and boots.

With the temperature hovering around the freezing mark, there was more snow each day this week and more than a few yards sported snowmen. (There was also an increase in school detentions

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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Acton Citizens' Band playing well known Christmas Carols led the annual Santa Claus parade on Saturday to the delight of thousands of children and their parents. - Angela Tyler photo

13,000 spend over 30% on housing

More than 13,000 households in Halton are spending over 30 per cent of their total income on housing, according to results from the Halton Assisted housing Survey released by Halton Region's Non-Profit Housing Corporation Division. Over 11,000 of those households are renters, earning less than \$30,000 per year.

Results of the survey were presented Wednesday at the Region's Health and Social Services Committee meeting.

"Thousands of households are at risk of losing their housing because of unaffordability or inadequacy," says Gwen Maloney, Director, Halton Non-Profit Housing Corporation Division. "And very little new, affordable housing is being built. As the population increases in Halton, the demand for affordable housing will also rise."

The survey - which was designed to profile the current housing situation in Halton, and predict the need for assisted housing in the future - projects that over the next 10 years, the demand for affordable housing will total 14,350. It also identifies the need for the provision of a variety of housing types, in addition to single family housing, in order to address chang-

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Significant turnout for advance poll

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The fiasco of the presidential vote count south of the border may account for a "significantly higher" turnout at advance polls in the federal riding of Halton, where the returning officer issued extra ballots to more than half of the 12 advance poll locations.

"We have a lot of people making sure that they are voting - there seems to be a lot of interest," said Halton returning officer Ken Frey on

Tuesday.

"It's in everybody's mind now that a couple of votes can make a difference. What we have is a very precious democracy in Canada and we mustn't ever let the population ever get complacent about it," Frey said, noting voters appear to "have a lot of confidence" in the way the vote is done in Canada. That's reflected, he said, by high voter turnout. In the June, 1997 federal election, 67.7 per cent of Halton voters cast ballots.

All ballots cast at advance polls and on November 27 will be manually counted, in the presence of scrutineers from each party, by sworn election officials who then justify the numbers of ballots issued with the vote counts. The counts are then reported to the return office that then releases the numbers.

Federally, Halton has been a swing riding, electing an MP representing the federal party that wins office.

Riding profile

• estimated electors

(based on 1996 census) - 92,662

- population - 119,537
- voter turnout for June, 1997 election - 67.7 per cent
- average household income - \$75,597
- language - English - 85.6 per cent, French - 1.8 per cent.
- post-secondary degrees - 17.5 per cent
- homeowners - 82.3 per cent
- tenants - 17.7 per cent

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