



Environmental Bonus: The Limehouse Kiln Society was presented with a \$5,000 cheque from the TD Friends of the Environment at a brief ceremony in the Limehouse Memorial Hall prior to a guided tour of the historic lime kilns in the Limehouse Conservation Area on Tuesday morning. Kiln Society President Mary Shier accepts the cheque, centre right, from TD Canada Trust branch Manager Nelson Henriques while left to right, Marilyn Giometelo and Catherine Percival of TD Canada Trust, Chris Walker of the Bruce Trail Association and Marsha Batchelor of the Kiln Society assist. Despite heavy rain the group with Credit Valley Authority Officials and Warren Harris of the Town's Parks & Cemeteries Dept. toured the kilns and returned to historic Limehouse Memorial Hall for lunch.

Average Halton assessment has increased by 13.43 % since 2003

Assessment notices from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) delivered last week show the average increase for properties in Halton Region is 13.43 per cent above June 2003.

The assessment notices will be used to determine Halton property taxes for 2006. They reflect an updated appraisal of properties over the 18-month period from June 30, 2003 to January 1, 2005.

Halton residential properties increased by 14.08 per cent, compared to a provincial average increase of 12.68 per cent. Commercial and industrial property increases in Halton increased an average of 11.70 per cent and 10.76 per cent, respectively, compared to average provincial increases of 9.92 per cent and 9.28 per cent.

"Residents often conclude that an increase in their assessment translates into a corresponding increase to their taxes, however, this is not always the case," said Halton Region's Commissioner of Corporate Services and Regional Treasurer Jane MacCaskill. "As a general guideline, those properties that have increased at a level below or at the municipal average will not experience assessment related increases. However, the final amount by which a specific property experiences a tax increase will not be known until tax rates are set in the spring of 2006."

Receipt of the assessment triggers the beginning of a detailed analysis of taxes by a team consisting of finance staff from the Region and Halton's four local municipalities: Halton Hills, Burlington, Milton and Oakville. The team will measure the impact of tax increases resulting from all approved 2006 budgets, and

test the impact of how these taxes are distributed.

The Province requires that assessment-related property tax increases for non-residential properties be capped at 10.0 per cent, which results in a shifting of costs onto other properties in Halton. In addition, the Province has given municipalities discretionary tools to adjust the impact of taxation on certain properties or property classes.

Halton Regional Council will review recommendations from the tax team in the spring of 2006, and establish final tax rates for bills issued to property owners in the second half of 2006.

Property owners who believe that the assessed value of their property is incorrect

should contact MPAC at 1-866-296-MPAC (6722), or go to www.mpac.ca.

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Friday, November 18th

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and
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(5 items for the price of 4)

WHO: You and a friend

WHEN: November 18, 2005

8a.m. - 8p.m.

WHERE: Herbal Magic Acton
(Sobeys Plaza)

WHY: Come and try out
our Magic Cuisine! We
will have items from our
menu for you to try.

We will be providing:

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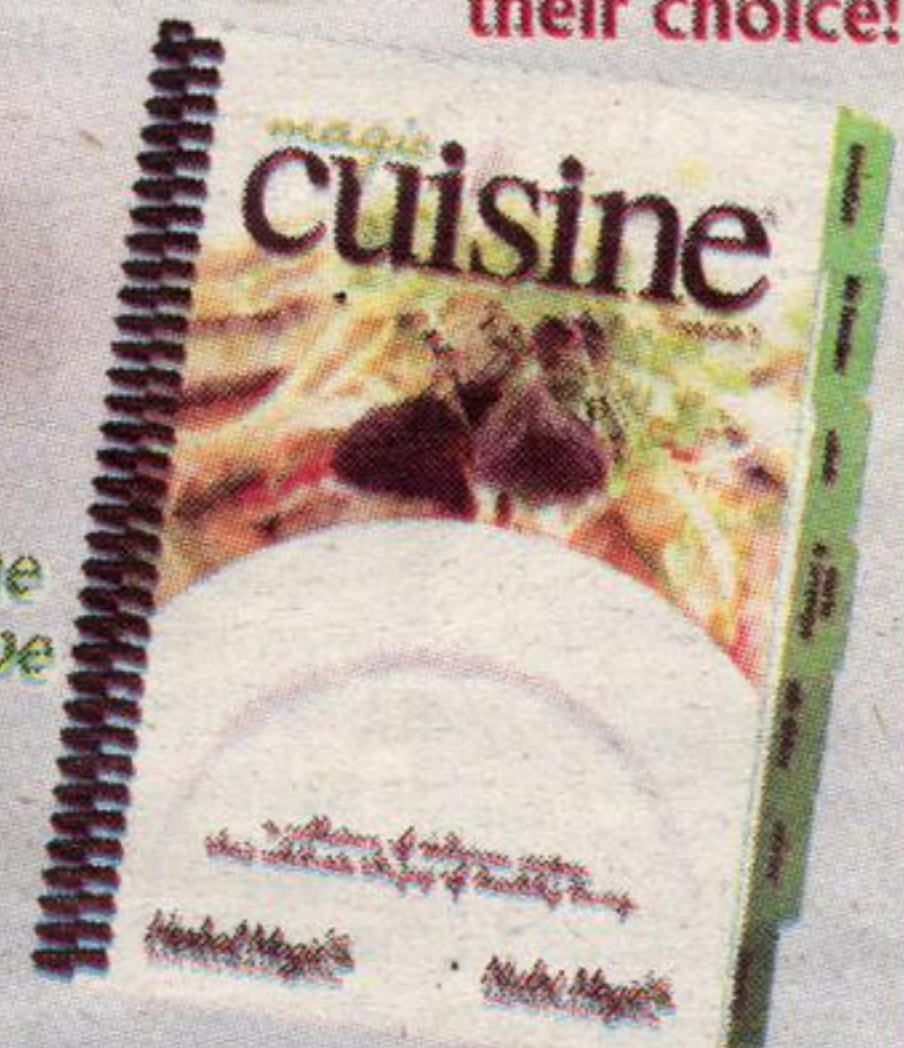
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