



Elections Canada's proposed federal boundary changes would see Halton Hills divided into two ridings— Halton and Dufferin-Wellington-Halton.

Proposed federal election boundary changes would see Halton Hills divided in two

Halton Hills will be split into two ridings if the proposed federal electoral boundary change for this area is approved.

Currently all of Halton Hills is located in the federal Halton riding along with Milton, north Oakville and north Burlington.

Being proposed for the area however are two ridings— Halton, and Dufferin-Wellington-Halton. The proposals were drawn up by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario as a result of population shifts within the province between 1991 and 2001.

Most of Georgetown South and Norval will be included in the proposed Halton riding— with 15 Sideroad and Silver Creek being the dividing line. Also included would be Milton, north Oakville and north Burlington. Under the proposal, Halton Hills, north of Silver Creek and 15 Sideroad (including most of old Georgetown and all of Acton), would become part of the proposed Dufferin-Wellington-Halton riding. That riding would also include Erin and Shelburne.

The proposed Halton riding would have a population of 107,911 and the proposed Dufferin-Wellington-Halton riding would have a population of 98,255.

If approved, the new boundaries would come into effect no earlier than 2004.

Halton MP Julian Reed, who under the proposed change will actually live in the Dufferin-Wellington-Halton riding, said he has made a request for an appeal of the boundary change on the basis of "community of interest."

Reed explained that he wants to see Halton Hills remain in one riding and that "citizens in Halton Hills orient themselves toward Halton."

He said if population within the riding is the issue, to keep the Halton riding in line with other ridings, he feels a change should be made at the south end.

"I would much rather see the southern line being raised perhaps to Hwy. 5," said Reed.

Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh, whose home would also be in the Dufferin-Wellington-Halton riding, said he would

also rather see the southern boundary of the Halton riding brought up to Hwy. 5 to ensure Halton Hills remains in one riding.

"The area they're putting us into is a significantly different area than Halton Hills is," said Chudleigh. "Everything up there is pretty rural and we're a much more suburban area."

He said he plans to make an appeal of the proposed change.

John Day, Halton Hills regional councillor and the Liberal candidate for Halton in the next provincial election, said "one of the beauties of the current system is that we had the three MPs and three MPPs reflecting the needs of Halton the way the boundaries are currently today."

"At first blush it makes you wonder whether we've worked for 25 years for naught to pull together a region that works," said Day, who added he will be raising the issue at local council.

Members of the public will have a chance to express their views about the electoral boundaries at public hearings to be held throughout the province.

Those interested in appearing before the commission at the hearing have to give written notice by October 12.

Notices can be faxed, mailed or e-mailed to the Commission and must include name, address, nature of the representation, and the interest of the person or organization he represents. Registration can be done on-line at www.elections.ca.

The address is Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario, 1210-150 York St., Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3S5 at 1-866-237-1375 or by fax at 1-866-237-1376 or by e-mail at commission.on@bellnet.ca.

A hearing is scheduled for Mississauga at the Hilton Garden Inn, Huron Room, 100 Traders Blvd. on Monday, December 2.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

Impaired charge laid

A Mississauga man has been charged with impaired driving and having over 80 mg of alcohol in 100 ml of blood after police responded to a single car accident on Five Sideroad east of Eighth Line early Sunday. The driver was not insured.

Charged is Richard Ou, 38, of Mercy St.

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