

## Transition a chance for change

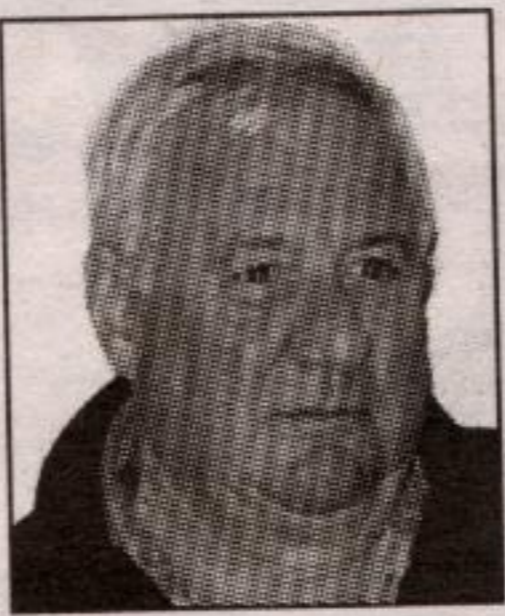
Since taking office in 1993, the government has worked hard to strengthen the fundamentals of the Canadian economy: eliminating the deficit, balancing the budget, and placing our debt-to-GDP ratio on a steady downward track from 68.4 per cent in 1995-96 to 44.2 per cent.

To date, the federal debt has been reduced by \$52.3 billion over the past six years, saving \$3 billion each year on interest payments—savings that have been invested in areas that matter to Canadians.

Over the last 10 years our balanced approach of sound fiscal management and prudent spending, has delivered dividends. Indeed without the fiscal discipline—and the hard work and sacrifices made by all Canadians—it's safe to say that Canada would be facing a real deficit situation and a return to a growing national debt. Bearing this in mind, we can all take great pride in the accomplishments we have achieved together.

The prime minister has ended this session of Parliament and is handing over the government to a new prime minister, Paul Martin. Bills that were under consideration by the House of Commons and the Senate are terminated; however, they may be reintroduced and reinstated at the same stage

### PARLIAMENT HILL REPORT



Julian Reed

they had reached at the close of this session.

This transition is an opportunity for change, re-alignment and a revitalization of the political process. We have a prime minister who will shape our future with a new Throne Speech that must reflect certain fundamentals like fiscal responsibility, social solidarity and respect for the environment.

The next session of Parliament is scheduled to open on January 12, 2004 but this doesn't mean a two-month holiday. My duties and responsibilities in and for the riding continue. My staff and I will advocate on your behalf, assist you in accessing federal programs and services and respond to your requests for information.

Keep in touch.

—Julian Reed is the MP for Halton

## Fall Compost Give Away attracted more than 2,200 residents

Halton Region collected about 3.3 tonnes of food and \$2,400 during its ninth annual Fall Compost Give Away held for one week in September.

Totals were presented to planning and public works committee today (Wednesday).

More than 2,260 residents picked up gar-

den compost from the Halton Waste Management Site, and in turn, donated a non-perishable food item or cash.

Combined with the Spring Give Away event, Halton Region will be able to donate 9.9 tonnes of food and \$8,700 to the region's eight food banks, including Acton's FoodShare and Georgetown's Bread Basket.

Advertorial

## Back pain?

Georgetown, Ont. - According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice, some sleep on the floor...to pillows under the legs, even injections in the back. Thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers can finally know exactly what to do. To get a free copy, call the toll-free, 24-hour recorded message at 1-866-335-3189.

## Drinking & Driving A DEAD END

If you get behind the wheel, after you've had a drink or two, you're already headed in the wrong direction. Don't make a trip to the hospital or the morgue part of your day. Steer clear of trouble. Head home sober.

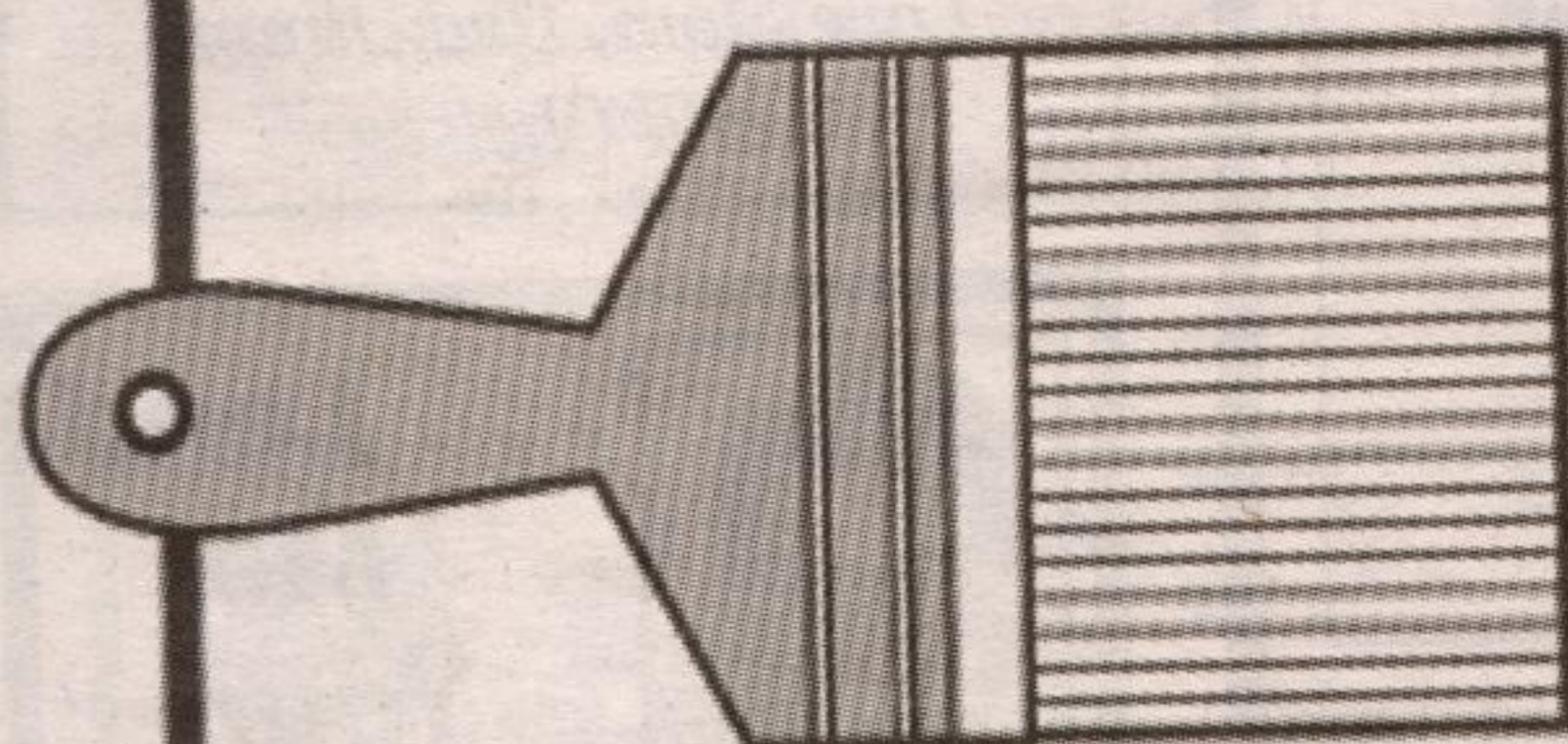


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