

Exactly how long did I sleep?

For years now, one of my favourite TV sitcoms has been *Frasier*.

Although the series is now long-gone, there is always an opportunity to watch yet another episode on some specialty channel on my satellite TV provider.

I've laughed at all the characters— Frasier, Niles, Martin, Roz and Daphne— as they go through their misadventures, usually as a result of Frasier or Niles' arrogance and self-absorbed pompous attitude.

Just this week, as I walked through the mall, and the Halloween decorations were being replaced by Christmas decorations, I was reminded of an episode I saw not long ago.

It was the episode where an exhausted Frasier comes home from work one October afternoon and decides to stretch out for a nap on his bed before dinner.

While dozing, Daphne and Martin decide that it's high time they take the annual Christmas card photo, so they decorate the Christmas tree and put up some decorations as props around the apartment, so they can pose for the photo, to have it ready to drop in the mail in early December.

As the groggy Frasier stumbles into the living room of his apartment, surveying the glowing fireplace and Christmas tree all decorated for the festive season, he rubs his eyes, and then asks one very simple question.

"Daphne, exactly how long did I sleep?"

I must admit, there have been times I've felt that exact same way. Most recently it happened this week when the calendar flipped from October to November, marking the transformation from ghosts and goblins to holly wreaths and candy canes in the mall.

It felt like Tuesday was Halloween— and Wednesday became Christmas— with the flip of a calendar page.

Now the local department stores have all their Christmas stock out, the numerous seasonal greeting cards and wrapping papers are on the shelves and the Christmas sales are

Ted Brown



starting.

And you can bet your bottom dollar, with all those decorations going up, it won't be long before Santa's booth magically appears too.

I've often thought we should at least wait until Remembrance Day has passed, to have a short transition period before being inundated with high-pressure holiday sales deals, beginning now and lasting until December 24.

I like Christmas to be special, to be magical, something we all look forward to, not a dragged-out time of sales, sales and more sales.

And maybe, just maybe, I'm not entirely alone on this one.

This year the powers that be decided to move the Georgetown Santa Claus Parade to November 12, allowing our local veterans to have their time of Remembrance without waves of commercialism clouding the ceremony.

Not only was it a great gesture, but also a step in the right direction.

Holding off for a few days on the Christmas sales campaign won't make a penny of difference to local retailers.

And don't get me wrong here— I really enjoy the buildup to Christmas, and recognize that the Christmas sales season is very important to the retail sector.

I just don't want to be smothered in Christmas so early, making the holiday season a drudgery— long before it even arrives.

(Ted Brown can be reached at tbrown@independentfreepress.com)

Peden named board's associate director but will continue to oversee Acton schools

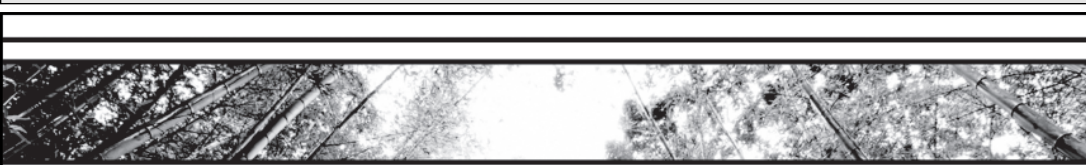
Despite her appointment to the position of Halton District School Board's Acting Associate Director, Ruth Peden will continue to serve as the Halton District School Board's supervisory officer for Acton schools.

Assignments and reassignments for the boards' senior administrative team were

approved at a special board meeting Wednesday.

Peden will also head the board's Student Success initiatives, provide supervision for the family of schools superintendents and support and guidance to Yaw Obeng, who takes over the remainder of the north Halton family of schools.

This newspaper can be recycled. Please recycle.



A Brighter Future

The Halton Learning Foundation gratefully thanks our sponsors for their generous support of our 3rd Annual Celebration Dinner.



Blue Springs



TAXI & AIRPORT SERVICE

Airport Services - Out of Town Flat Rates - Corporate and Private Accounts
- Fast and Reliable Parcel Delivery
- Senior's Discounts - School Runs - 7 Passenger Vans
- Professional, Courteous & Friendly Drivers



Thank you Halton Hills for voting us #1

905 **873-0097** | 519 **853-0024**

24 Hour Taxi Service
Toll Free: 1.866.953.0024



Servicing Georgetown, Limehouse, Acton and Surrounding Areas



TOWN OF **HALTON HILLS**
Working Together Working for You!

2006 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

ADVANCE VOTING DAYS and VOTING LOCATIONS



DATES:

Saturday, November 4, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

LOCATIONS:

WARD 1 Acton Legion 15 Wright Ave. Acton	WARDS 1, 2, 3 & 4 Georgetown Marketplace Mall 280 Guelph St., Georgetown
WARDS 1 & 2 Acton Arena 415 Queen St. Acton	WARDS 2, 3 & 4 Halton Hills Civic Centre 1 Halton Hills Dr. Georgetown
WARDS 2, 3 & 4 Gellert Community Centre 10421 Eighth Line Georgetown	

Si vous désirez recevoir une copie de cette annonce, veuillez communiquer avec Kelly Withers au numéro de téléphone ci haut mentionné 905-873-260 ext 2330.

Karen M. Landry
Town Clerk and Returning Officer 150

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PUBLIC WORKS TECHNOLOGIST
Posting No. 200647

Reporting to the Manager of Public Works, the Public Works Technologist is responsible for providing technical expertise to staff in the Public Works operations.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Prepare designs and drawings for road construction projects, storm sewers, maintenance work in streams and storm outlets and maps for reports and budgets.
- Prepare budgets, tenders, reports, agreements, financial control processes, inspect and administer maintenance contracts for various programs and coordinate contractors and Public Works staff effectively.
- Plan processes, develop programs and update programs related to winter control, storm water management ponds, parking lots and salt management issues.

- Provide maintenance program site inspections and provide technical expertise to staff in the completion of projects to Town and Provincial standards and analyze or interpret the standards to provide effective methods of maintenance.
- Assist with investigations of claims against the Town related to maintenance activities including the research of staff reports, information and activities that will help in the defence of the Town.
- Create and update infrastructure inventories for the various appurtenances to the roads.
- Coordinate maintenance agreements with other municipalities and the Province.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Applied knowledge of road maintenance standards, construction practices, design of roads and retaining walls, and storm water management ponds maintenance.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, time management and organizational skills.
- Computer literate in Microsoft office computer software and strong AutoCAD software drafting skills.
- Perform tasks in a safe manner with regard to the guidelines as outlined in the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Ability to deal effectively with members of the public, consultants and contractors to resolve issues.
- 3-year Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology Program or equivalent education experience.
- Registration with O.A.C.E.T.T. with a C.E.T. designation.
- 6 years of experience in a Civil Engineering environment.
- Valid Ontario Class 'G' drivers licence with a clean abstract and supply of personal vehicle to perform duties.

SALARY RANGE: \$52,710 to \$62,751 per annum

Qualified candidates may submit a detailed resume in confidence by 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 17, 2006. Please quote Posting No. 200647 on your resume.

Ms. Jacqueline Kerr
Manager of Human Resources
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive
Halton Hills ON L7G 5G2
Fax: 905-873-1431
Email: humanresources@haltonhills.ca 151

We thank all those who apply, but advise that only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 (S.O. 2001, c.25) and will be used to select a candidate. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager of Human Resources.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER