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Churches & Temples

St. Alban's Anglican Church

8:00 a.m. Said Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
Nursery & Children's Worship
905-877-8323
537 Main St., Glen Williams
Pastor: The Rev. Graham Stap
www.saintalban.ca
TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

St. George's Anglican Church

60 Guelph Street, Georgetown
905-877-8044
Additional parking at Georgetown District High School
www.stgeorgesgeorgetown.com
Sunday Worship -
8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am
Church School - 9:30 am
Nursery Care - 9:30 am & 11:15 am

Georgetown Alliance Church

"A growing family"
Sunday Services*
at 9:00 & 11:00AM
A Nursery and Junior
worship are offered during
both services
290 Main St. (S. of Maple)
905-873-0249

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KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's Word for Today's World.
www.knoxgeorgetown.ca

REV. DR. JAMES COOPER

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Georgetown, ON
(905) 877-7585
Service Dial-In:
(905) 702-1629

SUNDAY SERVICES 11:00 AM (Nursery Services Provided)

GEORGETOWN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

welcomes you!
Lead Pastor: Rev. Gary vanLeeuwen
Associate Pastor: Rev. Ted S. Bootsma
Sunday Worship Services: 10:00 am & 6:00 pm
11611 Trafalgar Road (north of Maple Avenue)
www.gcrc.on.ca 905-877-4322

NORVAL Presbyterian Church

Service & Sunday School
9:45 a.m.
"All are Welcome"
499 Guelph St., Norval, Ont. www.norvalpres.ca

MOUNT ZION FULL GOSPEL MINISTRIES

(Affiliated with World Christianity Ministries)
A Life changing ministry
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Helping our community live Life!
Sunday 10 am
The Gathering
The Church at The Gellert
10241 8th Line
905-873-LIFE(5433)
www.thegathering.ca

GEORGETOWN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Worship 10:00am
Nursery & Superchurch for Kids!
13619 HWY 7 West
Tel. 905-873-9652 Website: www.georgetownchristianfellowship.com

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(905) 877-1374 271 Mountainview Rd. S.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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10:00 am Divine Service & Sunday School
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Pastor Gerson Flor (905) 877-1172

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Province must do more to fund GTA social services, says Region

MELANIE HENNESSEY
Special to The IFF

Halton Region is calling on the Province to improve the way it funds health and social services in the GTA.

At a recent council meeting councillors passed a motion supporting recommendations to Queen's Park on what can be done to help municipalities deal with growth pressures facing everything from child care to hospital services.

The suggestions council endorsed, which were originally put forward in a report from the Strong Communities Coalition, ask the Province to:

- Immediately provide growth funding for health and social services in the GTA/905 regions of Durham, Halton, Peel and York
- Revise the way funding is allocated for health and social services across Ontario so that it's distributed on the basis of population size, growth and characteristics
- Develop a health and social services strategy for Ontario's high-growth regions to complement the Places to Grow plan in consultation with GTA/905 stakeholders, including members of the Strong Communities Coalition.

unities Coalition.
"There is no doubt that health and social service providers are feeling very stretched to meet the increasing needs in the community," said Halton Commissioner of Social and Community Services Adelina Urbanski. "If these recommendations are acted on, it would improve the capacity of Halton Region and non-profit agencies to meet that growing demand."



GARY CARR

The Strong Communities Coalition's report contains the findings of a recent audit completed by PricewaterhouseCoopers that shows there's a large and growing gap between funding the GTA receives for health and social services compared to the rest of Ontario.

The document explains the inequity has come about because "funding is primarily allocated on the basis of historical patterns. Population growth and demographics are generally not being considered."

In fact, the audit found the annual funding gap for provincially-funded social services in the GTA has grown over the last several years to more than \$550 million, while in health care the gap is over \$900 million.

More specifically, GTA residents receive \$181 less per person for social services, and \$246 less per person for health care services compared to the average Ontarian.

"The report demonstrates that provincial funding for health and social services in the GTA/905 are not keeping pace with the population growth taking place in Halton Region," said Regional Chair Gary Carr.

"While Halton is taking a proactive approach in including health and social service issues in its response to Places to Grow through the Durable Halton Plan, we urge the provincial government to take action along with the federal government in coming up with solutions to fix the funding gap."

The Strong Communities Coalition is comprised of the GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance and the United Ways of Peel, York, Durham and Halton (represented by the Oakville United Way).

Youth alliance wants name change for Weedless Wednesday in 2008

The Halton Youth Action Alliance (HYAA) is working to get the title of the annual quit smoking day— Weedless Wednesday—changed for 2008.

The group believes the title is misinterpreted by youth and is drawing attention to marijuana.

In early January, the HYAA surveyed 56 youth aged 13 to 18 in Halton to explore their understanding and awareness of the term Weedless Wednesday. The results of the survey indicated that:

- 95 per cent hadn't heard of Weedless Wednesday
- 88 per cent didn't think the title Weedless Wednesday represented the ideas behind the day
- 81 per cent thought the day had to do with marijuana.

The group sent a letter to the Canadian Council for Tobacco Control (CCTC) that identified

their concerns on the issue and included results of the survey and some suggestions for alternative titles such as QUIT (Quit Using It Today), TGIF (Tobacco Goes Invisible Friday) and Wheezeless Wednesday.

The youth alliance will be following up with the CCTC to discuss the recommendations. The group suggested in its letter that a contest be held in high schools across the country to come up with an alternative title for Weedless Wednesday.

The HYAA is comprised of 21 high school youth employed by Halton Region to support youth

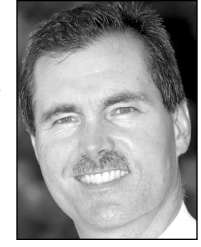
tobacco prevention efforts in the community.

"It is of great value that we have the peer leaders on staff to assist us in making sure the health messages we are promoting are clear to all Halton residents including youth," said Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Bob Nosal.

National Non-Smoking Week and Weedless Wednesday are coordinated by the CCTC. The public education campaign takes place during the third week of January and has been running since 1977.

Weedless Wednesday is a day set aside during National Non-Smoking Week to encourage people to have a smoke-free day. The idea behind the day is to promote a one-day-at-a-time approach to quitting smoking.

For more information on the HYAA call 905-825-6000 or visit www.halton.ca.



DR. BOB NOSAL



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