

Traffic offences require serious enforcement in Halton

Last year, the Halton Regional Police Service created a District Response Unit dedicated to traffic enforcement within Milton and Halton Hills. As such, our team has had the opportunity to work closely with concerned citizens and municipal staff in an effort to increase road safety in our community.

Nothing in the area of "traffic enforcement" attracts more effort and attention than speeding. Speed, especially on our rural roads in our quickly growing communities, is a significant factor in motor vehicle collisions. As our team is out on the roads enforcing speed limits, I wanted to take this opportunity to dispel a few "myths" and perhaps answer a few of the questions we are most frequently asked.

Q. Don't you have to give me a "break"?

Although officers may exercise discretion at the roadside in appropriate circumstances, this is rarely done. This ensures that speed limits are not only enforced firmly, but fairly. When a driver chooses to speed, they can expect to be

**Sgt.
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ticketed for the very speed they chose to drive at.

Q. Why aren't you out catching "real criminals"?

More people are killed or injured in traffic-related incidents every year than from violent crime. Did you know that for 2007 (in Milton and Halton Hills) there were more than 1,800 vehicle collisions resulting in more than 280 injuries and 13 deaths? Imagine trying to calculate the cost in lost

time, insurance, emergency responders, health care and more! Traffic offences are serious matters that require serious enforcement.

Myth— The officer will not show up for court

The Halton Regional Police Service takes the court attendance of its officers very seriously. Although emergency situations do arise that result in officers missing court, these are extremely rare. Halton officers are expected to attend court, whether working or not, and if court was missed an investigation would result. If one elects to have a trial, they can expect us to be there.

Q. Will this cost me points?

The police do not assign "points" to your licence. Upon conviction it is the MTO that attributes points to your licence.

Speed over	Fine	Points (upon conviction)
15Km-h	\$52.50	0
20km-h	\$95	3
30 km-h	\$220	4
40 km-h	\$295	4
49 km-h	\$359	4
>50km-h	\$500 and up	6

—Sgt. Derek Davis is a traffic supervisor and can be reached at 905-878-5511 ext. 2137

Town wants MTO Squad to enforce truck safety

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

The Town will be requesting MTO (Ontario Ministry of Transportation) to deploy a Mobile Truck Inspection Squad to enforce truck safety on Trafalgar Rd. and other heavily traveled routes in Halton Hills.

Representatives of Pineview Public School prompted the action, after raising concerns over truck traffic at its location on Five Sideroad at Trafalgar Rd., particularly after a February collision between a truck and school bus. Charges were laid against both drivers, with those against the truck driver related to the condition of his vehicle.

"It heightened the safety concern in the area," said Wards 1&2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville, who brought the issue to a recent council meeting. He has been meeting with the school community since the beginning of the fall.

"There is considerable concern among the rural school community," agreed Ward 2 Councillor Joan Robson, who noted that the school itself has been finding solutions on its property to create safer ingress and egress for both drivers and pedestrians. "As our community grows, we have more and more traffic and a lot of these schools are fairly close to the roads."

Ward 3 Councillor Moya Johnson noted there have been similar concerns by some of her constituents and requested, "that they would target Maple Ave. as well."

"We should be after these people for having inappropriate equipment running on our roads," said Ward 2 Councillor Bryan Lewis.

Mayor Rick Bonnette noted the Squad proved to be effective in Acton two years. "Unfortunately it's not a permanent thing. But if they're there for a week, the message soon gets out, and everybody is very cautious."

The Town will also refer the matter to Halton Region and Halton Police to work with the Town and Pineview School staff and parent council on other possible traffic control solutions.

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