

THE INDEPENDENT

CANADA VOTES

They're off!
Campaign begins
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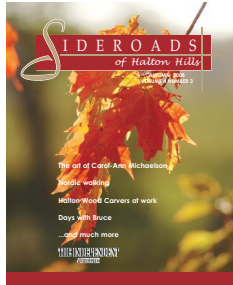
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44 Pages

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

INSIDE



Check out the
Fall Sideroads
magazine

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Learn about
health solutions
in Health Care

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FRIDAY...

Town council stakes its position on the Sustainable Halton plan at a special meeting tonight. Read about it in Friday's edition.

For breaking news go to:
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Rock on at the Acton Fall Fair

Kaitlyn Chambers (right) gives the rock on sign while riding the Sizzler with her friends Monica Kainz and Kaylin Horder (centre). The 11-year-olds were enjoying the rides at the three-day Acton Fall Fair this past weekend. For more Fall Fair photos go to page 13.

Photo by
Jon Borgstrom

Catholic teachers settle, Public teachers just beginning job talks

TIM WHITNELL
Special to The IFP

While Halton's Catholic school board elementary teachers have a new tentative labour contract, their counterparts at the Halton public board have only just begun negotiations.

The Halton Catholic District School Board and the Halton elementary unit of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) reached a tentative settlement on Sept. 5 covering the more than 1,000 Catholic elementary teachers who teach in Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville.

"The board is very pleased to have reached

this tentative agreement with our elementary teachers," Alice Anne LeMay, chair of the Halton Catholic board, said in a press release. "I commend the members of both negotiating parties for their diligence and commitment to work together to achieve an agreement that is in accordance with the provisions of the provincial framework."

"An excellent working environment makes for an excellent learning environment and this agreement, salary and benefits aside, will enhance the working environment of all our teachers, which will have a positive and direct impact on all our students," Richard Brock, president of the Halton Elementary Unit of

OECTA, said in a press release.

"Both negotiating teams worked tirelessly to build language into this agreement that will establish collaborative models for resolving issues from planning time to professional development to supervision, at both the school and board level," Brock added.

The tentative agreement, which runs from Sept. 1, 2008 to Aug. 31, 2012, will not be put to a ratification vote by both the board of trustees and the elementary teachers union until a tentative agreement is reached with the Halton Catholic board's secondary and occasional teachers' unions.

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