



OLD FASHIONED ENTERTAINMENT: Acton Citizens' Band entertained in the parkette at Main and Mill Sts, last Saturday during the Old Fashioned Christmas celebration sponsored by the merchants of the Acton Business Improvement Association. - Traci Gardner photo

Proposed 2.3% increase in Region's property tax budget

Halton Regional Council has begun its budget review process for the Region's 2009 budget. The proposal increase in the Region's portion of property taxes in 2.3 per cent.

Key drivers for the 2009 budget include maintaining service levels, responding to the community, and investing in capital infrastructure. In addition to maintaining service levels,

the 2.3 per cent increase will pay for enhanced recycling programs (including polystyrene), the creation of a youth psychiatric service, and will create 150 subsidized child care spaces.

For more information on the Region's 2009 budget, visit the website at www.halton.ca or call 905-825-6000, toll free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866), TTY 905-827-9833.

Significant investments to maintain and replace existing infrastructure, and to deliver new infrastructure to support economic development are also included.

Key challenges for the 2009 budget are an expected increased demand for social services, public health and the infrastructure program.

In response to the current economic uncertainty, Council is considering a six month delay to fill any of the new positions included in the proposed budget. The six month delay will allow Council to consider the impact of the changing economy, including impacts associated with the Provincial budget, which is expected to be delivered in March, 2009.

Chong says no time for changes

To the editor:

At a time of economic uncertainty, now is not the time for a change in government, and it is never a time for a coalition government that includes a separatist party. I believe it is important that our government remain in power to steer this country through difficult economic times.

As a Canadian, I am disappointed with the events that have transpired in Ottawa. We, as Parliamentarians, need to focus on the issues of concern to Canadians. In order to do so, our government requires the support of the opposition parties. We are open to any economic ideas the opposition parties may want to bring forward for the benefit of our country. Canadians need a stable government that is focused on our future at this time of uncertainty.

The proposed coalition government is not good for Canada. It is one thing for the members of a separatist party to fully

participate in the legislative branch of government, it is entirely another thing to allow them access to the corridors of power in the executive branch. This is beyond the pale.

I have received hundreds of phone calls and emails from people who are concerned about this situation. I have heard from proponents from each side of this debate and I thank everyone who has taken the time to provide me with their input.

Sincerely,
Michael Chong

J-FORCE
YOUTH CHOIR

presents

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
MUSICAL

Sunday, December 21, 2008 at 7:00pm
Acton Baptist Church - 80 Mill St. E.

A special love offering to send J-FORCE members to Kingdom Bound 2009



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this season for all the great deals at our local businesses!

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Christmas at

St. Alban's Anglican Church

19 St. Alban's Drive, Acton, Ontario L7J 1C6

December 14th

Candlelight Service - 7:30PM

December 16th

Reading of

"A Christmas Carol" - 7:30PM

December 24th

5:00PM - Children's Service

7:30PM - Family Service

11:00PM - Traditional Service

