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Limited Acton use of needle exchange

Of the total 693 contacts at Halton's needle exchange program last year, only four were in Acton. The latest stats for the provincially mandated Exchange Works program showed Halton's sexual health clinic in Acton had one contact to exchange – either receiving or turning in – needles used for intramuscular (IM) injections (usually steroids) and three

contacts for needles used for intravenous injections (usually illicit drugs.)

As the program counts contacts, not people, the Acton contacts could represent use by one person or four separate people.

As part of Halton's harm reduction program, last year, 64,782 new needles were distributed, a 10 per cent increase over

the previous year. The program collected 49,905 needles and syringes for an annual return rate of 78 per cent.

One new initiative of the Exchange Works program last year was distribution of kits that make smoking crack cocaine safer to help reduce transmission of blood-borne diseases. Halton plans to distribute 1,000 of the kits this year.



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WHAT'S INSIDE

Our children didn't deserve this!
We don't want your kind here!
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Leave!

Threatening letters fuel debate over the recent vandalism at Robert Little School.

- See Page 3



February is Heart Month. Do you know the warning signs of a heart attack or stroke?

See Page 8 and Page 16



Peewee power at the 40th Annual Peewee Tournament in Acton



ACE GOALIE: Bradley Karat, Acton Charger Select PeeWee goalie turned away Oakville Eagles' Troy Peterson (88) while Chargers' Nick Begin (2) tracks the rebound. Karat earned full marks for the player-of-the-game honours despite the Chargers' 5-0 Championship win. - Charles Tysoe photo

More tournament coverage on Pages 12 and 13



NORMANDIE

These beautiful ladies' timepieces are a tribute to the SS Normandie, the French luxury ocean liner of Art Deco origin which boasted lavish design features throughout.



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