



**IT'S WORTH THE RIDE TO ACTON:** A pack of 250 easy riders from Hamilton rolled into town on Saturday for lunch – a stop on their annual poker run – raising funds to fight prostate cancer. – *Denise Paulsen photo*

# MSB students benefit from 'Helmets on kids' safety program

Two classes of Grade three students from McKenzie-Smith Benette School were fitted with brand new bicycle helmets when they visited the Halton Regional Police Children's Safety Village



**NEW HELMET:** Riley Thornton, a Grade three student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School received a new bicycle helmet on Monday during a visit to the Halton Police Children's Safety Village. On hand were her teacher, Topher Baker, Halton Constable Laurel Barnett and lawyer Laura Hillyer.

– Submitted photo

for a bicycle safety program on Monday.

Sponsored by the Ontario Trial Lawyers Association (OTLA), a group committed to justice and advocacy on behalf of injured persons, is distributing more than 2,500 bicycle helmets to school age children in cities across Ontario – 60 to Acton students on Monday.

The mandate of the OTLA is to put a helmet

on the head of every child who needs one, and at the same time provide education and awareness about bicycle helmet use.

Cycling related injuries in children and youth account for 60 per cent of hospitalizations in this age group, according to the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Wearing a bicycle helmet can reduce the risk of a brain injury by up to 88 per cent.

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