

HALTON REGION BUDGET FOR 2019 PROJECTS PROPERTY TAX HIKE OF 1.9 PER CENT

**REGIONAL COUNCIL
WILL BE HOLDING A
SECOND MEETING ON
JAN. 9, PRIOR TO
APPROVING THE
BUDGET ON JAN. 16.**

VERONICA APPIA
vappia@metroland.com

Halton residents can expect a 1.9 per cent property tax hike as the region prepares to adopt a tax-supported budget of \$421.3 million early in the new year, Mark Scinocca, Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer, told council on Dec. 19.

Scinocca addressed the highlights of the 2019 budget package and business plan for 2019, circulated to councillors last week, emphasizing that the region is within its goal to keep the

tax rate increase at or below the rate of inflation.

"Regional Council is committed to support the planned growth while maintaining the objective to protect Halton tax and rate payers from the impacts of the growth," he said.

The property tax impact portion of the budget takes into account both regional and police services, projecting a 1.9 per cent increase of \$291 per \$100,000 CVA (Current Value Assessment). This is based on a projected assessment growth of 1.5 per cent, which is below the more recent assessment growth percentage subsequently provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), of 1.95 per cent.

Assessment growth refers to the increase in property value in the region, as a result of changes that oc-

cur over the course of a year.

"It's higher than what's in the budget, which is an additional \$1.8 million," Scinocca said, adding that the recommendation will be to transfer that extra portion to the region's tax stabilization reserve.

The requested tax-supported budget for both regional and police services combined is a total of \$421.3 million net.

The budget is projected to have gross expenditures of \$547.6 million, but after factoring in subsidies and revenues, it is estimated to be reduced to \$265.9 million.

The region's projected revenue for 2019 is broken down into six sources: property taxes (49 per cent), provincial subsidies (33 per cent), investment income (nine per cent),

See SIX, page 4

MILTON LIGHTING

Residential & Commercial Lighting Fixtures

Hours:

Sun: 12pm-4pm
Mon-Wed: 10am-6pm
Thurs-Fri: 10am-8pm
Sat: 10am-5pm



295 main Street E. Unit 6, Milton (behind Troy's Diner)
905-878-7111 * www.miltonlighting.com

GORRUD'S AUTO PLUS

PROUDLY SERVING MILTON SINCE 1960

WE WANT YOUR VEHICLE

EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT ONE OF OURS

For over 60 years Gorrud's has prided itself on delivering quality vehicles to our customers. Many of these vehicles are purchased from local residents who maintain their vehicles to the very high standard Gorrud's was built on.

If your vehicle is in nice condition and you know its service history, we want it and are prepared to pay a premium for it whether you buy a vehicle from us or not.

See us today or visit us online for a written, guaranteed appraisal.



INDUSTRY LEADING
LOYALTY PROGRAM
MyAutoRewards.ca



Milton District
Hospital Foundation
GORRUD'S AUTO IS A PROUD
SUPPORTER OF THE MILTON
DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
& COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE.

WWW.GORRUDS.COM