

# 21 new officers in \$48.6 million police budget

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

A \$48.6 million police services budget carrying a 3.8 per cent tax wallop was endorsed by Halton's administration and finance committee Wednesday.

If approved at council Wednesday, the budget will plump up property taxes by \$10 for the average homeowner.

But that's mitigated by a \$5 decline in the Regional portion of the tax bill, so the average resident will see an increase of \$4.88 on their property tax bill.

If endorsed, the Halton Regional Police budget will bring 21 new constables to the force.

"Our budget focuses on front-line strength," said police board chair Jack Brewer.

Overall, the recommended budget will cost the owner of a \$185,000 home \$279 per year.

And that's a reasonable deal, said Mr. Brewer.

"The average cost per household is less than a cup of coffee a day," he said.

Part of the cost increase is a result of provincially mandated adequacy standards.

The standards are policing guidelines imposed by, but not funded through, the Province. They're often devised from lessons learned from high-profile cases, such as convicted murderer Paul Bernardo and rape victim Jane Doe.

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz supported the budget but objected to Halton taxpayers having to pay for provincially-mandated adequacy standards.

"Has anyone thought of standing up to the Province and saying, 'No, I won't dance to your tune,'" asked Mr. Krantz.

But the trouble lies not with the standards, but with the lack of cash to ease them in, said Police Chief Ean Algar.

"It's difficult to say the adequacy standards aren't good," he said. "They're great for policing. But the reality is they're asking you to shoulder the costs at the same time."

In its presentation to the committee, police representatives aimed to prove that Halton has a fiscally-responsible force with lower than average per capita costs.

## Still uncertainties in Halton budget

• from HALTON on page 1

mittees this week is approved at council Wednesday.

That translates into a \$5 decrease for the owner of a home assessed at \$185,000.

But factor in a 3.8 per cent increase in the police services budget — amounting to just over \$10 per home — and the tax load will increase by .4 per cent, or \$4.88 per household.

Overall, owners of a \$185,000 home can expect to pay \$1,093 in regional and police taxes for 2000.

But there are still uncertainties in the budget. Final pooling costs, though estimated to be in the \$40-million range, haven't yet been unveiled by the Province.

And that means Regional staff have had to estimate the impacts in order to get the budget out, said Halton's finance commissioner Joe Rinaldo.

"We can't keep our books open forever," he said. "We held off as long as we can."

But staff estimates are likely close, assured Mr. Rossini.

"We don't anticipate the numbers to be swinging wildly this year," he said.

Still, any uncertainty puts the Region at risk, said Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale.

That has been the case since the Province began downloading, she added.

"The biggest fight we had wasn't the Province's right to realign," said Ms Mulvale. "It's the exposure."

This year, Halton residents will pay just under \$250 for pooling on their property tax bill.

"It represents a significant slice," said Mr. Rossini. "It's about one fifth of our total."

And that number could increase as Halton's assessment base grows while Toronto's remains stagnant.

Asked if that was fair by Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson, Mr. Rinaldo replied "If you ask Toronto, they think we should be paying more. If you ask us, we already pay too much."

# Thank You All!

## Halton Women's Place

would like to thank the following donors for their generous donations to our 20th Anniversary Dinner and Auction held on February 26, 2000. These donations assisted us in raising \$43,500.00

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 2 of a Kind, Campbellville                         | Goliger's Travel Plus, Burlington                           | Old is Beautiful Antiques, Moffat                            |
| Aisco Systems Inc., Burlington                     | GoodLife Fitness Clubs, Milton                              | One of a Kind, Burlington                                    |
| Albert Schmid Jewellers, Burlington                | Granite Ridge Golf Club, Milton                             | One Tax Inc., Campbellville                                  |
| Alice Logan, BMT, Milton                           | Great Crate Co., Burlington                                 | Ontario Lottery Corporation, Sault Ste. Marie                |
| Allan's Equipment Sale, Rockwood                   | Green Thumb Landscaping, Burlington                         | ONtv, Hamilton   |
| Alternate Solutions Fuel Management, Hamilton      | Greenall Heating & Air Conditioning, Hamilton               | Otto Felber, Toronto   |
| American Express, Markham                          | Greystone Stables, Campbellville                            | Paddy Torsney, M.P., Burlington                              |
| Andrés Wine Ltd., Winona                           | Griffin House (by Barnard & Speziale Design), Waterdown     | Paradise Natural Foods, Milton                               |
| Andrews Scenic Acres, Milton                       | Gwen Slater Sewing Service, Oakville                        | Parfums Givenchy, Toronto                                    |
| Anton's Art Antiques & Collectors, Campbellville   | Halton Milk Producers, Moffat                               | Parker's Cleaners, Burlington                                |
| Aro Motors Carstar Collision, Burlington           | Halton Regional Police Service, Oakville                    | Pat and Des Magowan, Burlington                              |
| Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto                    | Hamilton Bulldogs, Hamilton                                 | Pearl & Diane Purdom   |
| As We Grow, Milton                                 | Harrison's, Oakville  | Pet Valu, Burlington   |
| Atelier Salon, Oakville                            | Harrop Restaurant, Milton                                   | Pet Valu, Milton   |
| Balloon Impressions, Milton                        | Hauser Co. Store, Burlington                                | Philly McNasty's Bar & Grill, Oakville                       |
| Barb Singleton, Campbellville                      | Hershey Canada Inc., Mississauga                            | Pick of the Crop Toys & Books, Oakville                      |
| Bell Canada, Toronto                               | Holiday Inn Burlington, Burlington                          | Pillows of the Past, Tillsonburg                             |
| Bev and Craig Dixon, Ancaster                      | Holland Park Garden Gallery, Burlington                     | Pioneer Petroleum  |
| Bill Mathers Men's Wear, Milton                    | Home Depot, Burlington                                      | Polaroid Canda Inc., Etobicoke                               |
| Black & Decker, Brockville                         | Homemaker's Magazine, North York                            | Pollard Windows Inc., Burlington                             |
| Black's Photography, Milton                        | Hoover Canada, Burlington                                   | Pot 'O' Gold, Waterdown                                      |
| Bo Davey, Campbellville                            | Hornby, Hornby Glen Golf Course                             | Queens Landing Inn, Niagara-On-The-Lake                      |
| Boardtopia, Milton                                 | Hunt Plymouth Chrysler, Milton                              | Re/Max, Milton   |
| Bob and Cindy Williams, Burlington                 | Hutch's Trains, Burlington                                  | Renaissance Festival, Milton                                 |
| Bobby Orr  | Hutton Images, Oakville                                     | Revlon Canada, Mississauga                                   |
| Body & Bath Basics, Milton                         | I Waxman & Sons, Hamilton                                   | Rico Anthony, Oakville                                       |
| Body Shop, Burlington                              | Images that Suit, Toronto                                   | Riviera Concepts Inc., Don Mills                             |
| Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd., Burlington     | J. Michael's, Toronto                                       | Rogers Industrial Services Ltd., Burlington                  |
| Bonar Bargain Barn, Milton                         | Jamie's Office Furniture, Burlington                        | Rogers Video, Milton   |
| Bookshelf Café, Guelph                             | Jody Low-A-Chee, Toronto                                    | Roots, Toronto   |
| Brant Florist, Burlington                          | Joe Boxer, Downview   | Royal Bank Area Office, Burlington                           |
| Brant Hills Hair Salon, Burlington                 | Joyce Savoline, Oakville                                    | Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington                          |
| Brooks Athletics, Mississauga                      | Julie Kingsbury, Campbellville                              | Royal Doulton, Scarborough                                   |
| Bruce Trail Eatery, Campbellville                  | K-Lite FM/Oldies 1150, Hamilton                             | S. Smith, Oakville   |
| Bruce White, Milton                                | Karen A Thompson, B.A., LL.B., Oakville                     | Saskatchewan Roughriders, Regina                             |
| Brunellos Ristorante, Milton                       | Karen's Flower Shop, Milton                                 | Scott Early Funeral Homes, Milton                            |
| Buena Vista Home Entertainment Canada, Toronto     | Keg Restaurants Ltd., Etobicoke                             | Scrivener's Men's Wear, Burlington                           |
| Bulova Watch Co. Ltd., Toronto                     | KHC Interiors, Burlington                                   | Seasons in Oakville Restaurant & Catering, Oakville          |
| Burlington Fire Department, Burlington             | KitchenAid Canada, Mississauga                              | Sharon Banks, Campbellville                                  |
| Burlington Little Theatre Inc., Burlington         | Koski Glass, Milton   | Shaw Festival Theatre, Niagara-On-The-Lake                   |
| Burlington Sewing Club, Burlington                 | Krista Cassidy, Burlington                                  | Sheraton Gateway Hotel, Toronto                              |
| Burlington Taxi Inc., Burlington                   | La Costa Restaurant, Hamilton                               | Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, Hamilton                            |
| Burrow's Clothier's, Oakville                      | La Maison de Madeleine, Guelph                              | Sheridan Nurseries, Georgetown                               |
| Calvin Klein Cosmetics (Canada), Oakville          | La Toscana Ristorante, Milton                               | Shirley Elford, Hamilton                                     |
| Calvin Klein Jeans, Toronto                        | La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries, Burlington                    | Sir Corp, Burlington   |
| Cam Jackson, MPP Burlington, Burlington            | Labatt's Canada, Toronto                                    | Sobey's Food Village, Burlington                             |
| Cameron Cassidy, Burlington                        | Laidlaw Transit, Burlington                                 | Something Special, Milton                                    |
| Campbell Soup Company, Toronto                     | Laidlaw Transit, Georgetown                                 | Sooter's Studio, Oakville                                    |
| Campbellville Pharmacy, Campbellville              | Lana's for Something Special, Oakville                      | Spokes & Slopes, Milton                                      |
| Canadian Country Candles, Burlington               | Laura Secord, Burlington                                    | Stage West All-Suite Hotel & Theatre Restaurant, Mississauga |
| Capo Industries Ltd., Burlington                   | Laurie de Grace, Oakville                                   | Stonehouse of Campbellville, Campbellville                   |
| Carol D'Amelio, Burlington                         | LCBO, Toronto   | Sunbeam, Mississauga   |
| Carole Black, Rockwood                             | Le Yoga, Oakville   | Swarovski Canada Ltd., Toronto                               |
| Carstar Auto Collision, Burlington                 | Leathers, Burlington  | Sylvie Doyon, Campbellville                                  |
| Cashways Building Centre, Milton                   | Lebada Café, Milton   | Tarragon Theatre, Toronto                                    |
| Cave Art, Burlington                               | Leona Kingsbury, Rockwood                                   | TDL Group Ltd., Oakville                                     |
| CIBC, Oakville                                     | Lillian Ross, Burlington                                    | Telemedia Communications, North York                         |
| CIBC, Hamilton                                     | Linda Lundstrom Ltd., Oakville                              | The Aesthetics Boutique, Burlington                          |
| Civello's, Oakville                                | Lindt Chocolates  | The Cinderella Shop, Burlington                              |
| Clegg Glass Ltd., Burlington                       | Loblaws, Milton   | The Cornerstone Gallery, Waterdown                           |
| Clothing for Charity Ltd., Burlington              | Log House Craft Gallery, Campbellville                      | The Dawn of the Dream Interior Design Studio, Campbellville  |
| CN Tower, Toronto                                  | Longo's, Burlington   | The Gold Connection, Milton                                  |
| Corby Distilleries Limited, Toronto                | Lynn Curtin Lange, Carlisle                                 | The Great Canadian Bagel Company, Milton                     |
| Corwin Paint Technologies Inc., Burlington         | M&M Meat Shops, Milton                                      | The Hamilton Orchestra Corporation, Hamilton                 |
| Country Lane Café, Campbellville                   | Maaco Auto Paint and Body Work, Burlington                  | The Hamilton Tiger-Cats, Hamilton                            |
| CruiseShipCentres, Oakville                        | Maclean's Magazine, Toronto                                 | The Oak Room Men's Shop, Oakville                            |
| Cyril Stevens Interiors, Campbellville             | Mailboxes Etc., Waterdown                                   | The Old Hyde House, Acton                                    |
| Dairy Farmers of Ontario, Mississauga              | Maple Lodge Farms, Norval                                   | The Ontario Jockey Club, Rexdale                             |
| Dan Lawrie Insurance Brokers Ltd., Hamilton        | Marantha Log House Flowers & Bed & Breakfast, Campbellville | The Oyster, Burlington                                       |
| Daniel Kingsbury, Campbellville                    | Marioli's Market, Burlington                                | The Singleton Family, Campbellville                          |
| Décor & More, Oakville                             | MarineLand, Niagara Falls                                   | The Walt Disney Company, Burbank 91521-0988                  |
| Diane Gabriel, S. Todd Real Estate, Burlington     | Mary Howe, Campbellville                                    | Thomas Cook Affinity Travel, Oakville                        |
| Dollar and More, Waterdown                         | Mary's Keepsakes, Oakville                                  | Tim Kingsbury, Campbellville                                 |
| Doreen Wilson, Burlington                          | Mastermind, Oakville  | Timex Canada Inc., Markham                                   |
| Dorland Haight Gallery, Milton                     | Mavis McEwan, Guelph  | Tocca Finita, Oakville                                       |
| Dorothy Singleton, Campbellville                   | Mayor MacIsaac, Burlington                                  | Tommy Hilgier, Montreal                                      |
| Dr. Bruce Gardner, Burlington                      | Mazda Canada, Scarborough                                   | Toronto Argonauts, Toronto                                   |
| Dr. Richard and Sandra Nabeta, Campbellville       | McCutcheon's Photo, Oakville                                | Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Club, Toronto                      |
| DZ One Esthetics and Hair Salon, Milton            | McDonald's Restaurants, Burlington                          | Terrech Services Inc., Burlington                            |
| Eagle Press, Burlington                            | Menuha Massage Therapy, Oakville                            | Unique Frame Plus Art, Milton                                |
| Ecodyne Limited, Burlington                        | Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., North York                       | Via Rail Canada Inc., Toronto                                |
| Elizabeth Interiors, Burlington                    | Milton Springers Gymnastics Club, Milton                    | Vince, Tomenson, Dickerson Insurance, Oakville               |
| Excel Advertising Specialties Inc., Burlington     | Misty Blue Ceramics, Milton                                 | Vincent's Art & Antiques, Campbellville                      |
| Fairview Chrysler Dodge, Burlington                | Mitsubishi Electric Sales Canada Inc., Markham              | Walkers Place IDA Pharmacy, Burlington                       |
| Family Golf Learning Centre, Oakville              | Moen Inc., Oakville   | White Rock Ostrich Farms, Rockwood                           |
| Fay Booker and Rick Howarth, Burlington            | Mohawk Inn & Conference Centre, Campbellville               | Wigsville, Burlington  |
| Fiesta Barbeques Ltd., Burlington                  | Mohawk Raceway, Milton                                      | William B. Kerr, Barrister & Solicitor, Oakville             |
| Fifth Wheel Truck Stop, Milton                     | Music World Burlington Mall, Burlington                     | Winklewood Lane Bed & Breakfast, Campbellville               |
| First Choice Hair Salon, Milton                    | National Ballet of Canada, Toronto                          | Wolverine Canada Inc., Burlington                            |
| Foot Locker, Toronto                               | Naylor Group, Oakville                                      | Yuk Yuk's International, Hamilton                            |
| Fran Wilson, Rockwood                              | NBA Canada, Toronto   | Yuk Yuk's International, Toronto                             |
| Fresh Exposure at the Meeting Place, Campbellville | North-End Nissan Ltd., Milton                               |  |
| G.W. Line Ltd., Burlington                         | Novotel Toronto Centre, Toronto                             |  |
| Gail Stinnes, Oakville                             | Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Oakville           |  |
| Gallery Bistro & Grill at Glen Abbey, Oakville     | Oakville Cycle & Sports, Oakville                           |  |
| Gillette Canada Inc., Mississauga                  | Oakville Executive Golf Course Ltd., Milton                 |  |
| Gino's Pizzeria, Milton                            | Oakville Honda, Oakville                                    |  |



For a Safer Tomorrow