

Co-operative purchasing group to host open house

The theory is that if you buy a whole bunch of something, you'll get a better deal than if you just buy a bit of it.

And following that theory, the Halton Co-operative Purchasing Group (HCPG) is a bit like the Costco shopping experience for public organizations.

Thirty years ago, the group banded together to bring down the price of supplies and services for its 13-member agencies by essentially buying in bulk.

It now buys such diverse items as envelopes, road salt, portable toilets, long distance phone services and dozens of other commodities through group contracts.

Member agencies include Halton Region, the City of Burlington and the towns of Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills.

"For sure this helps the small municipalities like Milton and Halton Hills get better prices."

DEBBIE COCHRANE

The two Halton school boards, Halton Regional Police, Oakville and Burlington libraries and several other public agencies also participate.

"For sure this helps the small municipalities like Milton and Halton Hills get better prices," says Debbie Cochrane, purchasing ana-

lyst for the Town of Milton.

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, HCPG will host an open house at Tansley Woods Community Centre in Burlington tomorrow.

The event will be of particular interest to local company representatives who would like to meet the purchasing representatives for the group and individual organizations.

"It's a place where they can get information on all our agencies," said Ms Cochrane.

The HCPG will also launch and demonstrate its new Web site at the open house.

For further information and to RSVP for the open house, call Simone Gourlay at (905) 873-2601, ext. 2210, or simoneg@haltonhills.ca.

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