

# Halton's pandemic plan in demand

Some may say a pandemic planning tool kit the Region developed is out of this world — at least NASA would.

The National Aeronautical Space Administration has requested a copy of the made-in-Halton Business Continuity Tool Kit for Pandemic Planning, which assists users in ensuring their essential services can be maintained despite high absenteeism rates that may occur during a pandemic.

Halton has also received numerous requests for the tool kit from health departments across Ontario, other cities and regions. "Working with our community partners and providing

them with the tools they require to support a safe and healthy community is always our primary focus," said Halton Region Chairman Joyce Savoline.

The Region has dedicated significant resources to prepare as an organization and to assist the community to be able to respond effectively during a pandemic. In 2005 Halton hosted Operation Flu-Phix — a comprehensive pandemic influenza tabletop emergency exercise that reviewed Halton's ability to respond to a pandemic and identified key areas for refinement.

Over 220 professionals representing public, private and volunteer sector

organizations participated in the exercise. The Region also hosted a discussion forum for public sector community agencies as well as a session attended by 50 Halton businesses to assist them in pandemic planning.

For more information about pandemic influenza and developing plans call the Halton Region Health Department at (905) 825-6000 or visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).

## Portion of Thompson Road closed for next 3 weekends

Thompson Road between Main Street East and Nipissing Road will be closed for the next three weekends due to work being done at the railway tracks.

The closures are necessary to facilitate construction of the Thompson Road underpass, or grade separation, at the rail crossing. The section of the street will be shut down from 7 a.m. Saturday to 11 p.m. Sunday. It'll close again during the same times April 15 and 16 and April 22 and 23.

Access to Milton Memorial Arena, including the Milton Home Show and Lion's Sports Park, will be provided on Thompson Road from Main Street.

The grade separation structure will be built away from the train tracks, to the east of the existing roadway on the future road alignment.

The reconstruction and widening of Thompson Road will begin next year once the Region completes James Snow Parkway between Derry Road and Main Street.

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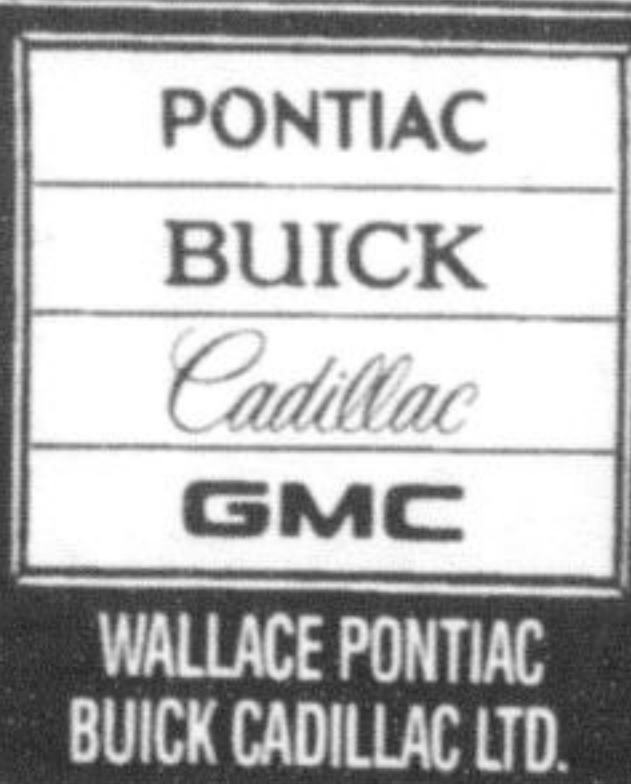
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