

# Do you know an environmentally-friendly youth?

The Region is now accepting applications for the Halton Regional Chair's Environmental Awards program.

The program is designed to foster an appreciation for the environment in Halton's youth and to raise awareness of local environmental initiatives.

Two awards are being offered — the Halton Youth Awards for Environmental Excellence and the Halton Environmental Scholarship Awards.

Deadline for applications is March 7. For an application form and more information visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).

Submissions for either award require an essay that's between 500 and 1,000 words. Evaluations of the applications are heavily weighted on the essay portion and collateral materials including two testimonials.

The Halton Youth Awards for Environmental Excellence, which is open to all Halton elementary and secondary students, provides entrants an opportunity to win \$500 for their school.

The Halton Environmental Scholarship Awards are open to youth who are or will be pursuing post-secondary studies with an emphasis on the environment. Each scholarship award in this category is for \$1,000.

Award winners will be invited to the next Regional Chair's Breakfast on the Environment, which will be held April 23 at the Burlington Convention Centre with Justin Trudeau as the keynote speaker.

Education and empowerment of youth are priorities that've dominated Trudeau's professional and personal life. He has been actively involved in Katimavik, Canada's leading national youth and volunteer service program.

He has also been involved with the Canadian Avalanche Foundation and wilderness groups such as the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

The Region presents the chair's breakfast and the scholarship programs in conjunction with the Chair's Roundtable

on the Environment, a working group composed of individuals from the corporate and community sectors. The group provides direction to the Region for both the awards and the breakfast and reviews all applications to determine award and scholarship recipients.

Corporations and individuals are invited to show support for the environmental efforts of Halton's youth by sponsoring an award or scholarship or by purchasing a table at the chair's breakfast. For more information visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).

## Food Freedom Day recognized this Sun.

A local agriculture group is hoping residents will make an extra effort to support local farmers this month and beyond.

Most Canadians have heard of Tax Freedom Day, but few have heard of Food Freedom Day, which is this Sunday.

Sunday is the day in the 2008 calendar year when Canadians will have paid for their food from their year's expenses. About one-twelfth of a Canadian's income goes toward food.

As farmers face a crisis unprecedented in agricultural history, the Halton Region Federation of Agriculture is hoping residents will pay a little more for their food to buy it from local farmers.

They're urging shoppers to demand that their local grocery stores purchase locally grown food for the sake of our agricultural survival and the environment.

## Nominations accepted for senior care awards

The Regional Geriatric Program and St. Peter's Health System are now accepting nominations for the fifth annual Service Awards for Geriatric Excellence.

The awards recognize the outstanding achievements of professionals, teams, organizations, executives and students in the field of senior care.

This year's awards ceremony is being hosted by Halton Region at the Burlington Convention Centre on May 9.

To nominate an individual or organization visit [www.rgpc.ca](http://www.rgpc.ca) or call (905) 777-3837, ext. 12436 for an application and eligibility criteria. Deadline for nominations is February 21.

## Be a friend to a senior

Seniors in need of a friendly voice are only a phone call away.

Tele-Touch is a free telephone reassurance service offered by Acclaim Health. Trained volunteers are available to provide regular telephone calls to seniors and individuals with disabilities who live alone, offering friendly conversation, security and support.


For more information on receiving the service or volunteering, call (905) 827-8800, ext. 2106.

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