

Carr's question responses to be posted tomorrow

Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr is asking local federal candidates about municipal infrastructure, a national housing strategy and early education in a new questionnaire.

"Halton is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada and one of our greatest challenges is having the financial resources to support the infrastructure needed for that growth," said Carr. "Halton voters should be informed about how local candidates would advocate for Halton's interests in the House of Commons."

The eight questions posed to candidates are available online at www.halton.ca/2011election and the answers will be posted tomorrow.

Carr points to the provincial requirement

that Halton's population doubles to 780,000 by 2031, requiring about \$8.6 billion for hospitals, childcare, emergency services, roads and other infrastructure.

"Voters should consider some key questions affecting the quality of life in Halton as the May 2 election approaches," said Carr.

"What would the candidates do to ensure appropriate funding is in place for child care and early learning programs? What about municipal infrastructure — would they support sustained funding? Does the candidate support a National Housing Strategy? How would they attract businesses and jobs to Halton? Would they be willing to vote against their party if it means a better future for Halton?"

Time to push for funding: Carr

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Two new stations, one in southeast Oakville and one in Georgetown, opened last year. Regional staff are currently scouting locations for a northwest Oakville station for 2012 and work is underway with the Town of Milton to construct a fire/EMS station in 2016.

During his presentation, Sage said more ambulances on the road isn't the best way to deal with offload delays.

Carr said the time is right to push provincial parties on funding promises, as the election is fast approaching.

"What we're talking about is a life-saving service," he said.

"It's too important not to have the services they were committing to, and then not coming forward."

Christina Commisso can be reached at cmmisso@miltoncanadianchampion.com.



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