

# Halton's Catholic schools ahead of the security curve

Already have surveillance cameras and locks in place

By Tim Whitnell

METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

While many school boards around Ontario will be busy installing surveillance cameras, locks and buzzer devices at the main entrance to their elementary schools in time for September, the Halton Catholic District School Board is already there.

The Ontario government's front-door security initiative, part of its Safe Welcome Program, is a province-wide attempt to make schools less vulnerable to intruders.

It was sparked by the Newtown, Connecticut tragedy, where a gunman shot and killed 20 children and six staff at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012.

Some 2,450 elementary schools applied for and got provincial funding this spring to install front-door buzzers and security cameras.

There will be a monitor inside the main office as well so that elementary school employees, likely clerical staff, can see who's at the front door, whether it's a parent dropping off a lunch or a stranger, and decide whether to let them in.

Halton Catholic board facilities superintendent Giacomo Corbacio said all 42 of its elementary schools already have such front-door security in place as the board took the \$5,000 per school offered by the Province back in 2008 as part of a similar initiative.

Any of the board's new schools built since then would have had the same security features incorporated, at the board's expense.

The only Halton Catholic elementary school to not yet get the front-door security features is St.

Anne in northeast Burlington. That's because the new school won't open until this September. Two new Milton elementary schools also will have the system when they open in September 2014.

The front doors to the board's high schools aren't normally locked during regular school hours.

Corbacio said there have been no major concerns within the board with the security system's use, as far as he knows.

In most cases the elementary school's clerical staff are the individuals that monitor the front door via a video screen in the main office. They can see who's at the school's front door and can ask them why they want in and to provide identification, if necessary.

The Halton Catholic board is eligible for additional funding related to the ministry's Safe Welcome Program. It plans to use its \$133,300 (\$3,100 per school) to upgrade or enhance security at its elementary schools.

"We have some schools with portables where students sometimes need to enter the school through a back door that's locked, so we may install electronic passes on those doors where students can use a swipe card," said board communications spokesperson Lisa Stocco, citing an example of how the latest funding might be used.

Each school has latitude as to how it chooses to use that security funding, she said.

In 2005, the Halton District School Board had 42 of its public elementary school sites receive locking doors, security cameras and buzzer access systems. About half of its remaining elementary schools will get them for this fall.

For details about Halton Catholic board Policy II-45, Access to School Premises, go to <http://bit.ly/1axerkq>.

— with files from the Toronto Star

MILTON  HYUNDAI

OVER 300 PRE-OWNED VEHICLES AVAILABLE!

MANAGER'S SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

2007 MAZDA 3 GS



1 OWNER,  
LADY DRIVEN,  
WARRANTY

Stk# 658249

JUST ARRIVED!! THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL VERY WELL MAINTAINED 1 OWNER!! LADY DRIVEN AND IS FULLY RECONDITIONED READY TO GO!! Auto, A/C, Power Windows, Power Locks, Power Mirrors, Cruise Control, Privacy Glass, Tilt Steering, ABS, Keyless Entry, Premium Audio System, Alloy Wheels & more. FULLY CERTIFIED & E-TESTED!!

**\$9,998** PLUS HST & LIC

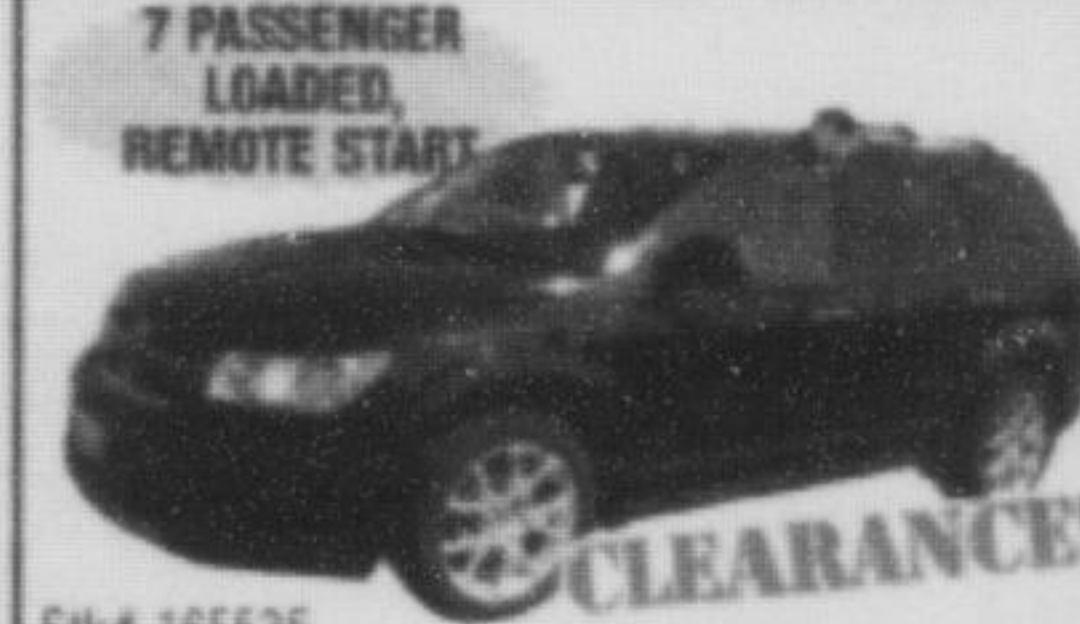
2011 BMW 535i AWD



Stk# 266641

**\$39,988** PLUS HST & LIC

2012 DODGE JOURNEY R/T



Stk# 165535

**\$25,988** PLUS HST & LIC

2010 AUDI A4 QUADRO



Stk# 009181

**\$25,988** PLUS HST & LIC

2010 HYUNDAI SANTA FE LTD AWD



Stk# 350653

**\$19,988** PLUS HST & LIC

2007 TOYOTA SIENNA XLE



Stk# 006526

**\$15,488** PLUS HST & LIC

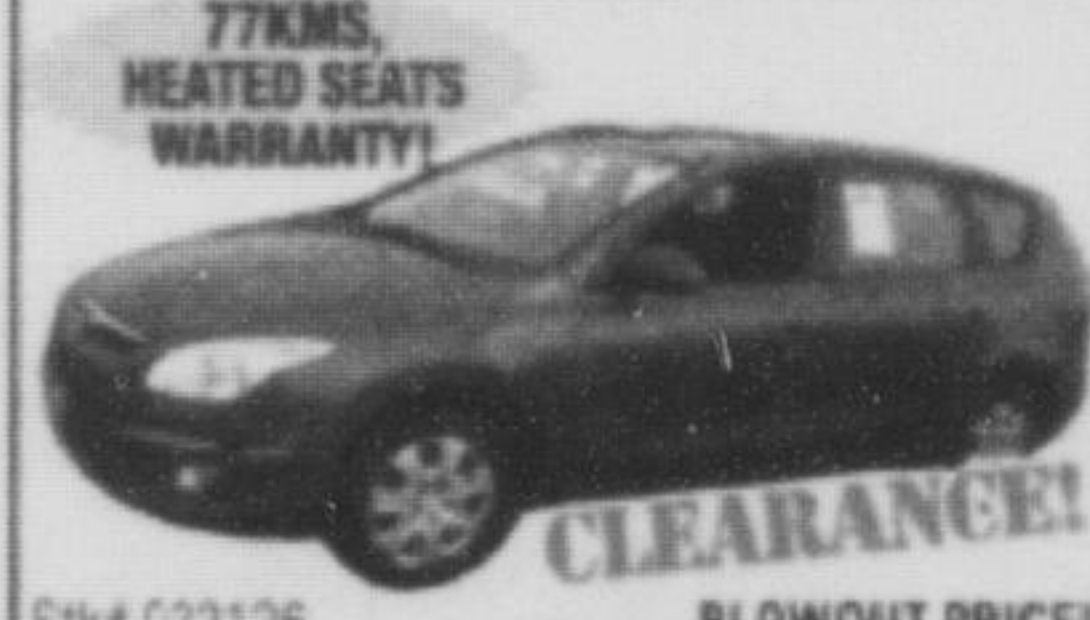
2010 TOYOTA CAMRY LE



Stk# 035993

**\$14,995** PLUS HST & LIC

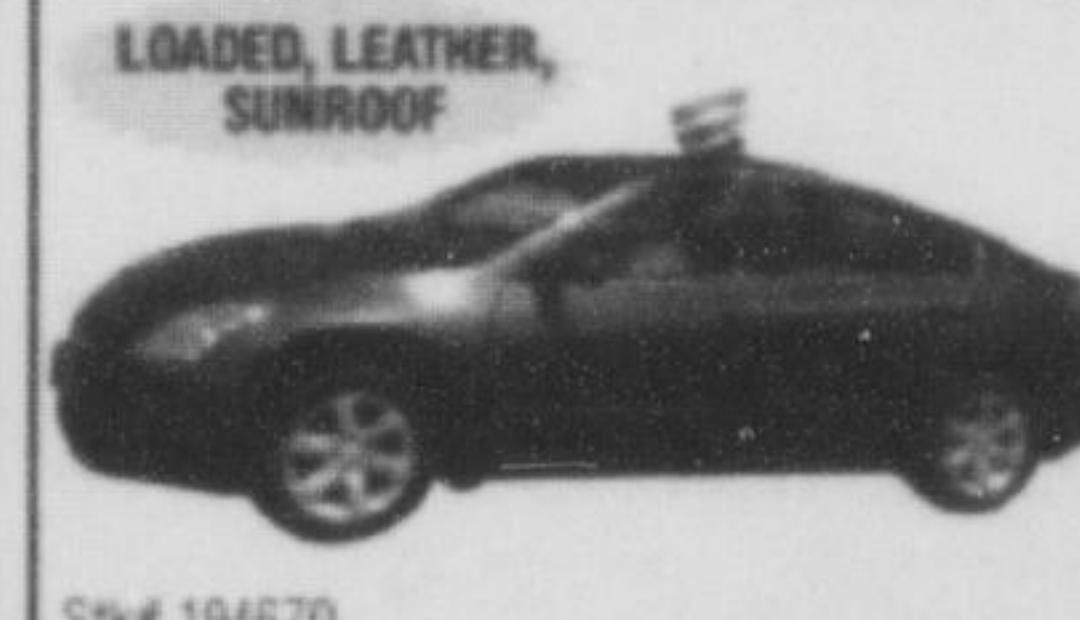
2009 HYUNDAI ELANTRA TOURING GL



Stk# 032126

**\$11,998** PLUS HST & LIC

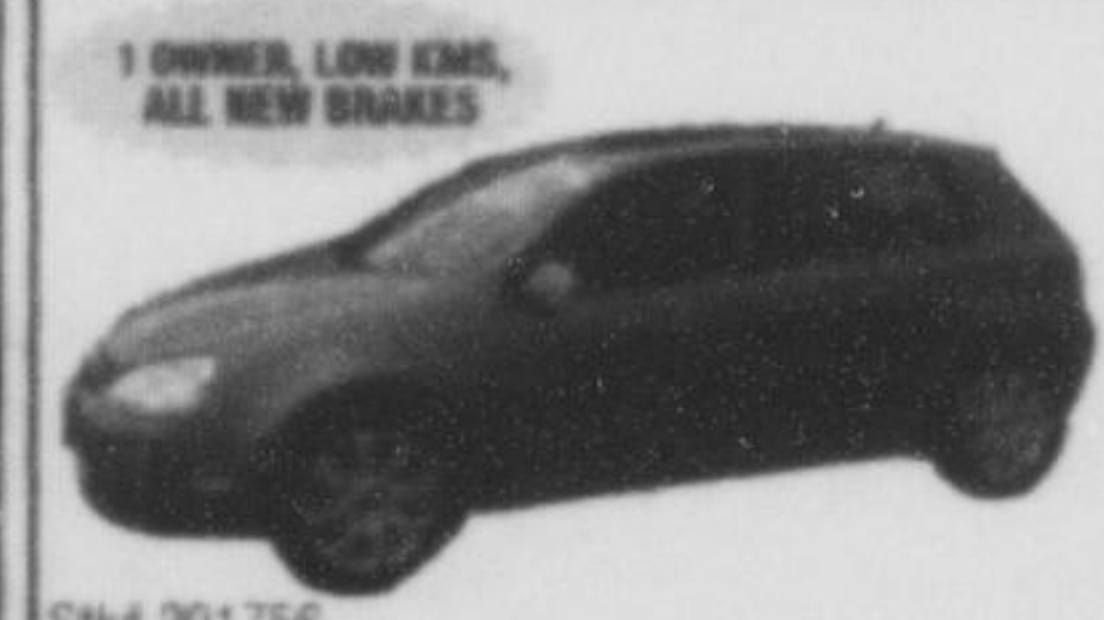
2008 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5L SL



Stk# 194670

**\$11,845** PLUS HST & LIC

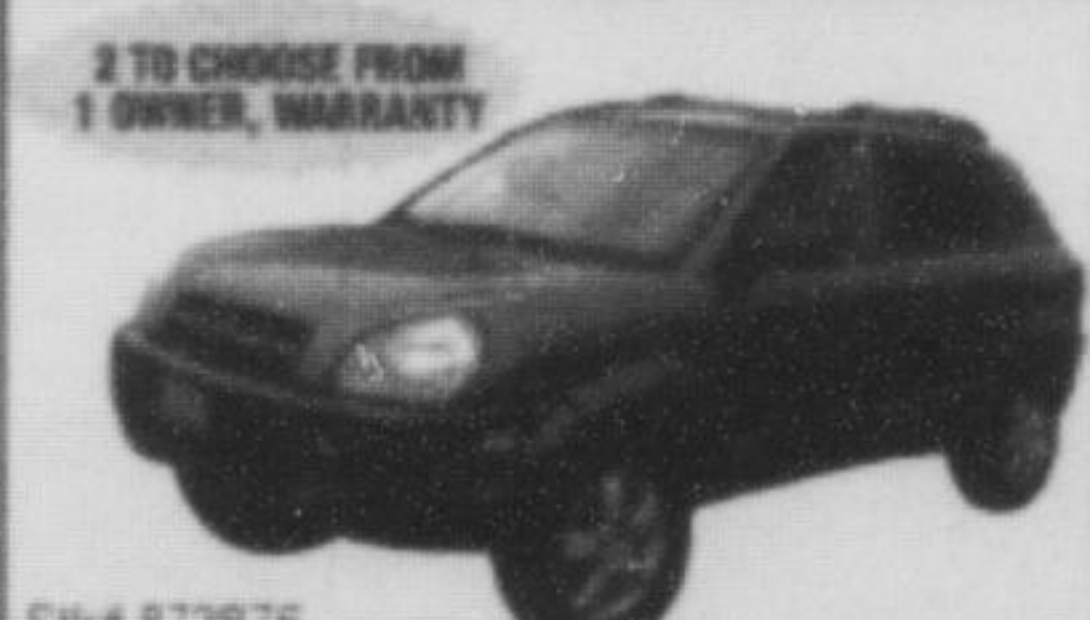
2008 VOLKSWAGEN RABBIT



Stk# 201756

**\$11,788** PLUS HST & LIC

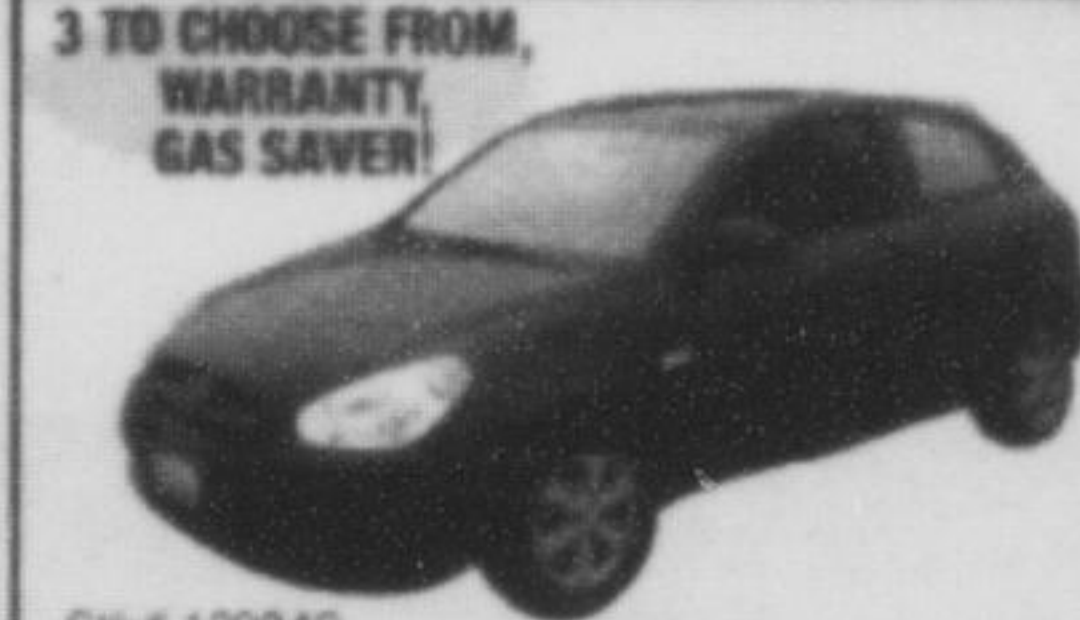
2008 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL



Stk# 873876

**\$9,888** PLUS HST & LIC

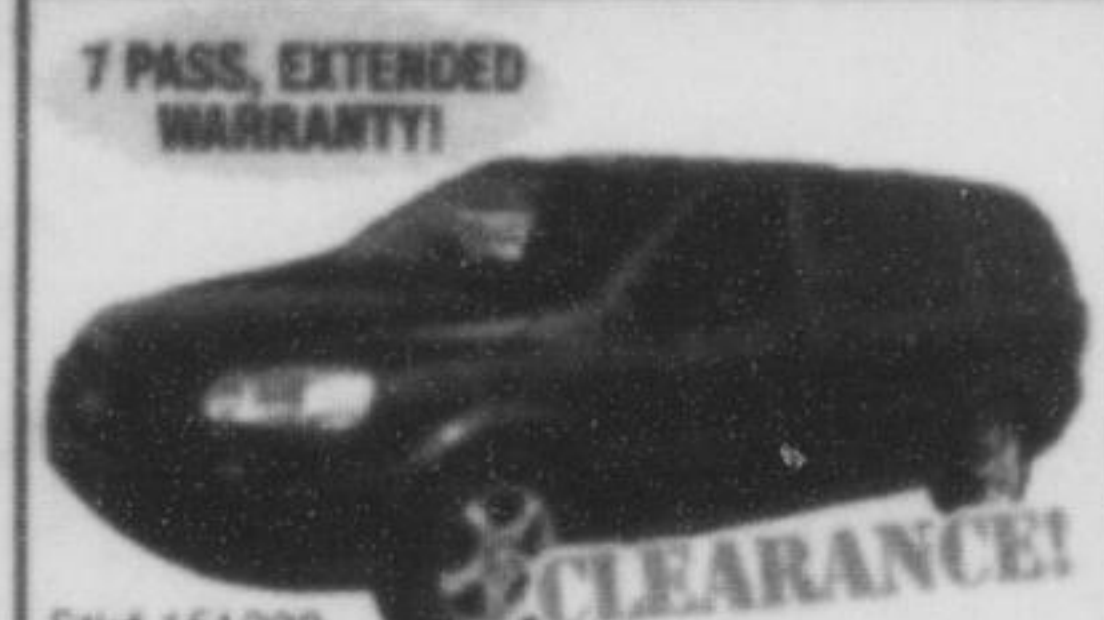
2009 HYUNDAI ACCENT GL



Stk# 129840

**\$7,488** PLUS HST & LIC

2006 CHEVY UPLANDER LT



Stk# 151220

**\$6,988** PLUS HST & LIC



THEY'RE NOT USED.  
THEY'RE HYUNDAI  
CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED.



TO VIEW OUR FULL INVENTORY LIST  
[miltonhyundai.com](http://miltonhyundai.com)  
1285 Steeles Ave. E • 905-875-1120

Have your air conditioning system inspected and serviced today by a licensed C.F.C. Facility. It may be time for a cooling system check-up!

HAVE YOUR COOLING SYSTEM Inspected & Flushed before heading out on the long TREK!

**Brian's**  
Auto Repairs & Tire Centre

390 Ontario St. N., Unit #1, Milton  
Mon. - Fri. 7-5:30 • Sat. 8-12 (except long weekends) 905-875-1522

ONTARIO'S DRIVE CLEAN  
\*Accredited Test & Repair Facility