

NEWS

Halton seeing high number of accidents involving cyclists

The number of accidents involving cyclists and motorists in Halton is causing enough concern among police that they're stepping up awareness and enforcement efforts.

Police say that since January 2014 there have been 127 reports of collisions involving vehicles and bicycles in Halton.

"The vast majority of collisions involving cyclists are intersection related, followed by cyclists struck from behind when passing motorists fail to provide enough room," states a Halton police press release.

Police didn't have information as to whether any of the accidents were fatal and how many resulted in serious injuries.

Bicycles are considered vehicles under the Highway Traffic Act therefore cyclists must abide by the same rules and regulations as drivers.

All cyclists under the age of 18 are required by law to wear a helmet while riding or operating a bicycle, and the chinstrap of the helmet must be securely fastened under the chin.

Under the Highway Traffic Act, a police officer who finds any person contravening the act or any municipal bylaw regulating traffic while in charge of a bicycle may require that person to stop and identify themselves, just as drivers must do during a traffic stop. A ticket can be issued as well.

Bicycle Safety Tips can be found at <http://goo.gl/8MV8sb>.

Correction

A photo caption in last Thursday's *Champion* contained the incorrect spelling of a member of the 2990 Lorne Scots Army Cadets. The correct spelling of his name is Sparsh Kapar. The *Champion* regrets this error.

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