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**TOWN OF  
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**SMOKE FREE BY-LAW PROPOSAL  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

The purpose of this notice is to advise that a Public Information Meeting to review and seek input on a proposed by-law to regulate smoking in public places and the work place will be held on:

Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
Council Chambers, Halton Hills Civic Centre  
1 Halton Hills Drive, (Georgetown)  
(North of Maple Avenue)

7:30 p.m. Public Meeting

The proposed strategy recommended by the Stakeholders Smoking Control Committee provides for the gradual implementation of 100% Smoke Free Public Places and Work Places. The proposed strategy would be phased in as follows:

- On a date to be established:
  - a) no smoking permitted in restaurants, bars, billiard halls, bowling alleys, private clubs and halls, and on restaurant and bar patios before 9:00pm;
  - b) smoking shall be permitted in public places after 9:00pm subject to no less than 75% of the seating capacity or floor space, as shall be applicable, being smoke-free
  - c) minors shall not be permitted in public places after 9:00pm that permit smoking;
  - d) no designated smoking rooms shall be permitted in the work place or in public places;
  - e) designated smoking rooms existing as of a specific date shall be permitted to date to be established;
  - f) provisions of this by-law relating to the Legion come into effect on a date to be established;

And 100% smoke free in all work places and public places at a specified date.

Copies of the Report communicating the strategy recommended by the Stakeholders Smoking Control Review Committee is available at the Clerk's Department, Civic Centre, Town of Halton Hills. You are invited to ask questions or express your comments regarding the proposed strategy to pass a smoke free by-law at the Public Meeting, or in writing to the Clerk, Town of Halton Hills, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown), Ontario, L7G 5G2

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills,  
905-873-2601

# Replacement of water meters starts this month in Halton Hills

Approximately 5,500 households in Halton Hills have obsolete members of the direct-read or gallon meter variety. Halton Region is starting to replace them in Halton Hills this month with new remote-read models.

The installation of new remote-read meters will mean more accurate measurement of water usage, fair and equitable billing, and more convenient service for customers by eliminating the need to fill out cards or call in readings, the Region maintains.

There is no charge to Halton customers for the replacement of the water meter or installation of the remote reader.

Affected households will receive a letter in the mail with more information about the program and a number to call to arrange an appointment with the Region's contractor.

"If your meter is due for replacement, you will be contacted directly with all of the information you will need," said Ric Robershaw,

Halton Region's Director of Environmental Services. "If you don't hear from us, then your existing meter already meets the new standard."

Halton Region is hosting a public open house to provide information about how the program will work tonight (Thursday, June 9) from 6-9pm at the Halton Hills Cultural Centre at 9 Church St. Georgetown.

Halton Region and contractor Canadian Water Services staff will be on hand at the open house to explain the program, answer questions, demonstrate how a water meter works and provide valuable conservation tips. Customers who have received a notice that their meter is due for replacement will also be able to arrange a meter change appointment in person at the open house.

Halton Region has been working closely with its contractor, Canadian Water Services, to make sure this program is easy and convenient for customers.

Appointments for meter replacement will be available between 8:00am - 9:00pm Mondays through Fridays, and 9:00am - 5:00pm on Saturdays.

Halton Region is taking the opportunity to promote water conservation as part of the meter replacement program. Installers will provide each customer with an information kit with simple water conservation tips that can amount to significant savings. "Small changes that improve water efficiency can add up over time," said Ric Robertshaw. "A steadily dripping faucet can waste as much as 55 litres of wa-

ter every day."

Once all of the identified meters in Halton Hills have been replaced, the Region's contractor will be moving on to Milton, where approximately 880 meters are due for replacement, followed by Oakville with approximately 9,700 and Burlington with approximately 15,800. It is expected that the program will be completed in two to three years.

For more information about the program, call: 905-825-6000 / toll free: 1-866-442-5866 or visit our website at:

www.region.halton.on.ca/changeout.

## Assessment concern...

*Continued from Page 1*  
would like to hear from anyone else who is concerned with rising assessments.

"The more heads you have - if there are people who are really concerned then we could get together and get all the information we can get," Bonnette said, also questioning why there is a fee to file an appeal with the Assessment Review Board, which must be done before March 31.

Rural Acton resident Russell Birch said he was "rather shocked" with a 40 per cent increase in the assessed value of his Highway 25 home.

He said he bought it in 1999 for below market value because it was in need of repair. "Is there anybody out there

whose assessment increased by that stated magic 12.4 per cent? What formula do they use to come up with the numbers?" Birch asked, adding he was waiting to hear from someone at MPAC, the Municipal Property Tax Assessment Corporation, to try to get answers to his questions.

Birch said he paid \$4,200 in property taxes last year and doesn't receive municipal services like garbage pickup, streetlighting and water and sewer service. He said he intends to appeal his assessment.

Fourth Line resident Elgin Archer also plans to appeal a 30 per cent increase in the assessed value of his home, to \$272,000.

"Nothing has changed. The previous (assessment) increase was 4 per cent and that was reasonable," he said he fears a huge tax increase once municipal politicians approve their budgets and set their mill rates.

"I'm prepared to join a group (in protest of the reassessment) if I don't answers from MPAC," Archer said.

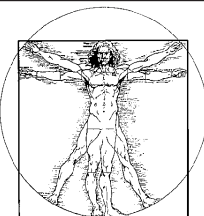
Property taxes are calculated by multiplying the assessed value of a property by both the tax rates set by the Town and region and the education tax rate set by the province.

Town Council begins its budget debates next week. Halton approved a 2.1 per cent tax increase recently - \$23 more for a Regional tax bill of \$1,720. The education tax rate should be known by April.

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## ATTENTION -- PARENTS OF GRADE 8 STUDENTS

You are invited to attend a  
**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

Parents of students who are planning to attend **Acton High School** or **Georgetown District High School** in September 2003 are welcome to come and hear more about the Grade 9 program, services for students, and diploma requirements. Parents should attend the Parents' Information Night at their home school (the school designated for their community). For more information, please contact the school office.

**Acton High School** 519 853-2920

Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

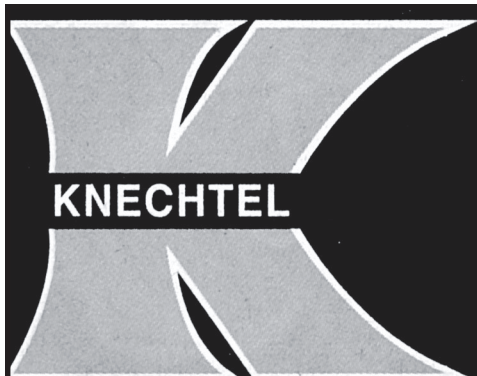
**Georgetown District High School** 905 877-6966

Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.



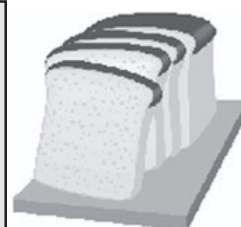
**HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

D.L. Papke, Ed. D., Director of Education Ethel Gardiner, Chair



## New Year's Resolution Shopping List

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