

Moving Forward Together: A Strong Halton for a Strong Canada

Halton: A Snapshot

Halton Region is home to more than 580,000 residents in four communities. Along with its Local Municipalities (City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, Town of Milton, and Town of Oakville) Halton Region is an effective two-tier government recognized for its strong financial position, safe communities, natural environment, progressive approach to urban development and citizen-focused reliable services.



Halton Region effectively meets the needs of the people of Halton. Some of Halton's long standing achievements include the following:

<p>98% of residents rate their quality of life very high</p>	<p>97% of residents are satisfied with the quality of Regional services</p>	<p>13 years of keeping average property tax increases at or below the rate of inflation</p>
<p>AAA Credit Rating for 31 years</p>	<p>13 years as the safest municipality in Canada</p>	<p>8 years as one of Greater Toronto's Top Employers</p>

Halton Region is strategically located in the Greater Toronto area (GTA), close to major markets in Canada and the U.S. which is important to the provincial and national economy. Businesses continue to invest in Halton Region because of its proximity to major markets, low taxes and a highly educated and skilled workforce.

Halton Region shares the Federal Government's priorities of continuing to strengthen the economy and investing in the creation of good and well-paying jobs for Canada's middle class.

To be successful in meeting the expectations and addressing the concerns of Halton residents, a strong, collaborative, action oriented partnership with the Federal Government is necessary.

Keys to success include:

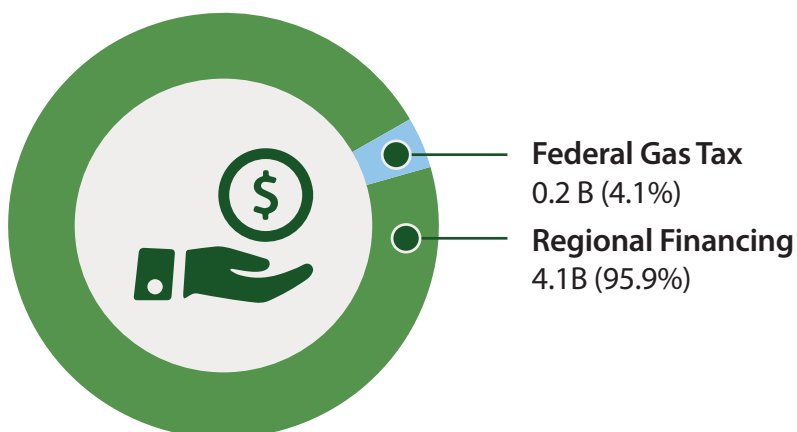
- Investing in roads and infrastructure
- Supporting safe, affordable and accessible government-assisted housing
- Proposed truck-rail hub
- Addressing climate change and supporting resilient communities
- Delivering universal access to broadband internet

Investing in Roads and Infrastructure

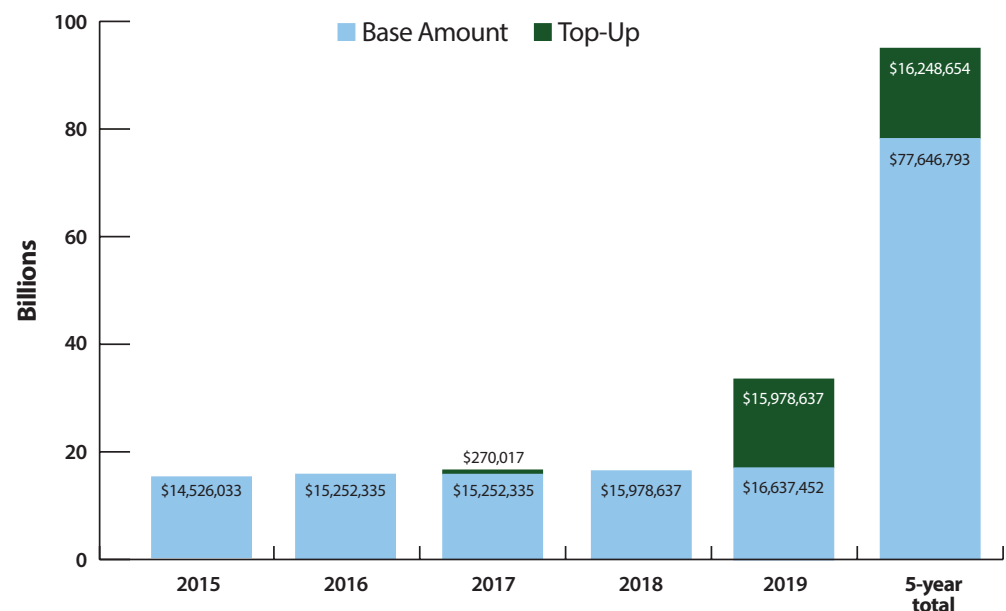
Transportation and infrastructure continue to be priority issues of concern for Halton residents. Investments in infrastructure make Halton Region a strong economy and a desirable place to live and do business.

Halton Region is committed to creating complete communities that ensure a high quality of life for residents and a competitive economy. Investments in infrastructure support a strong economy and a desirable place to live and do business. Making significant investments in infrastructure is a priority for Regional Council. While Halton Region is appreciative of the Federal Government's *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan*, our 10-year capital infrastructure program totals \$4.3 billion, including \$2.1 billion to fund the state of good repair. Federal Gas Tax funding is \$0.2 billion. Funding for necessary infrastructure with outdated funding tools, that do not provide long-term sustainable funding, continues to be a challenge for our growing community.

2019-2028 Capital Financing: \$4.3B



Halton Region Federal Gas Tax Funding



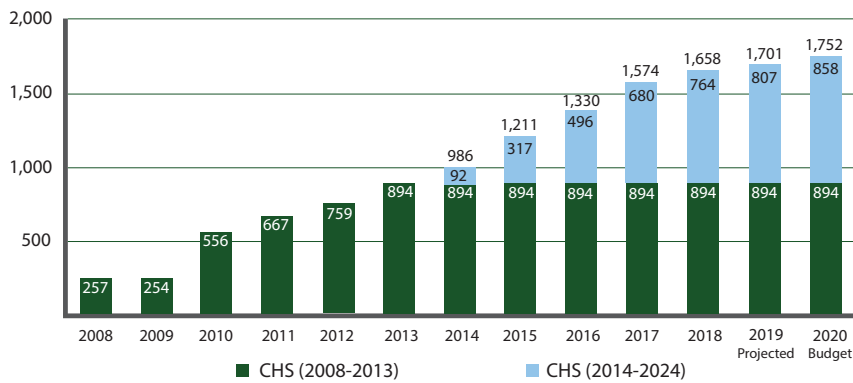
Halton requests:

- Permanently double the Gas Tax transfer to support local infrastructure.
- Provide long-term sustainable infrastructure funding and investments to support the movement of goods and people.

The provision of safe, affordable, accessible housing is a critical component of fostering healthy communities. For many residents, affordable homeownership remains out of reach.

Halton Region is investing \$107 million in our social infrastructure through the 10-year Comprehensive Housing Strategy (2014-2024). This Strategy provides government-assisted housing options to low income residents. Long-term sustainable investments allow for the planning and delivery of, and access to, safe, affordable, and accessible housing which improves the lives of residents and strengthens communities.

By the end of 2019, Halton will have created a total of 1,701 government-assisted housing opportunities, since 2008. Halton is projecting to have 1,752 government-assisted housing opportunities by the end of 2020.



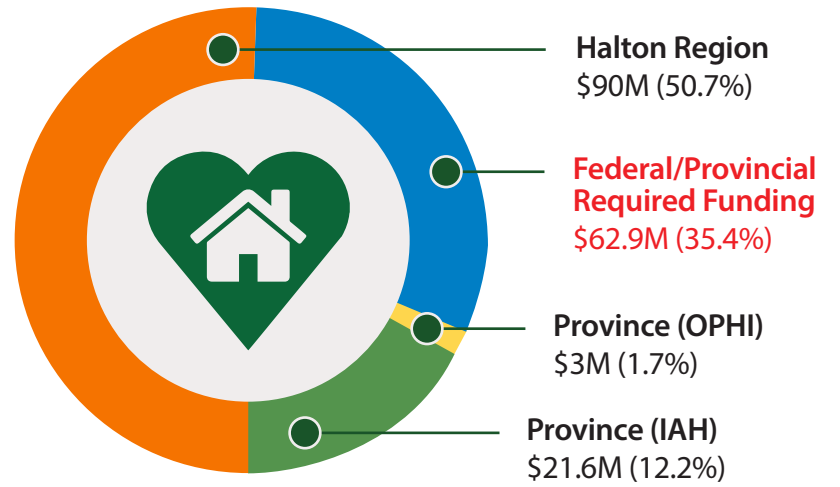
In 2018, the Federal Government announced Canada's first ever *National Housing Strategy*. While this 10-year, \$55+ billion plan is intended to help drive the success of Canada's housing sector by giving more Canadians affordable homes, it is unclear when municipalities will receive funding.

Halton requests:

- Deliver predictable long-term, sustainable federal/provincial funding to match the Region's commitment, in affordable and assisted housing.
- The anticipated timeline to deliver long-term assisted housing funding to municipalities.

Comprehensive Housing Strategy

10 Year Capital Funding Requirements: \$177.5M (900 opportunities)



 **Proposed Truck-Rail Hub**

CN Rail has declared its intention to proceed with a new truck-rail development in the Town of Milton that would operate seven days a week, 24 hours a day and add at least 1,600 truck trips a day on regional roads located in close proximity to 34,000 existing and planned residents. CN Rail has declared that the Province of Ontario and the Halton Municipalities have no regulatory role with respect to the proposed truck-rail development.

While Halton recognizes the economic importance of the railway system, our experts have identified significant concerns related to the proposed truck-rail hub in Milton that impact the community including: health and safety issues; proximity to residents, schools, long-term care homes, and a hospital; traffic congestion; impacts on Regional natural heritage; and, approximately 1,370 less jobs than we had planned for the site.

Halton requests:

- Continue to support and take action to address Halton Region's concerns as they relate to the proposed truck-rail hub in Milton.



 **Addressing Climate Change and Supporting Resilient Communities**

Halton Region is committed to responding to climate change by reducing the impacts to the environment, ensuring its infrastructure and services are resilient, and that risks associated with severe weather events are mitigated. Halton has committed \$85 million to flood mitigation strategies and continues to make this a priority as well as reducing our carbon footprint.

Halton requests:

- Provide sustainable funding and climate change mitigation support to enable municipalities to deliver resilient communities.



 **Delivering Universal Access to Broadband Internet**

Universal access to broadband internet enables small businesses to access high-speed internet to effectively compete in a digital world. It is essential that the Federal Government partner with municipalities, the Provincial Government and service providers, to ensure that universal access to broadband internet is available. This will support Halton in maintaining a high-quality of life, while ensuring that our local businesses can thrive in a competitive digital economy.

Halton has advocated for universal access to broadband internet for several years. In the 2019 Federal Budget, it was announced that all Canadians will have access to broadband by 2030. This commitment is welcomed news, but it is too far in the distant future.

Halton requests:

- Provide funding and access to universal rural broadband internet, regardless of proximity to urban communities, within the next four years.

Halton Region is committed to creating planned, complete, active and healthy communities and is eager to work cooperatively with both the Provincial and Federal Governments to build a strong and sustainable community for the residents of Halton.