

Survey supplements Census

The Town of Oakville is encouraging residents to do their part for Oakville and fill out the National Household Survey.

You can contribute to Oakville's ongoing success by completing the National Household Survey (NHS).

If you have received the survey, you are one in three Canadian households across Canada that has the opportunity to participate.

"The data collected from the NHS helps governments tailor our programs and services; in doing so, we can increase efficiency and keep property taxes at a minimum," said Mayor Rob Burton.

A supplement to the census, the National Household Survey supports government planning and program delivery, including family services, housing, roads, public transportation, and skills training for employment.

Information collected in the NHS is protected by law and is kept confidential.

Questionnaires can be returned by mail and they can also be completed online at: www.NHS.statcan.gc.ca.

Households can call the Help Line at 1-877-308-2777 if they need assistance to complete their NHS. TTY users may call 1-866-753-7083.

Industry already saturated

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If the Town really cares about its drivers, then why not impose a ruling that does not allow any outside company in taking a fare that originates in Oakville?

If Toronto and Mississauga have designated officials to decrease scooping, why can't Oakville preserve whatever business is left and protect their drivers?

Outreach Program: All of the owners and drivers have worked cooperatively with the Town of Oakville because they realize that ultimately the Town controls how many hours they work based on their policies.

The owners and drivers against plates being issued have asked Town officials to ride with them.

In May's meeting, I counted seven drivers that humbly requested to have members of council join them, so that they could see first-hand that business has stalled.

And by introducing more plates would have an adverse effect not only on business, but the morale of a driver.

Oakville already has the highest fees to operate a cab, why go and make it impossi-

ble to earn a proper living?

Take me for example, there are four people in my household earning and keeping the house afloat.

If we solely relied on the income of taxi, then we would substantially need to downgrade our standard of living.

In closing, the elected officials have let their constituents down.

The owners and drivers went above and beyond and provided solid information that did not support the introduction of new plates.

Drivers provided their own testimonials, even went to the extent to invite elected officials to ride with them and see for themselves the harsh conditions they have to face day in and day out.

It is disappointing to see that aside from councillors Knoll and Grant, these officials did not care and were more concerned in staying in the mayor's good books than doing what was the right thing.

And, the right thing was to reject the introduction of taxi plates in an already saturated taxi industry.

Charanjit Sandhu, Oakville

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