

# Town cancels Sept. 29 Lifestyles Exposition

A lack of ministry funding and human resources has forced the Halton Hills Cooperative Program Planning Committee to cancel its September 29 Lifestyles Exposition.

Since the Ministry of Health has been promoting health education, the committee expected its \$5,000 application to the ministry would be approved as the exposition theme was health education based. The day would have promoted healthy lifestyles and better eating habits, said Joy Thompson, Supervisor of Recreation and Parks. "We thought we were perfectly on target," she said. "We thought it

was exactly what they wanted to see."

The funding would have enabled the committee to hire a staff person to take on organizational tasks to bring as many as 100 social groups together for the Halton Hills Lifestyles Sept. 29 exposition.

The application was made before November and "hundreds of hours of planning since January" has gone into preparing for the day, said Ms. Thompson. "We were given good indication we would receive funding," she added. "It was quite a shock when we didn't."

To compound the issue, three key personnel have left the com-

mittee leaving "too much to take on" for the remaining members, said Ms. Thompson. Jeff Bitton, a past town recreation and parks employee and Georgetown District High School teachers Donna Bronk and Moe Leeking left Halton Hills recently. There was so much work left to co-ordinate groups and to inform the public, Ms. Thompson said, that no one on the committee could handle anymore. "With so much work ahead of us without funding and committee member replacements, it was just too much for them," explained Ms. Thompson.

Since three committee members

were leaving, it would have been too difficult for them to continue participating, said Ms. Thompson. It was also too late to replace anyone, she added, since "we really wanted to make it work but to do a mediocre job is really not our style," she insists.

Cancelling the exposition also brought a sigh of relief to the few people left on the committee, Ms. Thompson said, because they would have found it increasingly difficult to find the time required in addition to their regular duties.

Fifty groups who had already registered for the September exposition have been disappointed because the event has become

valuable to the community, Ms. Thompson said. She added that 3,000 residents who ventured to the last exposition in 1986 had the opportunity to meet the various groups and learn what was available.

This year would have been the fourth year running, said Ms. Thompson.

As the number of registered groups is down from 1986, the committee believes the timing may not have been right this year and will postpone the exposition until next year, said Ms. Thompson. However, she said, the committee will apply to a different ministry next year.

## Angry Acton resident speaks out

Acton resident John Shadbolt is "mad."

Mr. Shadbolt is mad that the public doesn't have a choice anymore when it comes to political representation. He's also made that "politicians" don't keep their word anymore.

For this reason Mr. Shadbolt, 35-year Acton resident and local businessman, joined the provincial election race Thursday as the North-Halton representative for the Ontario Libertarian Party.



John Shadbolt

As a Libertarian, Mr. Shadbolt stands for less government intervention in people's individual lives and government fiscal responsibility. He argues the main parties may have different political platforms but regardless of their varying ideologies all of them call for spending more money. "The parties believe the public has a never ending deep pocket," he said. But someone must realize the public can't afford it, (over-spending and increasing taxes), and it has got to stop," said an adamant Mr. Shadbolt.

He acknowledged it's easy to say cut spending and taxes but it's difficult to accomplish. The Libertarian's plan would be to re-evaluate each program to see if it could be eliminated or the amount of money being spent on it could be cut.

"I was always taught if you look after the pennies the pounds will

take care of themselves," said Mr. Shadbolt.

Mr. Shadbolt if elected would join the Ontario's public school boards and the Catholic school boards to form one board of education. Under the current system in which the provincial government funds both boards, other religious groups who are denied funding to establish an education system are being discriminated against, he argues.

On the issue of the environment Mr. Shadbolt says government should act more aggressively in forcing the public to reduce the amount of garbage it produces. To set an example he said the public won't be seeing many of his signs

up around the riding because they end up being dumped in the garbage.

Mr. Shadbolt's previous political experience was gained about 30 year ago when he ran for a seat on local council. He lost that bid.

He is also a past-president of the Acton Progressive Conservative Association. He left the position after seven years, "when I realized the party didn't listen to anybody."

Acknowledging he didn't have much political experience Mr. Shadbolt said he could bring a new perspective to government. He doesn't think he'll win the riding, but from the reaction he has so far received while knocking on doors has been "excellent."

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Gilbert McCraw  
President, Section de langue française

C.G. Byrnes  
Directeur de l'éducation