

# Editorial

## Playing word games

Can you say the "R" word, boys and girls? It's a tough one, isn't it. It's a long word and can be tricky to pronounce. The word is - recession. Even adults have a hard time pronouncing this word - just ask Canada's Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney or the Federal Finance Minister, Michael Wilson.

With apologies to Mr. Rogers, this game of semantics being played by our Prime Minister and Mr. Wilson, is just another example of the games the federal government continues to play with the Canadian public and forbearance is wearing thin.

If it looks like a duck, sounds like a duck, flies like a duck and tastes like a duck, without any stretch of the imagination, it is a duck.

The frightening thing about the stance being taken by Mr. Mulroney and Mr. Wilson, however, is that given the same criteria as above, those two would put their heads together and attempt to tell people that what was described was indeed a moose.

Economic forecasters follow a very simple yardstick when it comes to determining if a country is indeed in a recession. If a country's economy contracts for two consecutive quarters, then officially, it is in a recession.

Canada's economy contracted through the first quarter of 1990 and while second quarter figures (up to Sept. 30) won't be released by Statistics Canada until November, a person doesn't have to be a financial genius to reach the conclusion that times have become even tougher.

Herein lies the real problem with Mr. Mulroney and the federally-governing Progressive Conservative party.

It is a collective ego problem that has permeated throughout the federal PC's and like an insidious disease, it has taken years to completely take hold.

Mr. Mulroney and his government cohorts are deathly afraid of admitting their mistakes.

We have seen it over the free trade issue, Meech Lake, the Oka crisis and now, the economic crisis.

When PC caucus members were making regular trips before the courts of the land, no one came forward to accept responsibility for putting the wrong man in the wrong position at the wrong time.

The disease was allowed to fester.

Similarly, neither Mr. Mulroney nor Mr. Wilson will say the dreaded "R" word, because that would be admitting making a mistake in their financial planning for Canada - a mistake someone has to be held accountable for.

Call it a duck, call it a moose, call it what you want, but let's have some solutions for the problem rather than playing inane word games.

## The Halton Hills HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

A Division of Canadian Newspaper Company Limited  
45 Guelph Street, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 3Z6

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877-2201

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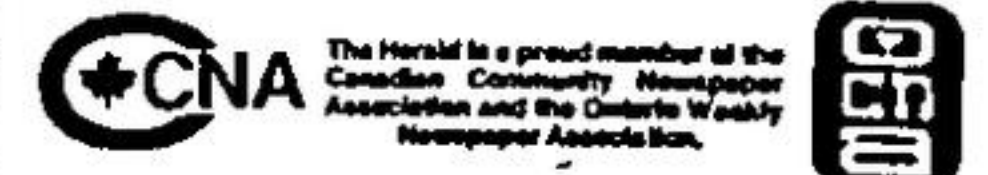
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## Letters

# Council and citizens must work together

Dear Mr. Miller,  
As a concerned citizen having lived in Georgetown for 10 years, I am writing to you today to ask for clarification and to voice my opinion on events I see happening around me.

Firstly, I have become increasingly aware of the number of very large trucks (with add-ons) which constantly travel Maple Ave. from Trafalgar Road to Highway 7. During the day, it is virtually impossible to walk along Maple Ave. without inhaling fumes from these vehicles and being blown over by their strong winds. No wonder the trees throughout the Park Area are struggling to survive!

What prospect is there for this activity to cease?

Secondly, I understand even after destruction of an historic 120-year-old house, serious consideration is being given to a number of high density housing projects, among them two 15-storey condominiums on Maple Ave. This entails changing the zoning from R1 (single family dwelling) to R4 (high density).

Exactly what is the process for this application to follow? Don't we have an Official Plan which designates these Maple Ave. properties as R1? If the developer wishes to change the Official Plan, what exactly is the process? This process should be well-advertised and the public

made well aware of these developments in Georgetown!

Thirdly, I feel very strongly that this condominium proposal, as well as the other high-rise proposals for the Park Area (James St. 83-unit highrise, Mill St. high rise condo) are extremely inappropriate for that area.

The contribution to the already horrendous traffic problems on Maple Ave. and downtown Georgetown, the increased pollution, the potential destruction of the natural environment, all point to a substantial change in Georgetown's unique character.

Since high rise development seems to be knocking on our door, there is a great need for careful planning and coordination of public input by the Town Council and the Planning Dept. After all,

you and the Town Council are supposed to represent us, the citizens of this town!

In closing, now is the time for the Town Council and the citizens it represents to work together to avoid the pitfalls that have happened in Brampton and Mississauga; to keep Georgetown a pleasant, people-oriented and environmentally conscious community where its citizens can work, live and play, trusting that the future will be planned thoughtfully and democratically.

Yours sincerely,  
Ruth Kuchinad (Mrs.)  
Georgetown.

cc: Mr. Ian Keith, Planning Dept., Mr. Pat McCarthy, Councillor, Georgetown Independent, The Herald.

## Area of controversy

Dear Editor:  
This is in response to the letter to the editor entitled "Property owners respond."

To begin with, General Committee has the prerogative to recognize unscheduled speakers and may pass a motion to do so. Due to a previous commitment, I was unable to appear as a delegate the following week.

The classification of the Beachbrook lands was not the point of the letter, and was not directly mentioned.

My remarks were directed towards Glen Wellings statement that the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food "always" comments on farmlands regardless of size and viability. Councillor Hewitt, as a member of the Niagara Escarpment Commission, is fully aware of areas where OMAF does not want a commenting role and can verify that the Food Land Guidelines has been an area of controversy at the NEC meetings.

Pat Woode,  
Halton Hills.

### Letter of the Week

## No access for disabled

Dear Sir:  
I would like to express my disappointment in the Arts and Craft Show held at the North Halton Golf Club on Oct. 6th.

Friends and family, including my son who uses a wheelchair, intended to enjoy the show.

I was sure the building would be accessible for David as I had seen the familiar and usually reassuring blue and white sign at the front door. What a mockery.

Who is the sign for may I ask?

Certainly it was not for my son who was denied entry because of his disability. If North Halton Golf Club cannot be brought into the 20th Century then may I suggest organizers of future events give this some thought. It would show some sensitivity if a location was chosen so all members of the community could participate.

Thank you,  
Betty Hagen  
Halton Hills.

## Native Indians treated poorly

Editor's note: The following letter was issued to the Halton Hills Herald for publication.  
The Rt. Hon. Brian Mulroney,  
Prime Minister,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Mulroney,  
I am ashamed.

I am ashamed the way our forefathers took this land from the natives.

I am ashamed that we have done little to right past wrongs.

I am ashamed that our record isn't getting any better.

We can't change history, but why do we continue to treat our first nations so poorly? As a country that has a good record for

championing human rights, how can we continue to side-step the issues in our own country?

For example, how can we allow extremely low-level military flights over Labrador while we have agreed to a 1000' minimum altitude in Europe?

Mr. Prime Minister, many Canadians feel that it is time we started giving full consideration to the pleas for justice from the original people of this land. Will you show leadership in this matter?

Sincerely,  
Read Whatmough  
Georgetown.

cc: Mr. Garth Turner, MP,  
Georgetown Independent.