

Centre plan discussed by seniors

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Dominion Gardens' appeal includes complete access for all seniors (ground floor), a 3,700 square foot facility, no safety or emergency concerns, a full kitchen and handicap accessible washrooms and sufficient parking space.

Bethel explained that the criteria for a temporary facility should include: a facility large enough to accommodate the programs desired and the number of seniors wishing to use it, have sufficient parking, be accessible to disabled, be "centrally" located and be exclusively for seniors five days a week. Services offered should include: physical recreation, recreation games, crafts and hobbies, musical expression, educational lectures, discussion

groups, and relaxation areas.

These criteria are based on studies of seniors' centres in Halton, specifically the Milton centre that houses a 6,000 square foot facility and is used by 450 seniors each week.

While each of the other sites had its good points, he pointed out serious disadvantages in terms of parking, access and space.

According to Bethel, the Dominion Gardens facility would be available in the next few months and in addition to the 3,700 square foot facilities, a large hall would be made available for 20 hours a week.

The only disadvantage seen is that under the proposed terms of the property contract, the sale of the property could allow short term

notice of termination. The cost of renting the space at Dominion Gardens would be between \$60,000 and \$70,000 per year.

In addition to the rent costs, a full-time coordinator would have to be employed by the recreation department to take care of the overall operation of the centre. Mellish said this would cost between \$32,000 and \$40,000 per year.

"We not sure that council will be prepared to accept Dominion Gardens because of the rent, although we are prepared to make some of the money in our budget (which stands at \$61,000) available," explained Mellish.

Mellish also explained that there are no capital expenditures required for renovation or expansion on the Dominion Gardens site.

He says it will now be up to council to approve the site and apply to the provincial government for a grant.

"We've been told that receiving a grant isn't possible right now but they need to apply first before this can be decided."

A second vote was held at the meeting for a possible alternative to Dominion Gardens if council should turn down this proposition. Again, a show of support was given to the original decision with 87 seniors choosing none of the above.

The seniors' association will be waiting on feedback following their meeting with town council Monday, which will be held prior to the weekly council meeting. The association will also be meeting with the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department, who are currently working alongside IER Planning, Research and Management Services to put together a Master Plan for Halton Hills.

"We don't want anything less than a workable seniors' centre," said Mellish.

Agencies to get funding

Continued from page 1

Halton's \$800,000 reduction plan involves using \$250,000 in unexpected land development fees to pay down debt on the \$30 million regional centre in Oakville, deferring \$400,000 in financing for long-term capital projects, and a wage freeze in 1993 for both unionized and non-union employees. If regional management is able to pull it off, the freeze will save \$100,000. A \$55,000 pay equity plan is also being shelved for a year.

Councillors flip-flopped on what had originally been presented as a plan to cut \$150,400 in financing for community service agencies. First they reinstated half, then the remaining \$75,200. Putting the last \$75,200 back drove the regional tax hike up to 1.6 per cent instead of the planned 1.5 per cent, although regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo partially offset that by scrounging another \$17,100 in cuts from various

programs.

Halton regional chairman Peter Pomeroy said he is drafting a plan for a comprehensive review of regional funding priorities. He has made it clear he wants the regional role in financing community groups re-examined as part of that exercise.

"I believe the public is asking us for less government as well as less costly government," Pomeroy said.

Burlington mayor Walter Mulkeiwich differed. "What the public is saying is that they can't pay anymore. I don't think that means they want less government. They want good government and they don't want their taxes to go up."

The regional operating budget, which is funded by the tax levy, is approximately \$131 million. After various revenues are taken into account, the property tax bill shared among Halton residents will be \$57.7 million in 1993.

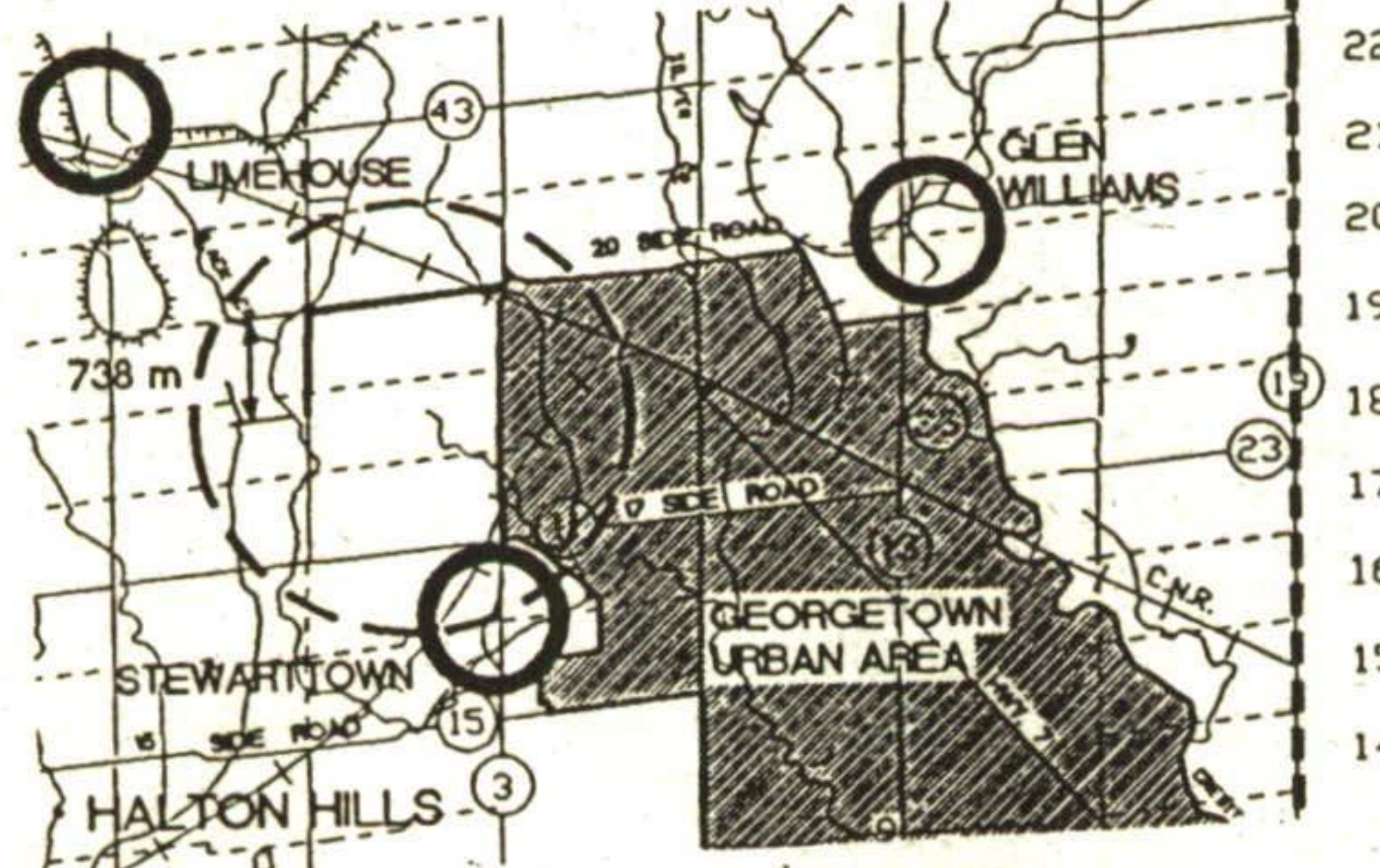
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 19 TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN FOR HALTON

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton, through its Planning and Public Works Committee, will hold a public meeting to provide interested individuals and agencies the opportunity to express their views and provide comments on proposed Halton Official Plan Amendment No. 19. The public meeting will be held on:

Date: **Wednesday March 24, 1993 - 9:15 a.m.**
Location: **Halton Room
Halton Region Centre
1151 Bronte Road, Oakville**

The purpose of Halton Official Plan Amendment No. 19 is to amend the Sanitary Sewage Disposal and Water Supply policies of the Regional Plan to permit the extension of a municipal watermain from the Georgetown Urban Area, west along No. 20 Side Road and approximately 738 metres south along the Sixth Line in order to provide water to residential properties fronting on the watermain.

GENERAL LOCATION
OF SIXTH LINE/20
SIDE ROAD
PROPOSED
WATERMAIN



A copy of Proposed Official Plan Amendment No. 19 may be viewed at the Office of the Regional Clerk at the above address between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays or a copy may be obtained by telephoning the Regional Clerk at the number below.

All individuals attending the meeting will be afforded the opportunity to address the Committee. However, to facilitate the hearing of all delegations, it would be appreciated if those wishing to address the Committee would telephone the Region prior to March 17, 1993.

Burlington/Oakville	825-6000
Aldershot	639-4540
Georgetown	878-8113
Acton	853-0501
Streetsville	823-6720

Joan A. Eaglesham
Regional Clerk



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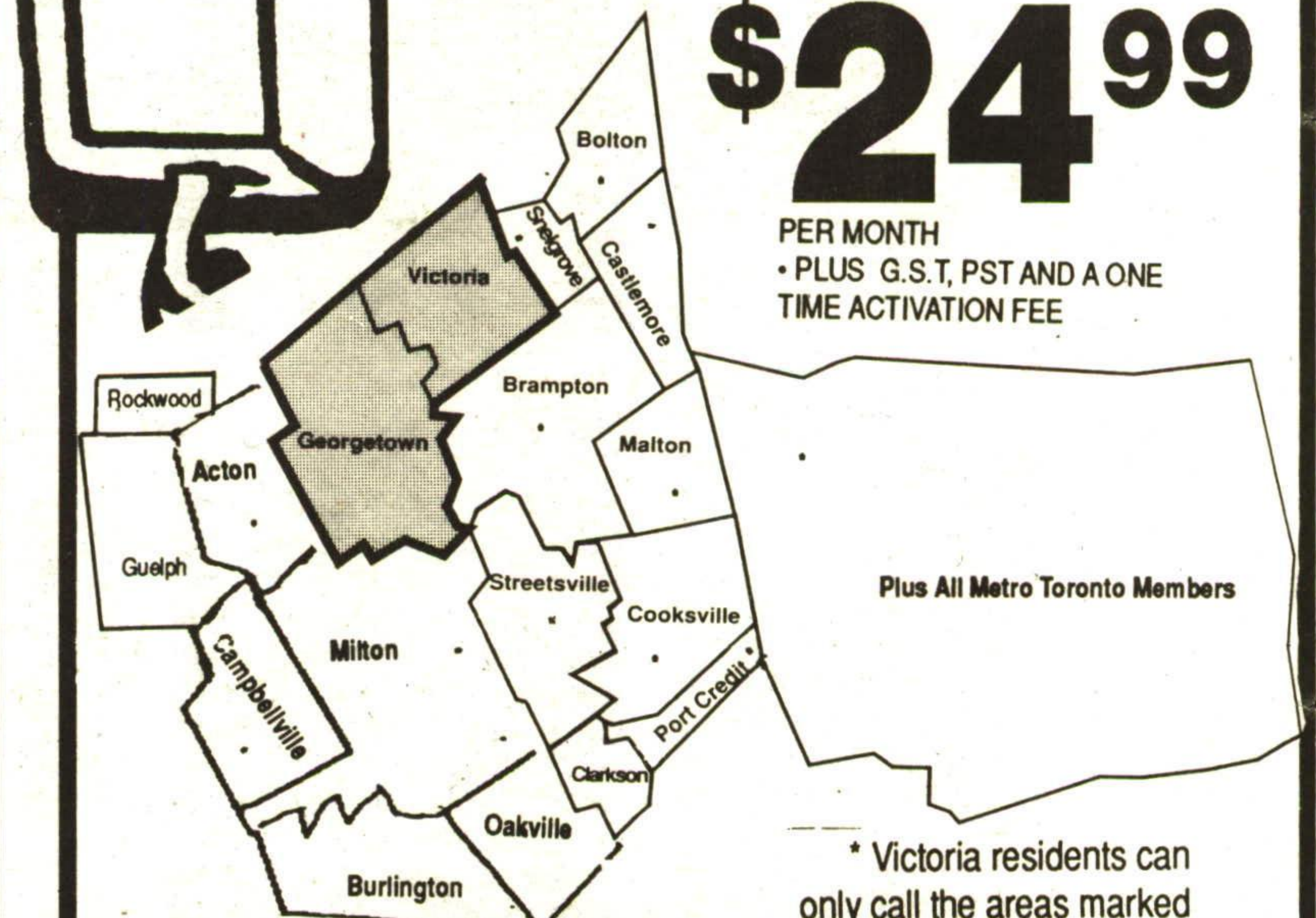
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