

# Reed hopeful for positive impact from General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

By JANET BAINE  
Staff writer

Halton-Peel MP Julian Reed told dairy farmers he is hopeful the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will have a positive impact.

"We realize it's impossible to build a fence around a nation in these times, so the challenge is how to turn this potential danger into an opportunity," Reed told the farmers at the annual meeting of the Halton Milk Committee, February 3.

"In Canada quality is second to none, it's one area where you excel that you must continue to maintain and improve," he said. Reed noted that the shelf life of milk in the United States is only seven days,

whereas it is 21 days in Canada. No level of antibiotics in milk is acceptable in Canada, but in the U.S., milk containing antibiotics is diluted and then sold to consumers, he said.

"All of those things are important under GATT. If the United States is going to pretend to want to export into Canada, the quality standard is going to have to change remarkably there," Reed said.

But Gordon Coukell, a farmer and member of the Ontario Milk Marketing Board (OMMB), said quality won't help Canadian dairy producers under the agreement.

"You have to be careful with the quality issue, it's not something we can hang our hat on," he said in an interview after Reed's presentation. While dairy products will have to meet Canadian quality standards at the border, there will be no control over the way they are produced, in terms of the same number of farm inspections or other stringent Canadian regulations, Coukell said.

Under the agreement, tariffs on imported milk products would decrease by a total of 15 per cent over six years beginning in July. Then six years from now, the countries would begin renegotiating tariffs again. Importation of ice cream and yogurt is a contentious

issue, because Americans say Canada can't put tariffs on these and the Canadian government disagrees. The matter hasn't been settled.

"The American way of doing business is to poke a stick in our eye as often as they see necessary...There will be a continuous attempt, regardless of this agreement, by our United States friends to jab and poke wherever they can," Reed said.

"There's still uncertainty and I don't think you'll have the same degree of calmness under this system as we had. We have tried very hard to maintain the system, but the feeling was that the quota system has no impact on external trade and it is strictly an internal thing," Reed said.

The problem is that a cow is not a machine which can be turned on and off, so it will be hard for Canadian farmers to know how much milk will be needed, because they won't know how much is going to be imported, Coukell said.

There is one thing both Coukell and Reed agree on: Canadian consumers aren't getting the message that they have "the greatest bargain in food in the whole world." Farmers get very little for their products, and most of the

money goes to the large grocery chains, who mark up the prices, Reed said.

Coukell noted that food prices in Canada won't likely go down because of imports. He said that Americans pay 14.6 per cent of their income for food, while Canadians pay only 14.2 per cent. Imported cheese, he noted, is 7.5 per cent higher in price than Canadian cheese.

"All we're saying is for them to hang in there and make sure the tariff levels are at a high enough level that we know how much (dairy product) is going to come in. An animal is not a machine that you can turn on and off," he said.

Reed noted that negotiations for the agreement have taken seven years, and his government has only been at the final round in Uruguay. The agreement has been reached, but the finer points are still being ironed out.

"We'll be finished with these negotiations around mid-April, and then all these pieces of uncertainty will be resolved and we'll know exactly where we're going," Reed said. "I'm optimistic that we can make it go, but in a different market, an international market."

The agreement is to be signed in July.

## Community open house planned

Attention all community groups!

Open House, Open Heart: Celebrating Our Community Family is announced as the name for the upcoming community organization showcase now being planned by the Cooperative Program Planning Committee of Halton Hills.

It will be taking place on Friday, March 25, 5-9 p.m., and Saturday, March 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Georgetown Marketplace Mall.

Spaces are filling quickly, including organizations like The North Halton Distress Centre, Georgetown Agricultural Society, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, Georgetown Kinsmen Girls Softball, Georgetown Parent-Child Centre, Halton Children's Aid Society and The Georgetown YMCA.

Organizations interested in this opportunity to present themselves to the community, who have not yet received a registration for are asked to call Joy Thompson at the Halton Hills Parks and Recreation Department at 873-2600, ext. 263.

## Open Door break in

Someone broke into the Open Door Youth Centre on Guelph St. overnight Tuesday, police said. When an employee arrived in the morning, she found a VCR, worth \$300, missing, as well as a window which had been left open. Police don't have any suspects, but they believe it was someone familiar with the lay-out of the building.

## DIRECTORY OF HALTON HILLS Churches & Temples

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"Nurturing a growing family of people"  
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Pastor Tim Brown  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
with classes for the whole family  
Sunday Worship 11 am  
Wed. night Children's Program 7 pm  
Youth Program Tues./Friday

**Christian Reformed Church**  
Trafalgar Rd.  
SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
Rev. P. Stadt  
LISTEN TO THE BACK TO GOD HOUR  
Sunday 8:00 A.M. Burlington FM 108  
Radio 10:00 P.M. Guelph CJOY 1460  
Faith 20 TV  
Mon. - Fri. - 5:30 A.M. CH. 6 & 41  
Ladies' Coffee Break Tues. 9:30 a.m.  
(Sept. through May)

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
116 Main St.S.  
Minister Rev. Peter Barrow B.A., B.D.  
MORNING WORSHIP 11 a.m.  
For the month of Feb. Sunday School will begin at 11 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 7 p.m.  
Time for Reflection and Renewal  
Ministers Office 877-2848  
Secretary's Office 877-7585

**Halton Gospel Temple**  
Phone (416) 873-9652  
Highway 7 West of Trafalgar Rd., Georgetown  
Affiliated with P.A.O.C.  
Pastor Rev. David Woodcock  
Youth Pastor Bob Barwick  
SUNDAY SERVICES  
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL and ADULT ELECTIVE  
11:00 a.m. MORNING WORSHIP  
6:00 p.m. EQUIPPING THE SAINTS  
Wed. 7:00 p.m. Family Night Fri. 7:17 p.m. Youth

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
114 Mill St. East, Acton  
853-1140  
Lieutenant & Mrs. James Anderson  
Sunday Services:  
9:45 a.m. Christian Education  
11 a.m. Worship Service  
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Ladies Fellowship - Thursdays  
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(Child Care Provided)  
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Pastors: Captain & Mrs. David Kennedy  
877-1374

**ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
60 Guelph Street  
(beside High School)  
877-8044  
SUNDAY, FEB. 13<sup>TH</sup>  
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
Church School & Nursery  
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 16<sup>TH</sup>  
6:00 p.m. Exploration Series & Service  
Speaker: Dr. Bruce Alton  
(Call for registration.)

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH**  
Georgetown - Glen Williams  
11 Guelph St.  
Sunday Services:  
9:30 a.m. Glen Williams  
11:00 a.m. Georgetown  
Pastor - Rev. Barry J. Robinson  
Pastoral Assoc.  
- Susan E. Robinson  
Church Office: 877-2531

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**KNOLL REMOVAL ON REGIONAL ROAD 9 (NO. 5 SIDEROAD) FROM 150m WEST OF 4TH LINE TO 400m EASTERLY TOWNS OF HALTON HILLS AND MILTON PR-1324**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 297 and 300 of The Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter M.45 as amended, that the Council for the Regional Municipality of Halton at its meeting on March 30, 1994 intends to pass a by-law for the reconstruction of Regional Road 9 (No. 5 Sideroad) from 150m west of 4th Line to 400m easterly, Towns of Halton Hills and Milton.

Plans showing the proposed work may be inspected at the Public Works Department, Halton Regional Center, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario, or at the North District Operations Center, 1600 Steeles Avenue, Milton, Ontario during normal business hours.

On March 23, 1994 at 9:30 a.m. in the Halton Regional Center, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario, Council through its Planning and Public Works Committee will hear in person, or by their Counsel, any person who claims that his/her lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to the Regional Clerk, no later than March 11, 1994 to be heard.

For further information, please contact Mr. S.R. Piper, P. Eng., Design Engineer at extension 7611 at 825-6030, from Georgetown 878-8113 and from Aldershot 639-4540.

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