

## Local firm awarded Oakville contract

By Wendy Long

A local company has been awarded the feasibility study for the expansion and renovation of the Woodside Library in Oakville.

Georgetown's Eric Connolly Architect was officially awarded the tender in late November.

"It's a dream come true for a small practice like this," Connolly said. "It's particularly gratifying considering times are tough. The competition out there is stiff. There are some pretty big name players out there that we battled against."

The Mill Street firm will produce four design options for the Oakville Public Library Board and the Town of Oakville that will offer suggestions for handicapped accessibility and housing an expanded collection and services.

The report is scheduled for completion in February.

"We've had meetings after meetings after meetings," Connolly said, explaining that there are many players involved in this particular game plan: various departments of the Town of Oakville, the Region of Halton and the library board.

"I've done a lot of libraries in the past," Connolly said, who has been an architect for about 15 years. He specializes in institutions and residential design projects.

Connolly worked for a mid-sized



Local architect Eric Connolly was awarded a contract to perform a feasibility study at Woodside Library in Oakville. This is one of the entrances that his firm will look at improving for handicapped access.

architectural firm in Toronto for 12 years before establishing his private practice in Georgetown in 1989.

Recent projects have included 1991 additions and alterations to Robert Little Public School in Acton, McKenzie Smith Middle School in Acton, and Georgetown District High School, among many others.

In 1987 Connolly was municipally appointed to be a member of the

Halton Hills Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) and has produced designation reports on several historic buildings leading to their designation as heritage structures.

"There are many technically skilled professionals in town like me," Connolly said, "and local people should be aware that they don't have to go shopping for technical expertise in larger centres."

## Region cuts waste funding

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appliances, such as stoves and refrigerators, will be \$15; couches and large furniture items, \$10; small articles of furniture, such as kitchen tables and dehumidifiers, \$5 and even smaller items, including strollers and kitchen chairs, \$3.

Leferink estimated he'll lose 50 to 60 per cent of his business because of the regional decision. However, he said the company knew changes were in the offing. "We've prepared ourselves for it. We'll continue to survive. There are brighter days ahead."

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This problem is not likely to be noticed on the lighter pastel colors. It is evident some of these fabrics are not colorfast as the care label instructions indicate. The variance in color may be rather subtle after the first care process, but after several processes, very often it is totally unsatisfactory.


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