

# Caring for the Niagara Escarpment

BY TUNDE OTTO HARRIS  
THE COMPASS

The first of a six part seminar series hosted by the Town of Halton Hills Advisory Committee (TEAC) was held on January 20 at Cedarville Park. The guest speaker, Robert Boraks, Niagara Escarpment (NE) Commissioner since 1993, spoke with great enthusiasm about our local World Biosphere Reserve, the Niagara Escarpment, which is one of six. The seminar also served as a great networking event for all in attendance. The NEC, established in 1973 under the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act has 17 members appointed by Council, representing the public at large and counties within the escarpment area.

The Niagara Escarpment is a circle of rock that was depressed during the earth's history. It is an excellent example of a generally sustained ecological area with important head water and recharge features within which humans reside and utilize resources. It is the last continuous ecosystem with a gradation of ecology. Human activities include agriculture - such as fruit or wine - aggregate, recreation (like the Bruce Trail or conservation parks), and tourism. The revenues from activities that enable sustainability of the Niagara Escarpment generate significant economic returns. For example, the Bruce Trail generates about \$100 million annually, with 1,100 jobs. People come from around the world to see our Biosphere Reserve which extends from Niagara Falls to Tobermory, and what we are doing for its protection.

While the NEC works to protect the Niagara Escarpment, it is jeopardized by development pressure. Therefore, there is a constant need to address develop-

ment issues in the Niagara Escarpment and local residents should become involved to protect and maintain this invaluable local feature. As Mr. Boraks pointed out, "If people are passionate about ecosystem protection, it can work." The Niagara Escarpment Plan came into existence due to pressure from the public. Presently, only 40 per cent of the original land designated 27 years ago by the NE Act remains protected. A current precedent setting issue under review is that of applications to remove four properties from the NE. If this occurs then there may be many more in the near future and our Biosphere Reserve will dwindle away.

On Wednesday, February 23 at 7 p.m. there is an opportunity for the public to be heard at the Milton Council Chamber, 43 Brown Street, Milton, at a Joint Board meeting (i.e. Ontario Municipal, Environmental Assessment Boards). If you care about the Niagara Escarpment, this is the time to get yourself, friends and neighbours involved. You are asked to preregister by signing a list at the Town Hall front desk. If you cannot attend, participate by either calling the Town of Milton 905-878-7211 to request another meeting date or your local Town Councillors or Mayor, to express your concerns. For more information, call the NEC at 905-877-5191 or Coalition On The NE.

The next two TEAC hosted seminars will be February 18 with Cindy Docteur, Resource Integration Systems regarding a Global Warming Workshop and March 17, when Steve Holysh, a Halton Region Hydrogeologist discusses Groundwater.



## The Town of Milton Council Recap

by  
Councillor Cindy Pearson Lunau

### MOHAWK SLOTS REVENUE IN THE BANK

**SLOTS REVENUE:** As this paper is being added to mail boxes, the cheque is being deposited in the Town of Milton's account. Under an agreement with the Ontario Lottery Corporation, the Town receives five per cent of the revenue from the Slots at Mohawk on a quarterly basis. (Additional percentages are shared with the OJC and the Horsemen). This first cheque (amount closely guarded at this point) was scheduled for presentation to the Mayor on Monday, January 31st. The Town agreed to give Halton Police Services \$200,000 to provide additional policing in Nassagaweya. Stay tuned for further details!

**TRAFFIC LIGHTS:** Campbellville now has traffic lights!

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ZONES:** Milton Council renewed (and extended) the Community Zone on Campbell Avenue from Guelph Line to the East of Wheelihan Way. The Region will soon mark the Guelph Line from Haltonville (15 Sideroad) through Brookville.

**E.C. DRURY LANDS:** Council will consider this report at a special Council Meeting to be held at the Leisure Centre on January 31st.

**GOVERNANCE:** Discussions and rumours abound about possible changes in Municipal governments. The Town and the Region are not involved at this point. However, Milton passed a motion to remain open to any option that would improve services to taxpayers and minimize taxes.

**GRANTS:** The criteria for Town Grants Funding has been broadened to extend beyond leisure activities. Community groups whose programs 'enhance the quality of life' in Milton will now be eligible for funding. The deadline for application is March 6th. Beginning this year, the Town will no longer waive fees for the rental of Town facilities. However, it will consider Grants to offset this expense. For application forms and more information, call Joy Anderson at the Town.

**HEALTHY COMMUNITIES:** The Region offers funding for groups under the Healthy Communities grants. There will be an information session on February 7th, 8 p.m., at Hugh Foster Hall. The application deadline is April 3rd. Joy Anderson has information on this program.

**HIGH FIVE** training is available for sports groups and community groups in the area of children's recreation and sports. A free information session will be held February 23rd, sponsored by the Optimist Club. Call Janet Davidson at the Town for more information.

**BUDGETS:** The Capital Budget has been approved for 2000. Rural projects include the design and reconstruction of the Twiss Road/Steeles Avenue intersection (\$508,000), Completion of Lower Base Line (\$116,000), reconstruction of Derry Road between Milborough and Twiss Roads (\$295,000 in partnership with the Region, Flamborough, and Burlington), repairs to the dome at the Brookville works yard, design options for McNiven Road from Steeles Avenue to Campbellville Road (\$41,000), removal of the knoll on Twiss Road south of Steeles (\$70,000), and the Drumquin Park Master Plan (\$40,000). Council moves to the Operating Budget this month. Asphalt for the reconstructed Twiss Road and 25 Sideroad will be considered in this budget. Feel free to call any of us with questions or requests. It is never easy to balance needs and revenues, but we try. Your input is vital. If you want something done, having it in the budget will make the difference.

**TRAILS MASTER PLAN:** This master plan for both urban and rural areas of Milton will identify potential trails to link existing and future areas for hiking, biking, riding, etc. The Steering Committee is now being formed. If you are interested in adding your comments, please call us.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** The deadline for applications to serve on this committee has been extended to February 4th. Helen Lisi, Town Clerk, has applications, or give one of us a call for more information on this important citizen's committee.

**SMOKE ALARMS** save lives! The Fire Department encourages every resident to make certain that yours are working! For maximum safety, install both the ionization and photoelectric units.

**SPECIAL DAYS:** February is Heart & Stroke Month. February 6-12 is White Cane Week for the CNIB. February 21-27 is Teen Injury Prevention week.

#### Your representatives:

Your questions, comments, concerns are important. Please call us. **Lieven Gevaert (519) 856-4529; Barry Lee (519) 824-0679 or 1-888-317-2292; Cindy Lunau (519) 853-3772.** The '853' exchange is not long distance. **WEB SITE:** www.town.milton.on.ca.



Now serving  
Halton  
at the  
Main Street  
Level

#### New Constituency Office:

192 Main St., Suite 100  
Milton, ON L9T 1N8

Ted Chudleigh,  
M.P.P. - Halton

E-mail: ted\_chudleigh@ontla.ola.org

Tel. (905) 878-1729  
Fax (905) 878-5144



Service at its best!

**McINTYRE**  
FUELS LIMITED

**SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS • INSTALLATIONS**  
Furnaces • Oil fired Water Heaters  
• Automatic Delivery of Home Heating Fuels  
• Full line of Gas, Diesel Fuels and Lubricants  
**24 HOUR BURNER SERVICE**

44 Young Street  
Acton

**519-853-0000**  
Fax: 519-853-2174

REGION OF HALTON  
NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT  
& PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE  
Class Environmental Assessment and Detailed Design  
Replacement of Kelso Bridge, Appleby Line  
(over Sixteen Mile Creek, north of No. 3 Side Road)  
TOWN OF MILTON, PR-1730

A Public Information Centre is being held to enable the public to review the proposed design, construction schedule and traffic detour plan:

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 2, 2000  
**TIME:** 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Halton Region Museum (Kelso Conservation Area)

The Region of Halton is conducting a detailed design study to replace the Kelso Bridge on Appleby Line, North of No. 3 Side Road. The project involves the following:

- Replacement of the existing bridge with a two-lane single span bridge
- Regrading of approximately 150 m of roadway, shoulders and drainage ditches on each approach to the bridge
- Illumination of the roadway for approximately 100 m each side of the bridge.

This work is scheduled to be completed between **June - September 2000** and will involve a temporary closure of this portion of Appleby Line.

As a Schedule A project under the Municipal Roads Class Environmental Assessment, this project is already approved under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act, and requires no further consultation or notification, however external agencies and the affected public are being consulted.

If you wish further information, please contact either:

Mr. Joseph Choi, P.Eng.  
Manager, Design Services  
Region of Halton  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1  
Phone: (905) 825-6030  
Fax: (905) 847-2192  
email: choij@region.halton.on.ca

Mr. Brian Bridges, P.Eng.  
Project Manager  
Giffels Associates Limited  
30 International Boulevard  
Toronto, Ontario M9W 5P3  
Phone: (416) 798-5548  
Fax: (416) 798-5536  
email: brian.bridges@giffels.com

