

## Recommendations of the GTSB

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A letter from Mr. Chong, who is a former Toronto Councillor, indicates to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing that support of the GTSB is overwhelming, but that doesn't ring true for Mayor Krantz, who takes issue with the "weighted vote" of municipalities having votes assigned per population.

"This doesn't hold true if weighted votes are taken away. If you go by one municipality/one vote, it comes to about a 50/50 split. This letter, in my opinion, does not truly reflect all of the events and resolutions that happened that particular day, and it's my opinion that it should have reflected that."

In an unofficial look at the voting patterns of the April 20 review meeting (minutes for this meeting were not available at press time), an interesting phenomena was seen. The motion made by Mayor McCallion of Mississauga and seconded by Mayor MacLissac of Hamilton that called for the creation of special purpose bodies to act for the GTSB, with the first such body being the Transportation Authority for the GTA, received yea votes from urban communities such as Hamilton, Mississauga, Toronto and Brampton, and nay votes from rural communities such as Milton, Halton Hills, Caledon, King, Halton Region and Uxbridge. The motion carried overwhelmingly. The same was true of the motion, spearheaded once again by Mayors McCallion and MacLissac, to migrate service planning to the GTSB. Despite nay votes from all rural communities involved, the urban vote carried the day.

"Halton is divided as to where we go and how to restructure," admits Mayor Krantz. "North

Halton, though, is on the same page with regard to looking after the two smaller rural communities in regard to the restructuring of the GTSB."

Mayor Krantz, Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle and Chairman Savoline all travelled to Stouffville on May 4 to participate in the inaugural meeting of the Rural Caucus of GTSB, an unofficial committee whose aim is to look after the interests of smaller rural communities and to drive home points from smaller municipalities collectively rather than individually. This first meeting was called to develop a plan and strategy to deal with the GTSB restructuring recommendations, to discuss future options and to look at what role the rural community will play. The fear is that smaller communities won't have a say in how they do or do not develop. Mayor Krantz calls the inaugural meeting a positive one but as yet no formal decisions have been made. The rural caucus will continue to meet to ensure that resolutions and legislation from the GTSB and provincial government will not negatively impact smaller rural municipalities.

"We are part of the GTA and we need to be part of the GTSB," says Mayor Krantz, "but rural areas are not urban Toronto, and are not necessarily of the same mindset."

The provincial government will ultimately decide whether to give the GTSB more power or even to disband it completely. MP Ted Chudleigh stated to the Chamber of Commerce, "I think there's a strong cabinet that would like to see it go away. It would be one half of the province of Ontario and it would be controlled by Toronto. That doesn't seem reasonable to me, and there are a lot of others to whom that doesn't seem reason-

able."

"I was elected to do my best for the people of Milton, and I'm going to give it my best shot," vows Mayor Krantz. "I certainly have great concern for the 905 rural area, especially regarding the potential for negative financial impact. We can't let rural 905 become 'pay and no say'."

## Tribute to Astronaut Colonel Chris Hadfield

Mayor Krantz has announced that the Town of Milton has arranged for a permanent tribute to be located in Chris Hadfield Park to commemorate Colonel Chris Hadfield's historic space walk. This tribute is in the form of a landscape rock, which was graciously selected and donated by Dufferin Aggregates with a town-sponsored brass plaque to be mounted on its face that reads, "Colonel Chris Hadfield - the first Canadian Astronaut to walk in space, April 2001 - on behalf of the Milton Community - in partnership with Dufferin Aggregates." This tribute will form part of the Millennium Garden, and can be viewed during the Official Opening Ceremonies of the Millennium Garden on June 30, 2001.



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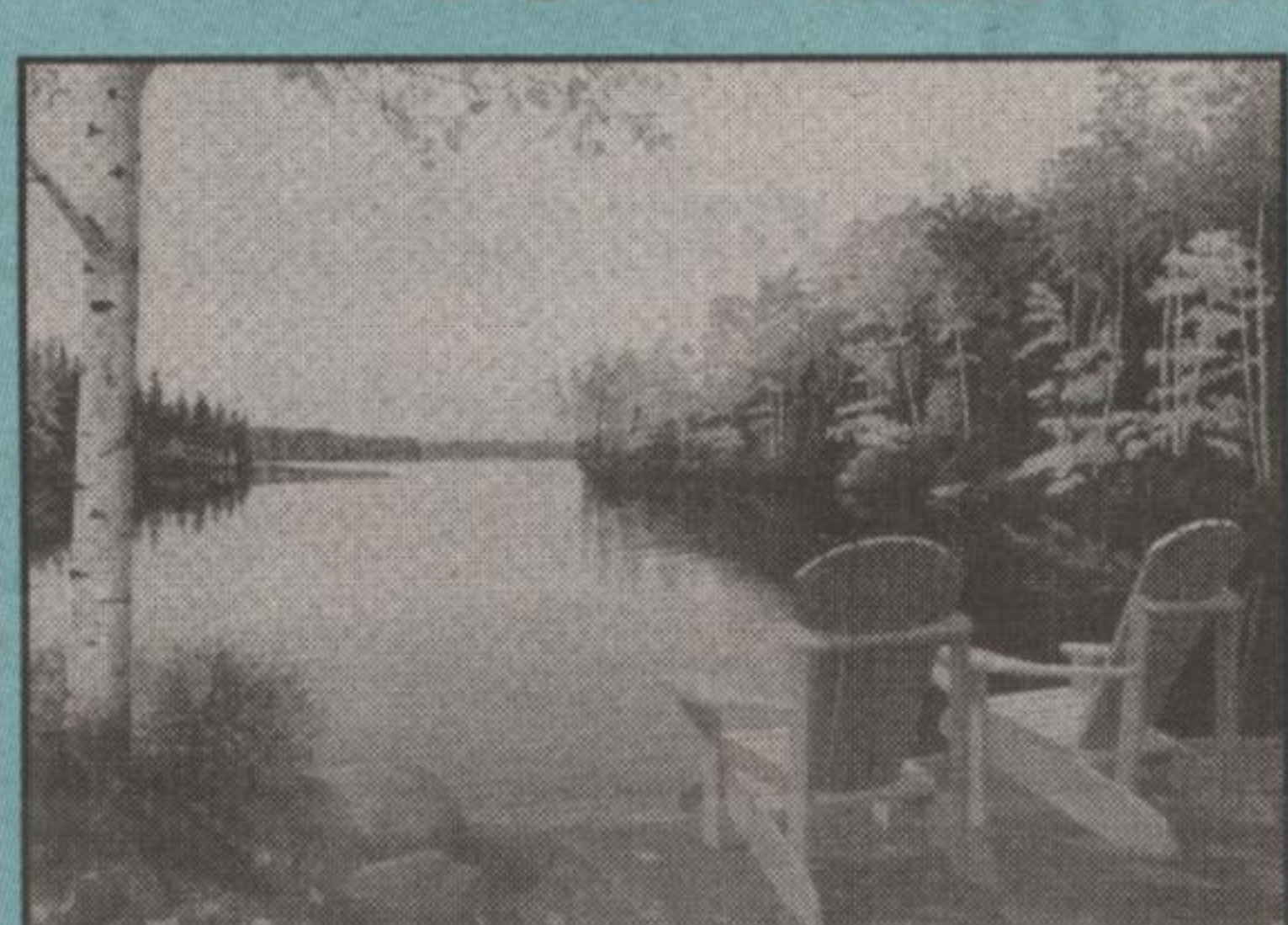
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