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# The North Halton Compass

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"A Rural Paper to Call Our Own"

November, 2001

## Halton has new Strategic Plan

by Donna Danielli

On October 24, after two workshops on growth and governance, an IPSOS REID study, eight sessions with Council, consultation with 47 community leaders and two public input sessions, Karen Maxwell, Director of Strategic Planning and Policy, announced that she was pleased to present the Region's final draft of the Strategic Plan to Council.

"After all that work, I think Karen is probably more relieved than pleased at this point," quipped Councillor Barry Lee.

The Strategic Plan identifies Council's priorities for the remainder of the Council term and will also guide staff in developing workplans, priorities and performance measures. The Plan is comprised of five strategic themes: Smart Growth and Livability, Mobility and Prosperity, Services to People, Accountable and Responsive Government, and Accessible and Resourceful Government. As a

direct result of the public input session held in September, Regional Council expanded the "Accessible and Resourceful" Government theme to include a specific goal related to citizen participation.

Each theme within the Plan is defined by a series of goals, some of which will be met during the current Council term, while others are longer term challenges. Each goal is supported by actions and progress indicators. Anyone interested in seeing the report in its entirety can phone the Region or log on to [www.region.halton.on.ca](http://www.region.halton.on.ca).

Three delegations applied to speak to Council before the final vote took place. Barbara Halsall, President of Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (P.O.W.E.R.) raised concerns about the wording of one of the actions relating to the theme of "Smart Growth and Livability".

Referring to the action plan to "Create opportunities to reclaim

green spaces," Mrs. Halsell pointed out that "It says to 'Develop a land re-use strategy for all closed Regional landfill sites, examining business opportunities such as golf courses, energy from waste, recreation opportunities' and so forth. The words 'energy from waste' are our concern. If you intend to capture methane, P.O.W.E.R. would applaud that action. And if that is what is intended, then let's use those words. Energy from waste can also mean incineration, which would conflict with your goals of protecting health, building healthy communities and reducing smog."

After a discussion in which Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale reminded the Council that re-wording the Plan had to be carefully considered as "There are new technologies coming forward and we have to remember to look to the future while not forgetting the important issue of reducing the waste in the first place," the Plan

(Continued on page 9)

## Singing Priest's sound charms audiences



Photo by Donna Danielli

Guests at the concert celebrating the debut of Father Mark Curtis' newest album, "The Call," included New York Bishop Michael Garrison, Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale, Milton Mayor Gord Krantz, Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle and Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline.

## Inside this Month's Compass

### Shoebbox Memories

Halwell Mutual Insurance Company has deep rural roots in Halton and Wellington. The company is the result of the amalgamation of three area mutuals, all established in the 1800's.

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### Idle Pursuits

Sue Duval of Carriage Hill Interiors knows what it takes to make every room beautiful and her Campbellville shop provides customers with just a sample of what she has to offer.

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### Community Cornerstone

Nicky Pearson's has turned her interest in BMX riding into a specialty program designed for kids with special needs. The Rider Ready Program has Trillium Support and is already causing interest across Canada.

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### Halton 4-H

The Milton Fair was the last fair in the area and Halton 4-H members gave it their all. Members displayed superb showmanship skill in dairy, beef, rabbit and sheep classes.

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