

BLUE SPRINGS SOAPBOX

Letters to the Editor

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boundaries which defined the Mount Nemo settlement area in that plan.

Intended destruction of 450 acres of rural lands (zoned agricultural) to accommodate a CN "intermodal terminal" (rail yard) with attendant pollution, congestion, noise, etc.

Planning for a "Mid-Peninsula Expressway" which will neck down immediately north of urban Burlington, i.e. just below or just above the crest of the Niagara Escarpment.

We could go on, but perhaps that's enough for the moment.

We have read the available information about the "Smart Growth" strategy and learned little. The term appears to be a mindless catch phrase.

The CAO of Conservation Halton has stated (in *Focus on Conservation Halton Winter/Spring 2002*) that "this strategy has the vision and mechanism to achieve sustainable communities while protecting the natural environment." The statement is supported with no specifics whatsoever. Their glossy brochures is equally, seemingly deliberately, vague.

Mayor Krantz of Milton has pointed out that the "Central Ontario Smart Growth Panel" has no representative from North Halton and no rural representation - but includes several developers!

Why do we have this unquestioning commitment to "Growth"? We read (in the March 2002 *North Halton Compass*) that within the next two decades the population of Central Ontario will increase by 33 per cent - 2 1/2 million more people! Why? And where will they come from?

Left to natural process, the population of Canada would today be in decline. So, the answer to the second question has to be immigration, partly from other regions of Canada and partly from other countries.

Immediately we will be accused of being anti-immigration. Not so! We are opposed to so much immigration. There is reasonable room for immigration merely to

maintain present population. Why must we exceed that level by so much?

Why the planned explosive growth?

Other thinking is starting to emerge (*The Globe and Mail*, March 2, 2002). Excluding immigration, many countries, (and four Canadian provinces) are already experiencing de-population, including Germany, Italy, China and Brazil. Russia peaked at 148 million in 1992, is now down to 142 million, and their own estimates call for 85 million by 2055. Canada and many more are headed in that direction - including those countries which have provided so much of our recent population growth.

That seems to add up to diminishing world population in the foreseeable future (probably not a bad thing!). If that is the prospect, and many believe it is, then the subdivisions and malls, the highways and railroad yards - in particular the dwellings which we are building today in formerly beautiful Halton - will be shabby in 30 years.

In 50 years they will be largely derelict and abandoned and nobody, not even Mother Nature, will be able to restore the lovely lands which have been, and are being obliterated. Smart Growth???
George and Helen Cuthbertson
Milton, ON

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Milton Council Briefs: May 2002

by Cindy Pearson Lunau

SPECIAL DAYS: The month of May is Multiple Sclerosis Month featuring the Mother's Day Carnation campaign. May is also the Annual Green Ribbon of Hope Campaign. Special designation of weeks and days include May 4 to 11, International Youth Week; May 6 to 12, National Emergency Preparedness Week; May 20 to 24, Entrepreneurship Week; May 25, National Missing Children's Day; May 25, Milton Springer's Tag Day; May 25 - 31, Hemochromatosis Awareness Week.

GOOD NEIGHBOURS COMMUNITY DAY: May 4 is Good Neighbours Community Day. During the past nine years, approximately 1500 volunteers have helped seniors or other individuals by completing simple tasks. To volunteer or request volunteer help, contact Len Lee at 905-878-4085.

ROAD RECONSTRUCTION: Council approved the reconstruction of sections of First Line

Nassagaweya between Steeles and Campbellville Road to correct identified safety concerns. Council also directed the improvement of the intersection of First Line at 20 Sideroad, not originally included in the Capital Budget. Council approved the tender for bridge and culvert work for Esquesing Line just south of 5 Sideroad. The Region plans to resurface Guelph Line between 20 and 25 Sideroads, and is conducting a study for an extra lane on Sixth Line hill, just north of Campbellville Road.

MILTON TRIATHLON: Council approved the closure of portions of Nassagaweya roads for the Milton Triathlon on June 2, 9 a.m. - noon. Roads affected are 6th Line from 5 Sideroad to 20 Sideroad, 20 Sideroad from 6th Line to 5th Line, and 5th Line from 20 Sideroad to 15 Sideroad. Residents will have access to their homes, but all other traffic will be diverted for the safety of the more than 1,000

athletes expected to participate. Good luck to our local competitors!
ROAD SAFETY EVENTS: This year's activities include car seat clinics, safety rodeos at the three Milton high schools, bicycle rodeos at elementary schools and the Ultimate Mix contest for non-alcoholic beverages. Watch for these events, participate, and make our community safer!

LACAC: Council approved increasing the membership of LACAC (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee) to 15 members to accommodate representation from the Milton Historical Society and the Nasagaweya Historical Society.

GROUP HOME STUDY: Council approved the recommendations of this study, outlining the definitions of group homes and requiring registration of all homes.

MARTINDALE GARDENS: Council approved a zoning amend-

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**NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS
DESTROY NOXIOUS WEEDS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with The Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Sections 3, 13, 14, 16 and 23 that, unless weed seeds and noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Town of Milton are destroyed by the date of June 15th, 2002 and throughout the season, the Town of Milton may enter upon the said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes as set out in The Weed Control Act.

The co-operation of all property owners is earnestly solicited. Complaints and inquiries may be made by telephone, to the number listed below. Please note that dandelions, burdock and goldenrod are not considered noxious weeds within the Town of Milton under The Weed Control Act; therefore, complaints concerning these weeds or any anonymous complaints cannot be accepted.

For information of all property owners, the following are designated as noxious weeds in the Town of Milton:

Bull Thistle	Nodding Thistle	Canada Thistle
Poison Hemlock	Colt's Foot	Poison Ivy
Common Barberry	Proso Millet, Black-seeded	Cypress Spurge
Ragweed	Dodder	Russian Thistle
European Buckthorn	Scotch Thistle	Goat's Beard
Sow Thistle	Johnson Grass	Tuberous Vetching
Knapweed	Velvetleaf	Leafy Spurge
Wild Carrot	Milkweed	Yellow Rocket

Complaints and inquiries should be directed to:
MR. DOUG McPHAIL, Weed Inspector
(905)877-1819
Dated at the Town of Milton this 23rd day of April, 2002.
H. Lisi, Town Clerk

BROOKVILLE OPERATIONS YARD Spring Clean-Up Week

Tuesday May 21st to Saturday May 25th, 2002

A week-long Spring Clean-Up is being offered again at the Brookville Operations Yard on Guelph Line to provide rural residents of Milton the opportunity to dispose of large household items. Bins will be placed in the Yard and staff can direct where items are to be placed.

Items that will not be accepted for disposal are:

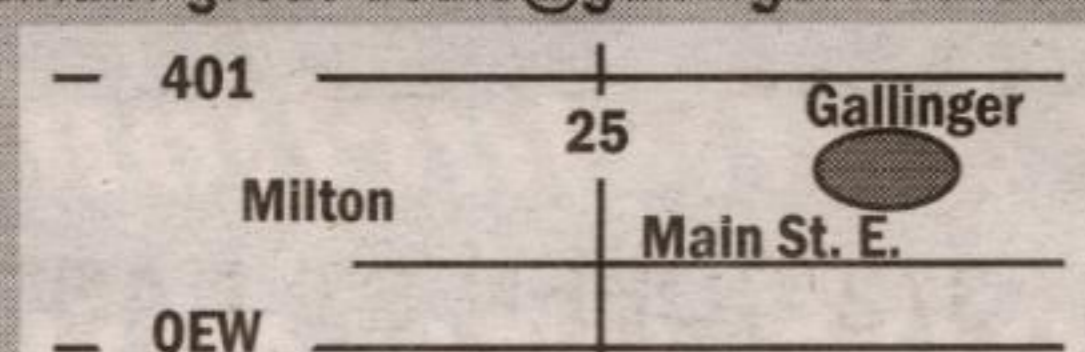
- Hazardous waste including: chemicals, paints, solvents and waste oil
- Tires
- Propane Tanks

Residents needing to dispose of these types of items are directed to go to the Halton Region Landfill Site located on Regional Road #25 south of Britannia Road.

The hours of operation for the Brookville Yard are 7:00 am to 3:00 pm, Tuesday to Friday and 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday. The Yard is closed Victoria Day Monday and on Sundays.

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