

The North Halton Compass

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wishful thinking



COGECO 14 LOCAL MAN IS COURTEOUS... NEIGHBOURHOOD STUNNED...

'... THIS JUST IN, A MAN NEAR OR AROUND HALTON HAS ACTUALLY SAID 'THANK YOU'! FOLKS, WE'LL COVER THIS THROUGH THE NIGHT AS IT DEVELOPS...'

BRASS TACKS – Editorial

Thirty years ago, a young and newly wed couple, blinded by the stars in their eyes and the love in their hearts, purchased a historic building in north Halton. Dreamers they were: They thought that they could turn an almost derelict structure into their dream home. However, moving day opened their eyes to its true condition, and their spirits plummeted.

Then, unexpectedly, a neighbour from across the road appeared at the door. After introducing himself and welcoming them to the area, he handed them a silver tray bearing two glasses and a chilled bottle of champagne. The next day, a local

councillor dropped in and offered them the loan of his tools as he could see that they certainly would be doing some work on the old place. Later that summer, armed with a manual posthole digger, the couple did battle with the baked clay soil of summer and Nassagaweya's stones. It was not a pretty picture. Then an apple farmer from down the road arrived on his tractor equipped with an auger and, after introducing himself, dug all of their fence postholes. For three winters, although nobody had been hired for snow removal, the young couple's driveway was always miraculously plowed. Eventually they learned that

the mystery snow plower was another local farmer who just wanted to help out.

Those neighbours, who many years ago were so kind to me, certainly have left their mark. How I view my community is greatly influenced by their kindness. And while what they did took little time or effort, it meant so much. Kindness should never be underestimated. Being considerate of others has rewards beyond the immediate. So, introduce yourself to your neighbours, smile at strangers and thank everybody. These small considerations will make our community a better place.

BLUE SPRINGS SOAPBOX – Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Chudleigh

I was saddened to read your comments in the June issue of The North Halton Compass supporting the proposed mid-peninsula highway project. I was further disappointed to see claims in the related Needs Assessment document that this highway is consistent with the Ontario government's strategy of "promoting a healthy environment." This leads me to my first, obvious question: How does build-

ing another highway promote a healthy environment?

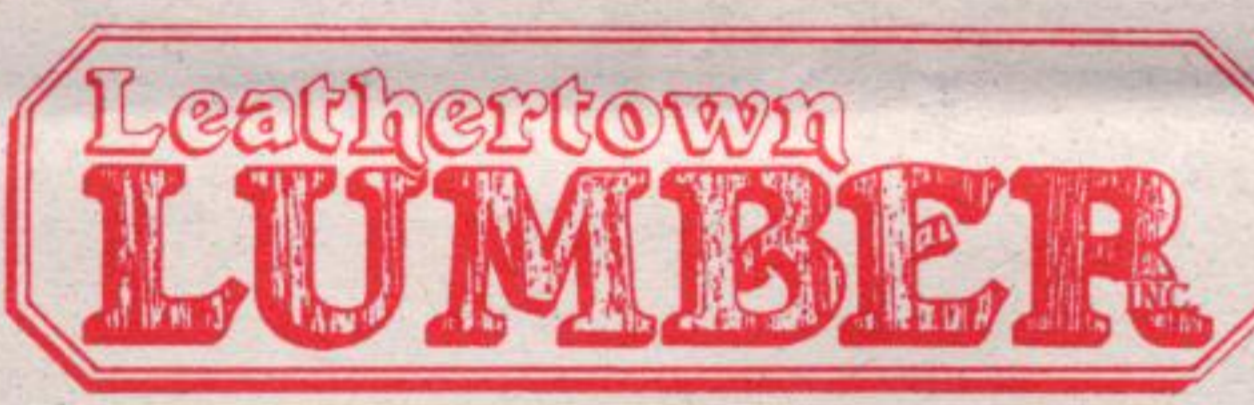
You are quoted as saying, "There are a limited number of issues in the environment that would be impacted by a highway." I find this statement to be absolutely baffling and quite appalling. I would not characterize the number as "limited" but as "infinite." I can list a whole range of issues, to name only a few:

- Destruction of wildlife habitat

- Interference with wildlife migration paths
- Increased air pollution and smog
- Increased noise and light pollution
- Promotion of urban sprawl
- Increased commuter reliance on single-occupancy vehicles.

And there are many more. Of course to examine so many issues would be "expensive" and take "a huge amount of time," so we're best off to just ignore them – is that right Mr. Chudleigh? I would suggest that it is worth taking the time and the expense. A process as important as an environmental assessment of this scale should not be "streamlined." If anything, it should be done in greater detail. We can do things the fast way, or we can do things the right way.

Robert Grimwood
 Milton

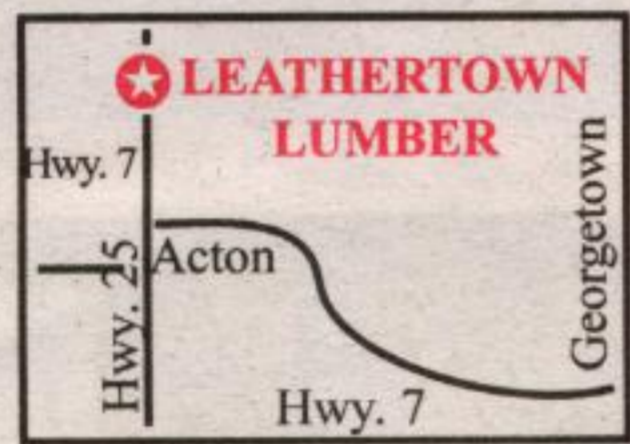


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