

# Erica Andrew retires as school trustee

BY DONNA DANIELLI

For six years, the name Erica Andrew has been synonymous with caring, involved education. Andrew has served as the Milton Public School Trustee since 1997, a role that she has dedicated herself to. She has been an accessible and proactive Trustee, but has regretfully announced that it is time for her step down. "It's time for me to move on," says Ms. Andrew, who began her career as a public official after retiring from 30 years of teaching. Ms. Andrew is making plans to move to Stratford at the end of November to be closer to her family. She is looking forward to spending more time on Andark Consulting, her private consulting firm which works with school boards and educators. "It's time for me to really retire now and enjoy life. With a Liberal government in place, I feel comfortable leaving now."

Andrew will be sorely missed by students, parents and colleagues at the Halton District School Board. Her leaving creates an opening for a new trustee, and there are two candidates for the position, John McTavish and Paul Tate. After careful consideration, Andrew has chosen to throw her support behind McTavish as her successor. "John's extensive experience provides him with an understanding of educational issues and concerns," says Andrew. "He will capably and compassionately represent the students and the parents on all issues."

John McTavish is new to the political scene in Milton. He is an educational scientist with years of experience as a teacher, administrator, program designer and author of six primary school textbooks. He is currently at work on his seventh book about teacher training techniques. McTavish is concerned about Milton's increasing growth, trustee communication, special education and the need for more English as a second language (ESL) programs.

He promises, if elected, to fight to keep all schools open and push for construction of more new schools. He will be instrumental in planning and implementing ESL classes and will be available to all students, parents associations, organizations, and school board employees for comments and concerns. "If elected I will advocate for your community, your school and most importantly, your children," promises John McTavish. "I will put the needs of the children first and use my experience as a profes-

sional educator to help turn the Halton District School Board into a model for the rest of Ontario."

His competitor, Paul Tate is no stranger to anyone involved in education in Milton. He has served on three school councils, led the successful fight to keep Martin Street School open and was selected by the Halton District School Board to serve on a Ministry of Education symposium. He ran for the position of Trustee first in 1997 and was defeated by Erica Andrew. Since then, he has founded SMART, an organization that draws on the resources of many parents and educators in Milton. If elected, SMART members will serve almost as a Cabinet for Tate, allowing him to draw on their expertise as needed. Of concern for Tate are preserving small school options, ensuring that rural and urban schools receive fair and equitable access to resources and pilot projects, and guaranteeing that school programs evolve along with the needs of the students, in particular special needs students and ESL students. "I will listen to the needs of parents and children," vows Paul Tate. "I will operate through my connections at the Board, and through my connections in the Milton community. I will apply my knowledge of board policy and operations. I will consult with stake holders and I will build a team that will resolve issues the issues we know about today and the issues that are around the corner."

#### Brookville School looking for furnishings

Brookville Public School is trying to create a few comfortable, quiet reading areas in unused corners of the school where student and parent reading buddies would be grateful for any used wicker furniture. The school will arrange pickup if necessary. Call 905-854-2424.



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# TALK of the TOWN

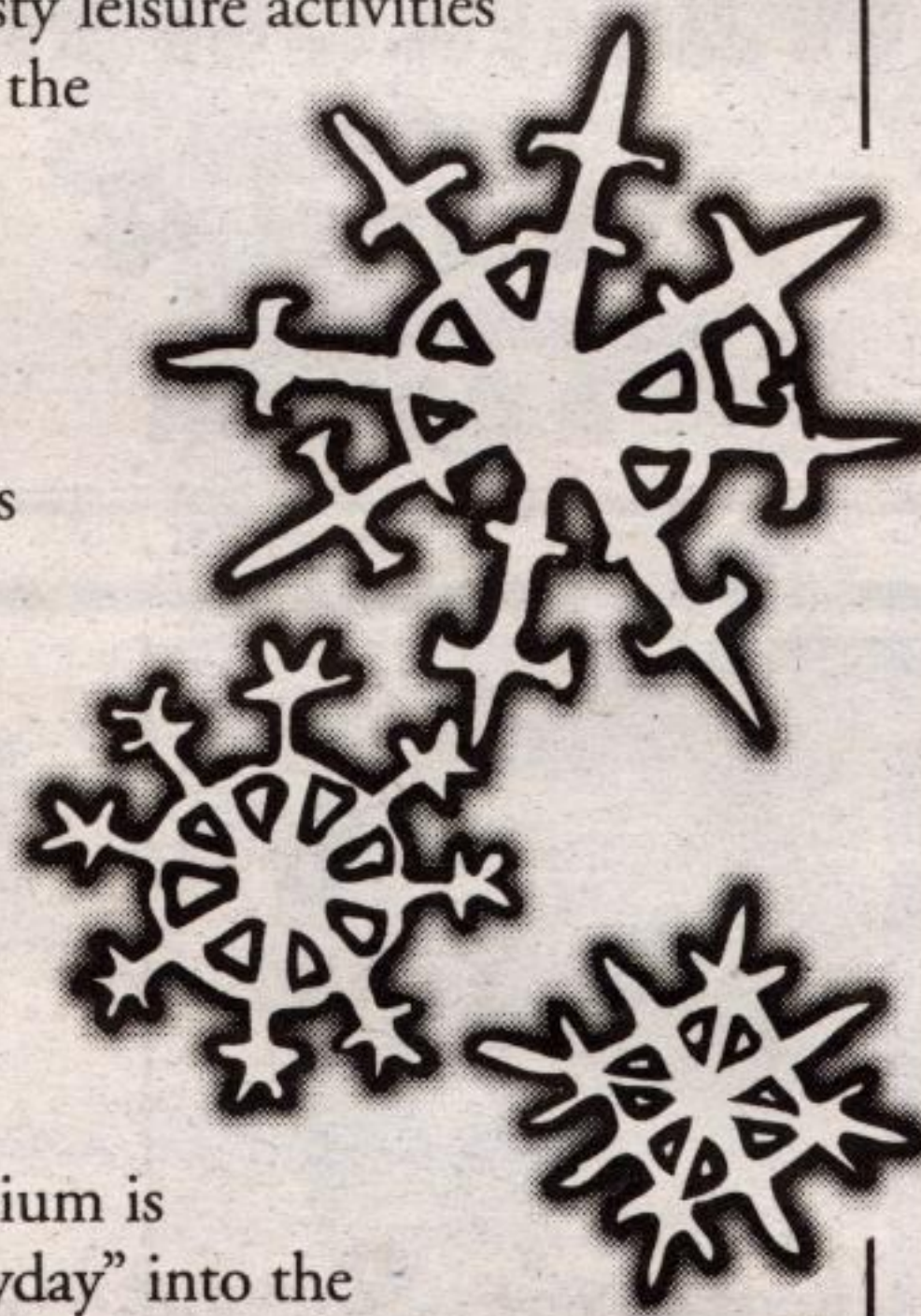
A monthly feature from the Town of Milton

## Weathering the winter

With the cold weather setting in, it's time to turn our thoughts to Christmas celebrations, frosty leisure activities and making the most of Milton during the winter months.

#### Rooms for all seasons

'Tis the season for socializing! Need to organize a social get-together for friends or co-workers? Planning a Christmas party for employees' children or maybe you need space for a meeting for members of your volunteer group? Look no further than the Town of Milton to book just the right gathering place for adults and children alike.



**Milton Leisure Centre:** The gymnasium is routinely transformed from the "everyday" into the "extraordinary" to accommodate up to 300 people, complete with large, functional kitchen. Meeting and activity rooms, complete with TV, VCR, kitchenette and microwave provide an all-inclusive package for 30 guests.

**Milton Seniors' Activity Centre:** From a 200-seat auditorium with stage and kitchen servery, to the restful atmosphere of the library with skylight, stained glass windows and comfortable armchairs, there is a variety of rooms to fit every occasion.

**Milton Sports Centre:** Milton's newest indoor leisure facility boasts a banquet room with pantry and bar to accommodate 180 guests with ease. Meeting or party rooms overlooking the ice present a unique atmosphere for a gathering.

**Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall):** Consider the historic ambience of Hugh Foster Hall to assemble 60 people in a relaxing environment. The window view of Victoria Park provides a picturesque setting in both summer and winter.

**Nassagaweya Community Centre:** Small groups of up to 20 people can make use of the boardroom while up to 160 people can be accommodated in the banquet room with food prepared and served from the on-site kitchen.

Additional meeting and banquet rooms are also available at Boyne Community Centre, Campbellville Lions Hall, John Tonelli Sports Centre and Milton Lions Club Hall.

#### Searching for facility and meeting room information?

Complete details on all rooms are available on the Town of Milton website by selecting *Facilities* from the Pick List or by selecting *Milton Online Services* from the home page and then choosing *Registrations* and selecting the *Facilities* tab.

#### Winter entertainment

Embrace winter with a skating party by booking an ice rink at John Tonelli Sports Centre, Milton Memorial Arena or the Milton Sports Centre. Interested in a unique birthday party for children? Book the Milton Leisure Centre's leisure pool for up to 110 guests to enjoy the warm water and the giant waterslide with lifeguard supervision.

Looking for an outing? Visit the Town of Milton website at [www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca) and select *Tourism* from the Pick List. Surf the Milton Chamber of Commerce's Escarpment Country Tourism site at [www.escarpmentcountry.on.ca](http://www.escarpmentcountry.on.ca). Want to know more about the shops and services in our charming historic downtown area? Visit Milton's Downtown Business Improvement Area website at [www.miltondbia.com](http://www.miltondbia.com). Pop in to chat with the staff at Milton Visitor & Community Information Services on Chris Hadfield Way (in the former train station) or call 905-693-1157. Not just for out-of-towners, this centre is a haven of useful information with everything you need to know about living and playing in Milton - they can even provide you with information on planning a wedding and details about local restaurants.

*Milton is a place for all seasons - indoors and out!*

#### NEED INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER TOWN SERVICES?

Call 905-878-7252 or TTY 905-878-1657

Visit our Web site at

[www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca)

