Trash talking

Regional Chair defends Halton's landfill site

BY DONNA DANIELLI

The year 2004 began with controversy for rural residents of Milton. Rural garbage pick up was being discussed by the Town of Milton, and not everyone was pleased at the prospect. A group of determined residents braved a winter storm to address Milton Council on the issue early in the year. They came to ask Council to overturn its decision to proceed with rural garbage pick up, effective February 2.

Council had approved the motion to begin rural garbage pick up, despite a staff report recommending otherwise. A survey sent to rural residents had shown a slim margin of difference between those in favour and those against the proposal. Councillor Cindy Lunau proposed re-examining the motion regarding rural waste, but her motion was defeated, and in early February, rural garbage collection became a reality in rural Halton.

Halton's landfill site was the subject of more controversy this year. Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline began communicating to Minister of the Environment Leona Dombrowksy, the need to remove Halton as a possible landfill site for any other municipality. Chairman Savoline, along with Halton Region CEO Brent Marshall and Oakville MPP Kevin Flynn, met with Minister Dombrowsky at the end of April to plead Halton's case. "We had a very good discussion," said Chairman Savoline after the meeting. "I feel she really understood what Halton's perspective is." A large part of that perspective is the sheer force of will it took to build the landfill site in the first place. Built at a cost of \$52 million for development and an additional \$8 million for environmental assessments, the facility originally had an expected lifespan of 20 years. Careful waste diversion by Halton residents has seen this expectancy double to 40 years. Should the landfill be suddenly forced to accept the garbage of neighbouring municipality Toronto, in the event of a border closure, the lifespan of the landfill would drop to 2 years.

The issue of a border closure hit a little closer to home during the United States presidential election. Candidate John Kerry proclaimed that he would close the border to Toronto trash if elected, a move that Chairman Savoline called "a knee jerk reaction in a hotly contested presidential election." Wherever there was an opportunity to plead the case to keep Halton's landfill for Halton residents only, Chairman Savoline found a way to be there. She even addressed a Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Bill 49 in April. The Committee was seeking input into the Act that would prevent the disposal of waste at Adams Mine, a site located approximately 10 kilometres south of Kirkland Lake. "MY concern is that a decision on today's proceedings regarding the future of Adams Mine may negatively impact Halton Region," Chairman Savoline told the Committee. "If it is the

decision of the government to be predisposed to removing options, then I am seeking assurance that Halton's landfill also be removed as an option."

At year's end, Chairman Savoline can breath a sigh of relief as Halton's landfill site remains, at this time, only for use by Halton residents. And Halton residents can breath a sigh of relief that if that situation hould change, Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline is prepared to take up the mantle once more.



PAGE 5

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

THE CITY OF GUELPH

CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TREATMENT AT THE ARKELL AND CARTER WELL SUPPLIES

The Study

The City of Guelph, through their consultants, Stantec Consulting Limited and Associated Engineering Ltd., commissioned a Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) in support of water treatment improvements for the Arkell Well/Collectors and Carter Well Supplies. Upgrades to the system must be undertaken to facilitate disinfection upgrades to ensure compliance with the new Ontario Drinking Water Regulation 170/03. In addition, the City is proactively undertaking further repairs and upgrades to maintain the reliability and security of this supply.

The proposed upgrades include:

- Construction of a UV facility at the F.M. Woods Treatment Plant for the treatment of all water supplies from the Arkell Spring Ground and Carter wells;
- Construction of a replacement aqueduct at the Arkell Spring Ground east of Watson Road;
- Upgrades to the Artificial Recharge System at the Arkell Spring Ground including reinforcing the pump platform and construction of a new pumphouse, construction of a maintenance access bridge and a small control facility on shore;
- Reconstruct the Carter wellhouse to house both wells and upgrade the piping and control equipment inside;
- Install connections for standby power at each wellhouse at the Arkell Spring Ground.

The Process

The Study was conducted in accordance with the Municipal Engineers Association's Class Environmental Assessment process. The Class EA addressed health related disinfection upgrades and did not include an increase in permitted capacities.

Environmental Screening Document

An Environmental Screening Document (ESD) has been completed to document the planning and decision-making processes followed by this project. The ESD will be available for public review starting on Wednesday, January 5th, 2005 for thirty (30) calendar days at the following locations (Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM):

F.M. Woods Treatment Plant 29 Waterworks Place Guelph, ON (519) 837-5627 Environment & Transportation Department 2 Wyndham Street, 3rd Floor Guelph, ON (519) 837-5604

During this thirty (30) day public review period, anyone who has an outstanding concern with the project, which cannot be resolved in a discussion with the City of Guelph, may request that the Minister of the Environment make an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act, which addresses individual environment assessments. A person may submit a written request to the Ministry of the Environment at the following address:

The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky
Minister of the Environment - The Executive
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 12th Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

A copy of the Part II Order requests should also be sent to:

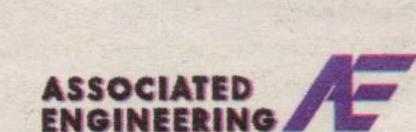
Mr. Brian Pett
City of Guelph,
Waterworks Division
Works Department
City Hall, 59 Carden Street
Guelph, Ontario N1H 3A1
Tel: 519-837-5627
Fax: 519-822-8837
email: bpett@city.guelph.on.ca

Mr. Dennis Mutti, P.Eng.
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
49 Frederick Street
Kitchener, Ontario N2H 6M7
Tel: 519-585-7438
Fax: 519-579-6733
email: dmutti@stantec.com

If no Part II Order (bump-up) requests are received by Friday February 4th, 2005, the upgrades will proceed to design and construction as outlined in the ESD.

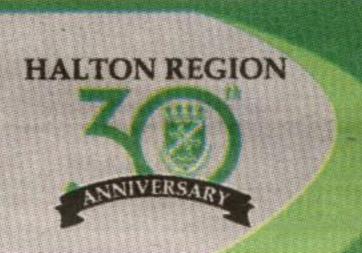
This Notice issued 20th December, 2004.











January 2005

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CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

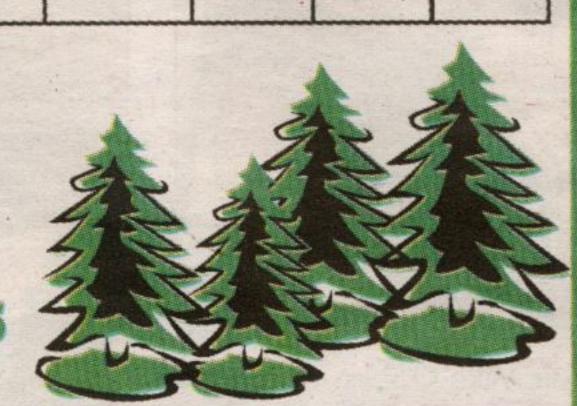
Urban Areas of Halton Hills There's one last thing to unwrap.

Before you place your tree at the curb, make sure it is ready to be recycled.

Please remove decorations, bags and wires, and place your tree at the curb before 7:00 a.m. of your collection day (same day as your blue box collection).

Please ensure Christmas trees are not frozen or buried in snow banks on your scheduled collection day.

Look for your Curb Appeal 2005 Waste Management Calendar to be delivered to your mailbox mid-January 2005



New Years

1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 905-825-6000 Toll free: 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) TTY 905-827-9833 or visit us at: www.region.halton.on.ca