School's In ~ Mayor wants college for Halton Hills

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the enthusiasm from the college presence," said Bonnette.

The college will not be a typical one in that there will be no residence or many of the other aspects of college life younger students might anticipate.

That's because the focus of the college is intended to be in large part on skills training and apprenticeships and geared towards students who are slightly older and not looking for a traditional college experience.

Not only does this help address concerns regarding a skilled trades shortage, it is also hoped that it will entice businesses to locate in the 401-407 Gateway Business Park or industrial corridor.

"The focus of the Town is to develop the 401 corridor," noted Fogel.

A survey designed to assess what local industry needs are in terms of worker skills will be sent out within the next few weeks.

Also a part of the early plan will be to determine who will administer the college and what courses will be offered. After that, it will be time to speak to the province.

The Mayor made it clear that the town's role is that of brokering the deal.

"We have the location; our business community will provide the bricks and mortar," said Bonnette.

Lack of water puts limit on growth

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operation due to repair work, poor water quality or in operation only to deal with peak water demands.

It was pointed out that the system is currently at risk as a result of climate change and degraded quality and that new regulations for acquiring permits for water supply projects mean longer lead times.

Not to mention the planned growth for the area with a target of 300,000 people planned for Wellington County by the year 2031.

Recommendations provided by the consulting firms included a continuation of Guelph's conservation strategy that includes encouraging low flush toilets in new and existing developments, the development of a public education program to compliment these strategies and reducing and reusing water, for example using grey water to irrigate golf courses.

One suggestion for expanding the existing water supply involved the possibility of an aquifer storage and recovery system (ASR).

ASR is a water management technology that involves storing water underground in an aquifer when it is available and drawing from it when needed.

"This is a highly managed system. All pieces have to come together for it to be effective," said Haasen.

A variety of solutions and comments were provided during the round table discussions that attendees participated in.

Overwhelmingly, participants agreed that the goal should be to ensure a reliable, sustainable and quality source of water.

This was to be done within the framework of conservation, education, restriction of growth and protection of the environment.

Also receiving short shrift with the crowd was the idea of a pipeline.

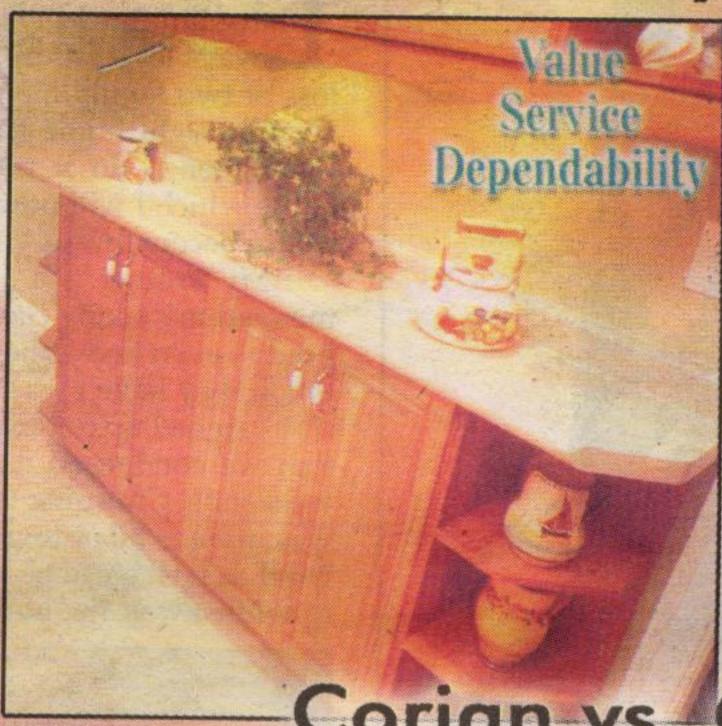
So emphatic was one participant that he made a recommendation that resonated with the crowd.

"Divert people, not water," he said. The next public meeting will be held in

the fall of this year after which the draft report will be forwarded to council.

For more information about the forum and Guelph's Water Supply Master Plan, try their website at www.guelph.ca. Under quick links, choose water.

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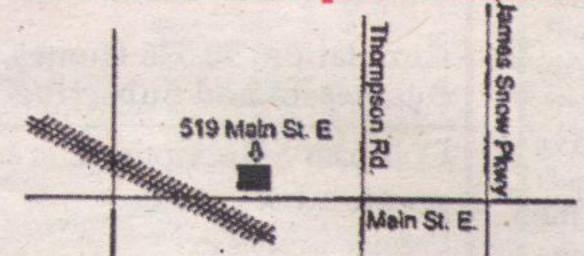


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