

It's back

Niagara to GTA Corridor discussions reopened

By BERNADETTE WARD

The Ministry of Transportation, in the context of the Places to Grow strategy, is once again working its way through the Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference (EAToR) process in terms of the Niagara to GTA Corridor.

Back in 2001, the province began the ball rolling with the draft Niagara Peninsula Transportation Needs Assessment study that looked at the future of transportation for the next 30 years.

The study found that there would likely be problems moving people and products in

and around the Niagara Peninsula and Greater Toronto Area's and examined the various modes of transportation including road, rail, transit and ferry.

In 2002 and 2003, as part of the EA process the province held consultations with various stakeholders, municipal governments and the public, but progression was stalled by stakeholder concerns and the EAToR was withdrawn from Ministry of Environment consideration.

Based on concerns raised at that time, the document has been revamped and once

again a draft Niagara to GTA Corridor EAToR is ready for public review.

Public information centres have now been set up so that residents can review the plan and the issues. Members of the project team will be on hand for discussion.

For more information about the process or to review the document, try the Niagara to GTA Corridor website at www.niagara-gta.com.

The following dates and locations will be holding informal drop in sessions between 4 and 8 p.m.:

Thursday March 31st, 2005

Renaissance Banquet and Special Events Centre, 2289 Barton Street East, Hamilton
Tuesday April 5, 2005

Atrium Conference Centre, 5420 North Service Road, Burlington
Tuesday April 12, 2005

Milton Memorial Arena, Lions Club Hall, 77 Thompson Road South, Milton
Wednesday April 13, 2005

Rockton World's Fairground, 812 County Highway 8, Rockton

Local MPs opt for no election yet

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way," says Chong.

Not only are the goals for reducing emissions unrealistic, according to Chong, but they also put the economy at risk.

"It has huge implications for the energy sector and the auto sectors in our country," says Chong.

He thinks that we should remain a signatory on Kyoto, but work towards developing more realistic targets.

"I think that the government needs to have a balanced approach between the economy and the environment," he says.

The way to deal with the environment, says Chong, is to target real pollutants, develop tax incentives and encourage research and development in areas such as bio and hydrogen fuels.

He is also emphatic that "not one single cent" should be spent purchasing foreign emission credits when we have problems such as crumbling infrastructure and a looming health care crisis.

"Before we spend that money, we should be fixing problems at home," he says.

Carr certainly agrees that problems at home need attending to and is concerned that if an election is called, it might pose a problem.

If the government doesn't proceed with Carr, the \$43 million tagged for reinvestment in health care may be in jeopardy as well as the money from the gas tax.

"The Conservatives have said that they won't give money to municipalities," says Carr.

"At the local level, I'm hopeful that the government will continue, so that municipalities can get their money for local infrastructure."

"I want to see that implemented. I think it's too important," says Carr.

Chong seems confident that the Liberals will backtrack on the changes that have raised some hackles, and although Carr points out that you never know what will happen in politics, he too is optimistic.

"I'm hopeful that we'll just continue to do what we've been doing," says Carr.

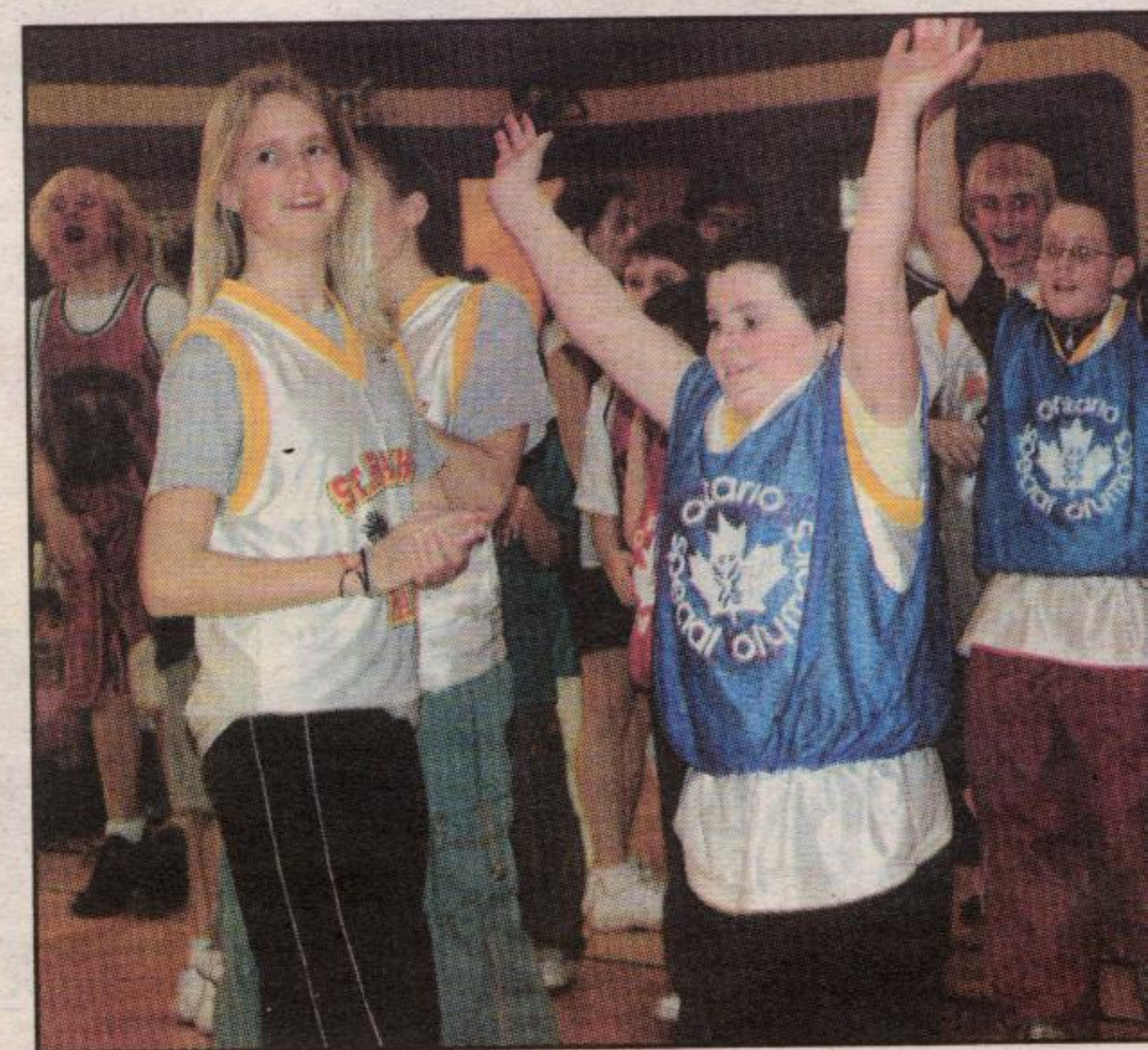
2nd Annual Special Olympics



PHOTOS BY BERNADETTE WARD

Nicole Rumble from the Junior Raptors Dance Pac signs a few arms while the 2nd Annual Special Olympics in the form of a basketball game goes on behind her on April 1 at Andrews Catholic School in Oakville. The event, put on by the Halton Catholic District School Board and Special Olympics Ontario, pairs 78 students of various exceptionalities with student mentors from 27 schools across Halton for a day of athletics.

Athlete Laura Ashton from St. Raphael Catholic School raises her hands in victory at the end of the basketball game that took place in the gym at St. Andrews Catholic School on April 1. Ashton was one of 78 exceptional students who along with mentors, participated in Oakville's 2nd Annual Special Olympics.



The Regional Municipality of Halton
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HALTON REGION



PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION ON REGIONAL ROAD 25 FROM HIGH POINT DRIVE TO CAMPBELLVILLE ROAD (NO. 5 SIDE ROAD) TOWN OF MILTON

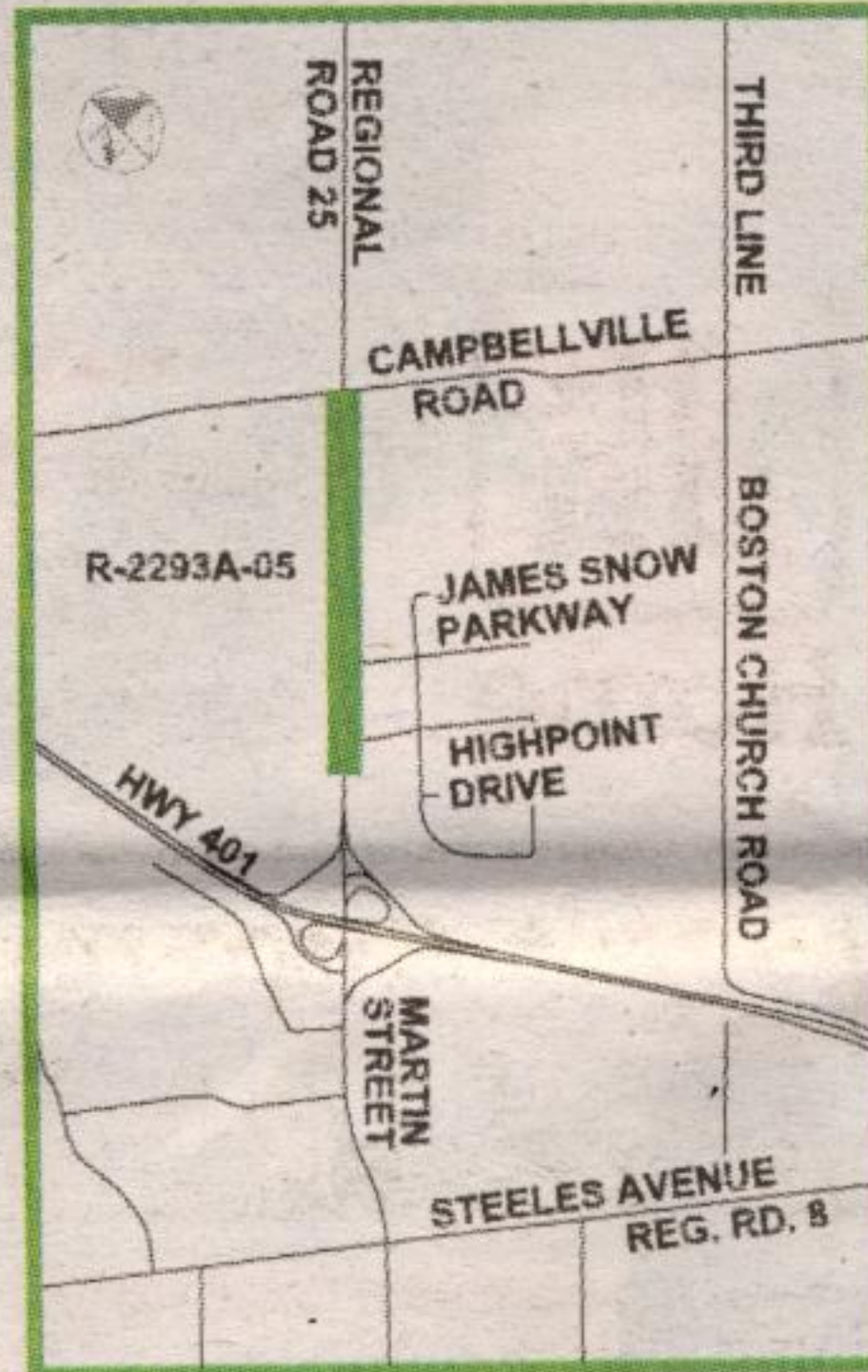
The Planning and Public Works Committee for the Regional Municipality of Halton proposes at its meeting on Wednesday, May 4, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. to recommend to Regional Council at its meeting of Wednesday, May 11, 2005 to pass a by-law for the construction of a new intersection on Regional Road 25 south of Campbellville Road (No. 5 Side Road) and the resurfacing of Regional Road 25 from Campbellville Road to south of High Point Drive, in the Town of Milton.

Construction drawings showing the proposed work may be reviewed at the Planning & Public Works Department, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville.

For further information, please contact:

Mr. Joseph Choi, P. Eng.,
Manager, Design Services
Tel: 905-825-6000, ext. 7610
Email: choij@region.halton.on.ca

Peter M. Crockett, P. Eng
Commissioner of Planning and Public Works



PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND WIDENING ON DERRY ROAD (REGIONAL ROAD 7) FROM FIRST LINE/BRONTE STREET TO JAMES SNOW PARKWAY (REGIONAL ROAD 4), IN THE TOWN OF MILTON

The Region of Halton will be widening and reconstructing Derry Road (Regional Road 7) from First Line/Bronte Street to James Snow Parkway (Regional Road 4) from a 2-lane roadway to a 4-lane roadway.

A Public Information Centre will be held to provide you with an opportunity to review the project drawings and to discuss any potential construction disruptions resulting from the proposed works. Representatives from Halton Region will be in attendance to answer any questions. The Public Information Centre is scheduled for:

DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2005

TIME: 5:30 p.m. TO 8:30 p.m.

**PLACE: OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM - 540 COMMERCIAL ST., MILTON**

You are invited to drop in any time during the above-noted hours to review and comment on the proposed works. If you are unable to attend this Public Information Centre and wish to obtain more information or provide written comments, please address your concerns to:

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Design Supervisor
Phone: 905-825-6000, ext. 7622
Fax: 905-847-2192
kingsmill@region.halton.on.ca

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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