

Proposed creation of super-complex...

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ping concept for the public that would make it very easy for instance, to pay a parking ticket, pick up a blue box and attend a school board meeting all at the same location.

A separate facility for each of the four partners is planned, along with over 100,000 square feet of multi-services facility.

The location at 1151 Bronte Road was chosen as staff estimate that approximately 80% of Halton's population is within 20 minutes of this location.

Trustee Ethel Gardiner, who acknowledged the plan as "a project that is innovative and has the potential to improve services for all agencies," did however raise the issue of the more northern parts of the region, for whom accessibility was not so easy and questioned whether or not transportation across the region and specifically the further reaches would see enhancements.

Cullen responded that he was hopeful that the project would create a compelling argument for enhanced transportation.

The plan, still in its infancy, has further challenges to overcome.

There is the issue of the regional roads that will need to be redesigned to suit the larger facility, concerns about the amount of parking and adequate meeting rooms, accessibility for the disabled, transportation and of course, funding.

The school boards would continue to seek capital funding opportunities to accommodate their growth, but there are also

plans to seek clarification from both the provincial government and the federal government regarding funding.

"Funding is in the works, but nobody has written us a cheque yet," said Cullen.

Next steps for the project include the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the four partners, clarification of funding and completion of the pre-design work such as energy management, storm water management and other site servicing issues.

By the spring of 2006 the partners will be looking for a decision as to whether or not to move forward, and so far there appears to be a great deal of enthusiasm for the project.

Alan Bailey, Burlington Trustee from the Halton Catholic District School Board summed it up.

"This falls into their vision and our vision of being the best place to live. I can only see brighter things ahead for us."



Halton Region Chief Administrative Officer Brent Marshall with Commissioner of Corporate Services and Regional Treasurer Jane MacCaskill

New Saint has family ties to Halton...

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Christian farmers who worked the land in their small village. In September 1902, he served as a parish priest and established a Confraternity of the Holy Face in his parish. Father Gaetano went on to found the Poor Clerics to encourage priestly vocations, and worked for cooperation among local priests to provide missions by preaching and hearing confessions in other parishes. Father Gaetano was a spiritual director for several religious institutions, a prison, hospital and seminary for decades. He founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Saint Veronica (Missionaries of the Holy Face) in 1935 to teach, offer perpetual prayers, and work with the poor. After his death, Father Gaetano Catanoso has performed miracles through the faith of his confessionals and this past weekend has been canonized along with 3 other priests in Rome, Italy.

His two second cousins, Domenica and Francesco who moved to Hornby seventeen years ago, remember their cousin as a loving humble man who always did everything for those less fortunate. "He sold all of his parent's property just to help the poor," Domenica reminisced. "The night he died, a crippled nun in a wheelchair prayed to him and suddenly she got out of her wheelchair and started walking around. He performed many miracles. Two years ago, a woman was in a coma from severe meningitis and her family prayed to Gaetano Catanoso and right after, she woke up and her illness was cured. The doctors had no explanation to what happened, only that the illness was completely gone from her."

Despite the rain and bitter cold, busloads of worshippers along with neighbours, friends and clergy flocked to the Hornby farm to celebrate the modern day saint.



PHOTO BY ANN KORNUA

The Scaramozzinos hosted a service for the canonization of St Gaetano Catanoso on their Hornby farm. Pictured here are Deacon Joe Digrado and Bishop Pearce Lacy welcoming the crowds of worshippers, at the beginning of the ceremony.

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