

# Pros, cons of MAI debated at Town committee meeting

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**  
The New Tanner

A federal politician and a local environmentalist squared off over the pros and cons of a proposed global trade and investment agree-

ment at Tuesday night's Halton Hills general committee meeting, leaving at least one Town councillor asking why the issue was even before them.

Halton MP Julian Reed, parliamentary assistant to

Trade Minister Sergio Marchi, touted the benefits of the proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), while Barbara Halsall, past-president of POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources), cautioned that MAI would eliminate many trade and legal barriers that now protect Canadian jobs and would affect local council's ability to do its job.

After more than an hour of debate on the proposed investment treaty Acton Councillor Norm Elliott complained that he was still not in a position to make an informed decision.

"I'm going to admit publicly right here that I don't know much about this subject, and I would defy the rest of the councillors around this table to say that they fully understand this matter."

Elliott said, complaining that any action councillors took on the issue would be nothing more than a knee-jerk reaction.

"The whole reason for raising this (MAI) is exactly what you said," Halsall told

Elliott.

"Nobody here knew anything about this thing and it will affect what municipalities can do so, I don't want you to pass a resolution tonight because I want you to gather more information so

you feel totally comfortable passing a resolution," Halsall said.

In his briefing MP Reed downplayed the concerns raised by opponents of MAI, saying that they were reacting to an unofficial brief that was circulating on the Internet.

Conjuring up images of Marco Polo as an early international trader and investor, Reed said that MAI is similar to 54 investment agreements that the Canadian government is now part of, except that it would involve 29 countries, members of the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development.

"The world is going global and any country that says it will build a wall around itself and maintain the economic health of its people is just fooling itself," Reed said,



Dear Mrs. Niblock,

Our class has been trying to make Acton a better place to live because we love our town. We will be working hard to make our town clean and help people understand how important it is to keep Acton clean. We will be picking up garbage, and composting our kitchen garbage and leaves. We would also like to clean up Black Creek.

Do you have any other ideas to keep Acton clean? If you think it would help other people to keep Acton clean then please print this letter in your newspaper.

Thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Ms. Mayo's Grade 2/3 class  
Written by Paige Lewis, Cody Wilson and Rachel Lippai

If you liked our Christmas shows you'll LOVE our TV shows!

Every Sunday  
4:30 p.m.  
Cable 14

Another ministry of Acton Baptist Church

**KIDS' CORNER**

**FOOD FACT**

THE "HOT DOG" GOT ITS NAME IN 1906 FROM A CARTOON BY TAD DORGAN, WHICH SHOWED A DACHSHUND INSIDE A FRANKFURTER BUN.

**Space Fill-In**

Fill in the blanks below, and discover 12 elements of the solar system.

1. M _ T E _ R	7. _ A T _ L L _ T E
2. _ L A _ E T _	8. M E _ C _ R Y
3. A S _ E _ O I _	9. S _ N _ P O T
4. N E _ T _ N E	10. S _ _ R
5. O _ B I _ S	11. B _ G _ D _ P _ E R
6. _ O M _ T	12. _ A L A _ Y

**Answers**

1. Meteor 2. Planes 3. Asteroid 4. Neptune 5. Orbits 6. Comet 7. Satellite 8. Mercury 9. Sunspot 10. Star 11. Big Dipper 12. Galaxy

K4980016

**Make the Match**

Match the astronaut with the spacecraft or space mission he or she was on by drawing a line from the left column to the right column.

1. Yuri Gagarin	A. Gemini 3
2. Alan Shepard Jr.	B. Gemini 12
3. Gus Grissom	C. Challenger
4. John Glenn Jr.	D. Freedom 7
5. Buzz Aldrin	E. Aurora 7
6. James Irwin	F. Apollo 15
7. Sally Ride	G. Vostok I
8. Scott Carpenter	H. Friendship 7

**Answers**  
1.G 2.D 3.A 4.H 5.B 6.F 7.C 8.E

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**TIME LINE 1908**

- AUTOMAKER WILLIAM DURANT FOUNDS THE GENERAL MOTORS CO.
- ROBERT BADEN-POWELL FOUNDS THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT.
- PABLO PICASSO AND GEORGES BRAQUE CO-FOUND THE CUBISM ART MOVEMENT.
- THE FORD MOTOR CO. PRODUCES THE FIRST MODEL T AUTOMOBILE.
- THE NAACP IS FOUNDED.

K4980018

**new word**

**SEDATE**

**DIGNIFIED AND COMPOSED; SERIOUS**

K4980019

## IODE REPORT

By **DOT NORTON**  
IODE Secretary

Our meeting was held at the home of Dot Norton on April 7 with Regent Helen Jocque opening with the Prayer of the Order and the Flag Salute.

First thoughts were for one of our oldest members, Peg Spielvogel; two minutes of silence were observed in memory. May she rest in peace. Helen Jocque was at the Rotary Club dinner and she certainly enjoyed it. A number of the ladies went to Guelph to wish another of our older members a happy birthday. Aileen Currie was glad to see her friends. Not only IODE ladies were there but many more friends from Acton as well.

Thank you cards were received from the ladies who had been ill and were very happy to see them back again.

Roll call was answered by 11 ladies and to our enjoyment a new lady, Mrs. Helen Lockhart joined us as well. Helen has been a member in other places and was very happy to know that the IODES was. We are certainly glad to welcome her to Lakeside Chapter.

Rosealea tells us that the cheques have arrived at Makovick and the children are really enjoying them. But we are still very far behind;

more money is needed for books. Sent along another cheque to the school and we each have a bag to fill in May. Plus the fact a layette is needed. Members will give Joyce money and she will fill it with the money received. The bags contain grooming aids for both men and ladies and babies as well.

Helen gave a short discourse on the flag of New Brunswick. Its lions and deer guarding the bases of the flag and the salmon wrapped in fiddleheads gives it a unique look.

Voting cards have been sent to Mrs. Shonbeck who will vote for us.

Sad to say Snack Pac money is falling short, which means children aren't getting fed as well as they should. We have sent a cheque to help in this project, we have also been asked to contact the ladies of Georgetown who were members once to see if they would like to come out and join us here in Acton. This we will look into and see what happens.

June McHugh ran into Myrt Snyder the other day. She is feeling better now that spring has arrived. Like the rest of us, winter takes its toll.

Our next meeting May 5 is the annual Chinese Dinner at 6 p.m. Come out ladies and enjoy that good food. Hope to have a small meeting at the end of dinner.

**HOW THEY SAY IT IN...**

**ENGLISH: EIGHT**

**SPANISH: OCHO**

**ITALIAN: OTTO**

**FRENCH: HUIT**

**GERMAN: ACHT**

**LATIN: OCTO**

K4980015

**Did YOU KNOW?**

THE IONIC COLUMN, POPULAR IN ANCIENT GREEK ARCHITECTURE, HAS A SPIRAL CAPITAL (OR TOP).

EASTER EGGS, A FUN PART OF THE EASTER CELEBRATION FOR MANY CHILDREN, ACTUALLY HAVE NONRELIGIOUS ORIGINS.

K4980020



**HOPING TO CATCH A FISH:** Adam Roach, Adam Mills and Andrew Kentner get an early start to the fishing season at Fairy Lake. The boys regularly fish from the Mill Street sidewalk. - Angela Tyler photo.