Are drivers taxiing students tested like bus drivers?

To the Editor,

On May 14, 2003, Alex Bonehill perished in an horrific car accident. Alex was a nine-year-old boy whose smile would light up a room in an instant. He was full of life with a bright future ahead of him. His birthday would have been this month.

At the time of the accident, Alex was attending a six-week program as part of his school curriculum. This program was located in Milton with candidates limited to a maxi-

mum of six students. Included in this program was transportation coordinated through the Halton School Board for the children.

On this day in May 2003, there were two children being transported by taxi. They were on their way home from attending this program when the accident occurred. As a result of the accident, the taxi driver was charged with Careless Driving.

With the safety and wellbeing of children being transported via taxi to the school program, one would expect prudent policies and practices with respect to contracting of such taxi companies would be implemented. As the mother of a child who has also attended this program, I have the following unanswered questions: what do these policies and practices entail if indeed they do exist?

Are parents informed that there is no consistency with the driver of the taxi and that any member of the taxi company may be transporting their children? Are these taxi

drivers subjected to the same testing and training as school bus drivers? Is it simply a matter of financial restraint causing the use of a taxi versus a regulated school bus? With the lives of children at risk, one would expect the School Board to ensure that adequate policies and practices are implemented and enforced. The safety of our children depends upon it.

Karen King, Georgetown.



The Regional Municipality of Halton A Partnership That Works!



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Proposed Amendment No. 23 to The Regional Official Plan (1995)

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton, through it's Planning and Public Works Committee, is holding a Public Meeting to provide interested individuals an opportunity to comment on the proposed Halton Region Official Plan Amendment No. 23.

Purpose and Effect: The purpose of this Amendment is to replace Map 3, Map 4, Table 3, Table A2 and certain text of The Regional Plan (1995) to reflect the recommended Functional Road Network endorsed by Regional Council through staff report PPW02-00 in January 2000, as amended through the approval of Halton Area CAO's Report, CA-31-03 in August 2003 and the results of detailed planning, engineering or environmental assessment studies undertaken by the Region or the Area Municipalities in Halton in identifying right-of-way requirements of certain roads.

Area of the Amendment: The Amendment affects all of the major, minor and multipurpose arterial roadways within the Region of Halton.

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2003

Time: 9:30 A.M.

Place: Halton Room, Halton Regional Centre

1151 Bronte Road Oakville ON L6M 3L1

To Get More Information: Proposed Amendment No. 23 may be viewed at the Office of the Regional Clerk, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or on our website noted below, or a copy may be obtained by calling Edward Soldo at 905-825-6000, ext. 7475, or toll free at 1-866-442-5866. Those wishing to address the Committee are requested to telephone the Regional Clerk's office, at ext. 7254 prior to Wednesday, December 3, 2003, 4:30 p.m.

Note: If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the Regional Clerk, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville L6M 3L1. If a person or public body that files a Notice of Appeal of Decision to the Regional Municipality of Halton in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submission to the Regional Municipality of Halton before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

Request for Notice of Approval: Only persons or public bodies will be entitled to receive Notice of Decision of the Regional Municipality of Halton, if a written request to be notified of Regional Council's decision to adopt has been made to the Region of Halton. Only individuals, corporations or public bodies may appeal a decision of the municipality or planning board to the Ontario Municipal Board. A notice of appeal may not be made by an unincorporated association or group. However, a Notice of Appeal may be made in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or group on its behalf.

NOTICE TO ALL CITIZENS OF HALTON REGION

- GET INVOLVED -

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton is seeking one citizen-atlarge to represent it on the Halton Regional Police Services Board, for a three-year term. The Halton Regional Police Services Board is responsible for the provision of adequate and effective police services in Halton. The Board must also satisfy itself that the standards issued by the Ministry of Public Safety and Security are upheld. Involvement in the day-to-day operating decisions of the police service is prohibited.

The Board meets a minimum of 12 times a year, on the fourth Thursday of each month, all day, commencing at 9:00 a.m. Meetings are held in the Halton Regional Police Services Headquarters building, or may be held on a rotational basis throughout the Region. Applicants must be willing to commit a minimum of twenty hours per month for Board business, however, this can increase dramatically if members are involved in collective bargaining. Several Special Board meetings and other functions are held throughout the year.

All applicants will be required to apply for and obtain a security clearance at the Police Services Records Bureau.

For further information on Board responsibilities, qualifications and desired skill, call Dorothy McDonald, Executive Director, Halton Regional Police Services Board at (905) 825-4747, ext. 5014. For application and/or selection information, call Pat Crimmins, Regional Deputy Clerk, at (905) 825-6000, ext. 7256.

Regional Council wishes to ensure that its boards and committees reflect the diverse nature of its community and invites all residents of Halton to consider this opportunity.

An interview committee of Regional Council will recommend a qualified candidate for this position to Regional Council.

Application forms are available in the Regional Clerk's Division, Regional Municipality of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or by fax at (905) 825-8838 or by e-mail to regionalclerk@region.halton.on.ca, or on Halton Region's web site, www.region.halton.on.ca/Council/Appointments/39.html

Completed application forms must be submitted to the undersigned no later than Monday, December 1, 2003. Interviews will be conducted during the week of December 8, 2003.

Tina Agnello Regional Clerk

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Bid documents for the services listed below, addressed to the Manager of Purchasing, 1151 BRONTE ROAD, OAKVILLE, ON L6M 3L1 will be received until 2:00 p.m. Oakville time on the specified closing date. Bid documents can be seen or obtained through the Purchasing Division of the Corporate Services Department, same address as above, telephone 905-825-6000, extension 7011. If long distance charges apply, dial toll free 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866).

Documents will be available for pick up on and after Thursday November 13, 2003, and there is a non-refundable deposit of \$26.75 (includes GST). Bidders who request documents to be shipped from the Purchasing Department must include a handling fee of \$10.70 (includes GST) for this service. Bid documents are also available for download from Halton's web site at http://www.region.halton.on.ca/bids for a non-refundable deposit of \$10.70 (includes GST).

Under no circumstances will facsimile or late bids be accepted or considered. Lowest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Halton Region relies on this advertisement to provide public notice of this business opportunity and is not obligated to notify any potential bidders in any other manner.

P-177-03

SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, ONGOING MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT OF LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

> CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 2003 CLOSING TIME: 2:00 P.M. OAKVILLE TIME

J. MACCASKILL Commissioner, Corporate Services A. MINDENHALL, CPPO, Manager of Purchasing Services

www.region.halton.on.ca/bids