

Greenbelt plan area released Monday

## Aussie university, Halton Board partner new teacher program

Charles Sturt Universtiy (CSU) of Australia, together with the Halton District School Board, have formally announced the establishment of a new teacher-training program at the Bay Area Learning Centre in Burlington.

Board and University officials gave details of the inaugural Bachelor-level education program which will accept its first 100 students in September, 2005. The Bachelor of Primary Studies program is a one-year teacher education program that will qualify graduates to teach primary-junior (JK-Grade 6) in Ontario's elementary schools.

Charles Sturt University has well-established links with the Ontario community.

For the past ten years, CSU has offered students from Ontario the opportunity to complete their teacher education in Australia at its New South Wales campuses.

"This is the first time a university outside the province of Ontario has been given such approval and it has come to fruition as a result of more than three years of effort by both the Board and Charles Sturt University," says Dusty Papke, Director of Education for the Halton District School Board. "Our Board is delighted to be partnering with this leading teacher education program."

Prospective students are being encouraged to visit the website for full details of the program at www.csu.edu. au/campus/ontario.

## Halton Council debates protecting land from urban sprawl

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

The recent argument over land preservation in Halton Hills that pitted farmers against environmentalists and some politicians against their colleagues is now moot.

The disputed land at the south end of Halton Hills is not included in the provincial Greenbelt, according to Halton planning staff's review of the final provincial map that was released on Monday, ahead of schedule.

The final Greenbelt boundaries designate areas that are off limits to developers – 1.8-million acres of protected greenspace in an area known as the Golden Horseshoe.

Initially, Halton Hills wanted 4,700 acres at the south end of Town included in the province's proposed protected Greenbelt area, but after a strong lobby from local farmers who complained they had not been consulted, Town Council changed its mind and asked Halton to tell the province that the land should not be included in the Greenbelt.

A Halton committee heard seven hours of delegations on the issue last Wednesday, and voted to ask the province to leave the land in the Greenbelt area, but review the Halton Hills position.

That committee resolution was scheduled to go to Halton Council yesterday, (Wednesday) but release of the final Greenbelt map makes further debate redundant.

On Tuesday, Halton staff was attempting to contact the 20 delegates registered to speak on Wednesday to see if they still wanted to appear before Council now that

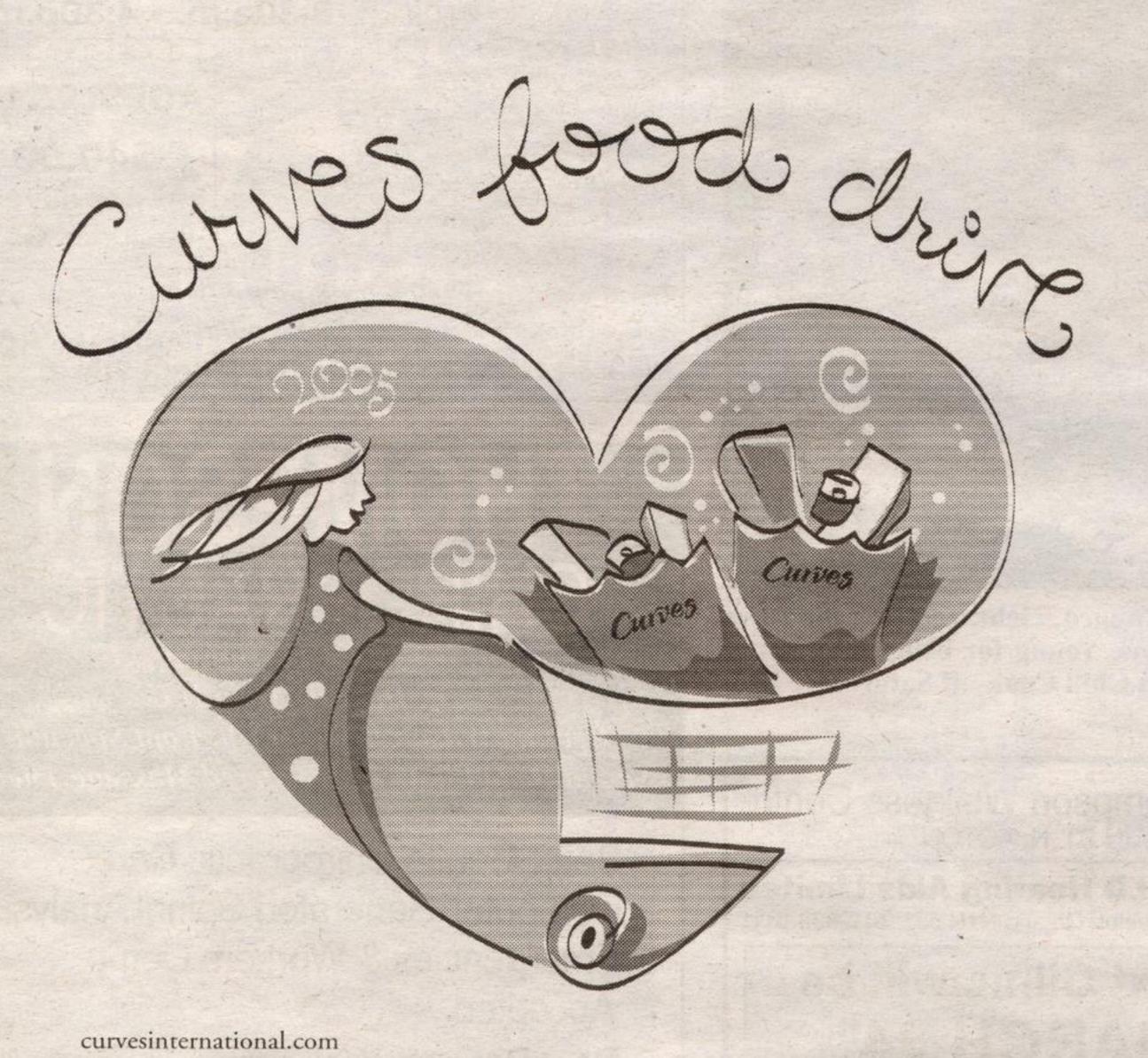
the province had decided the issue.

Halton staff was preparing an information report on the issue for yesterday's committee meeting.

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette said the key thing is that no land has been taken out of the Greenbelt.

"That land wasn't considered part of the Greenbelt in the beginning," Bonnette said on Monday, adding he was disappointed that the Halton Hills position was not supported at the committee level at Halton.

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