

SNEAKER SIGN-UP: Halton Hills Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson signs up for a sneaker with Shoppers Drug Mart supervisor Kim Strauss and owner Al Fraser, as part of the Shoppers Walk for The Cure program in aid of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation of Canada. Each 'sneaker' costs a loonie, and all proceeds go to the foundation. Sneakers are on sale until June 5.



Photo by Ted Brown

Sunday, May 30

- Churchill Community Church will be celebrating its 31st anniversary as a community church and its 161st anniversary as a place of worship with services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Rev. Dr. Milton Ryder, minister of the First Baptist Church in Boston will be the guest speaker.
- Norval United Church will celebrate Sports Day with everyone attending the 10 a.m. service wearing a sports uniform. Special guest is Norval's Olympic gold medal winner Shannon Crawford. For info call 877-6122.


COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 1

- You are invited to the Georgetown District Seniors Centre for its evening euchres, held on the first and third Tuesday evenings of the month at 7 p.m. Info: 877-6444.

Wednesday, June 2

- Acton seniors will host their final euchre evening for the season at the Acton Seniors Centre at 7:30 p.m.
- The Glen Williams Seniors' Drop-in will hold a quiz from noon to 3 p.m. at St. Alban's Parish Hall. For info call Peggy, 873-7603.



P.O.W.E.R.

Niagara Escarpment Candidate's Questionnaire

The Niagara Escarpment is 23% of Halton.

| | Liberal Mohan Anand | Tory MPP Ted Chudleigh | NDP Jay Jackson | Family Coalition Party Giuseppe Gori | Green Party Bill Champ |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Issue 1 In 1997, the provincial government transferred the Niagara Escarpment program to the Ministry of Natural Resources from its previous home at the Ministry of the Environment. That means that the Niagara Escarpment Commission now reports to MNR. Soon after the transfer, 26 environmental organizations and community groups called for the transfer to be reversed. They argued that the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the largest environmental-ly-based land use plan in Canada, ought to be administered by an agency with solely an environmental mandate (MOE) instead of one that combines conservation with resource exploitation, as is the case at MNR.</p> <p>Question: Do you support transferring the Niagara Escarpment program back to the Ministry of the Environment?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 2 Since the early 1990s, there has been pressure brought to bear on the provincial government by some Niagara Escarpment municipalities to delegate to them the development control powers exercised by the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Under their proposed regime, the upper-tier municipalities (counties and regions) would make decisions on approval/refusal of development permit applications. Having municipalities implement a provincial land use plan would create a patchwork in which some municipalities may be very lenient in their decisions on the Plan's provisions, while others would adhere to them more strictly.</p> <p>Question: Do you believe that the Niagara Escarpment Plan, a provincially legislated land use plan, should continue to be implemented by the provincial government?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 3 Historically, the economy of the Niagara Escarpment area has been defined in terms of the natural resources that can be extracted from it (e.g., aggregates, timber) and the developments that can be built upon it (e.g., residential subdivisions). More recently, society has begun to recognize the critical importance of the Escarpment in satisfying the outdoor recreational needs of Ontarians. The economic value of a protected Escarpment landscape, stemming from expenditures associated with non-consumptive tourism, recreational and vacation activities - hiking, birding, skiing, nature photography, etc. - is increasingly apparent. Such activities also enhance human health.</p> <p>Question: Do you agree that the protective measures in the Niagara Escarpment Plan which restrict development along the Escarpment contribute significantly to the economy of Ontario and the health of Ontarians?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 4 The Niagara Escarpment Plan, first approved in 1985, aims to strike a sensible balance between appropriate development and environmental protection. It recognizes that the Escarpment is a special part of Ontario with its own special legislation. The Niagara Escarpment Commission is the agency entrusted with the task of implementing the Plan.</p> <p>Questions: (a) Do you support the current Niagara Escarpment Plan? (b) Do you believe that the Niagara Escarpment Commission should be upholding the Niagara Escarpment Plan through the decisions it makes on development permit and Plan Amendment applications, instead of sometimes by-passing the Plan's provisions in order to approve particular developments?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 5 Aggregate extraction (sand, gravel and stone) has largely defined the history of efforts to protect the natural environment of the Niagara Escarpment. When it was approved in 1985, the Niagara Escarpment Plan grandparented all existing pits and quarries, and permitted new pits and quarries only in the Escarpment Rural Area zone and only through site-specific amendments to the Plan. The Niagara Escarpment has been designated a World Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations and it is important not to risk that designation through further aggregate extraction.</p> <p>Question: Do you agree that the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area must not serve as a long-term source of aggregate resources, and that new or expanded aggregate operations should not be permitted within the Plan Area unless there is a proven need for the aggregate that cannot be met from sources outside the Plan Area?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 6 The Niagara Escarpment Commission has sustained an almost 40% budget cut since 1995, has lost almost half its staff, and has had to close one of its three offices. Even before the cuts, the NEC ran a lean and efficient operation. It now administers a provincial land use plan of almost half a million acres with an annual budget of only \$1.8 million</p> <p>Question: Do you support the restoration of the Niagara Escarpment Commission's 1995 budget to allow it to fully fulfill its role as implementation body for the Niagara Escarpment Plan and the UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes * <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <p>Issue 7 The Niagara Escarpment area has some of the best farmland in Ontario, such as the specialty crop lands for growing grapes and tender fruits in the Niagara Region. Agri-tourism is a burgeoning business with the potential to stimulate the rural Escarpment economy, but at the same time risks damaging or even destroying the land base on which it depends?</p> <p>Question: Do you agree that agri-tourism developments in the rural parts of the Niagara Escarpment should be strictly limited in scale and that major overnight accommodation facilities (e.g., hotels, inns, guest cottages) should be required to locate in nearby urban areas?</p> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

*Some Funding **Exceptions