## Youth working for the environment

n Friday, September 17 I was honoured to host more than 250 members of the community at the first Bell/Chairman's Breakfast On The Environment held at Rattlesnake Point Golf Club in Milton.

Keynote speaker Dr. Joe MacInnis intertwined an entertaining and educational speech with clips from his deep sea diving adventures.

The event marked the launch of two new environmental awards designed to foster and support youth in their initiatives regarding our natural world.

The Halton Youth Awards for Environmental Excellence are open to all elementary and secondary students. I urge all parents and teachers to encourage your youth to enter the competition and have an opportunity to earn \$500 for their school. Applications by classrooms and relevant youth-oriented, non-profit organizations are also welcome.

The second program is the Halton Environmental Scholarship Awards geared to students in their last year of high school and students already attending a post-secondary school whose usual residency is Halton.

The application process includes completion of an essay in which the student must demonstrate the relevance between their chosen field of study and the environment. Successful applicants will earn \$500.

The deadline for applications for both awards is March 2, 2005 and winners will

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Joyce Savoline

be invited to the Bell/Chairman's Breakfast event in April, 2005.

The number of awards available will be dependent on corporate participation.

Complete details on the awards or corporate sponsorship of the program are available at www.haltonbusiness.com. Information may be picked up at Halton Regional Headquarters, 1151 Bronte Road in Oakville.

Our youth is more attuned to the environment than many of the generations who preceded them. We designed the two Halton youth awards to recognize their good work and to encourage them to continue their efforts This initiative and the annual breakfast event would not be possible without the support of the members of the Chairman's Round Table On The Environment and our sponsors—Bell Canada, through the Bell Community Development Fund, and the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

—Joyce Savoline is the chair of Halton Region

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