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14 Acton/Georgetown, Friday, November 18, 2005



## CH has new strategic plan

strong emphasis on community feedback wa the key to the success of Conservation ▲ Halton's new Strategic Conservation Plan said the agency's chief administrative officer.

"It went extremely well," said Conservation Halton (CH) CAO and secretary/treasurer Theresa Maguire Garber of the community consultation process the plan underwent before being finalized.

The plan, entitled 'Toward a Healthy Watershed was recently approved by the agency's board of direct tors. The document is a combination of CH's long-tern strategic directions and current priorities.

It was created in 2002 and was updated to guid CH's conservation efforts up to the end of 2007.

An open house was held in April to get public feed back on the future revised strategic plan.

Comments and ideas collected from the session wer then incorporated into a draft plan, which was distrib uted to CH's stakeholders- including the Region of Halton—for comments, Maguire-Garber said.

There was also an on-line survey through which feedback could be made on the draft plan. The final pla incorporated much of this feedback.

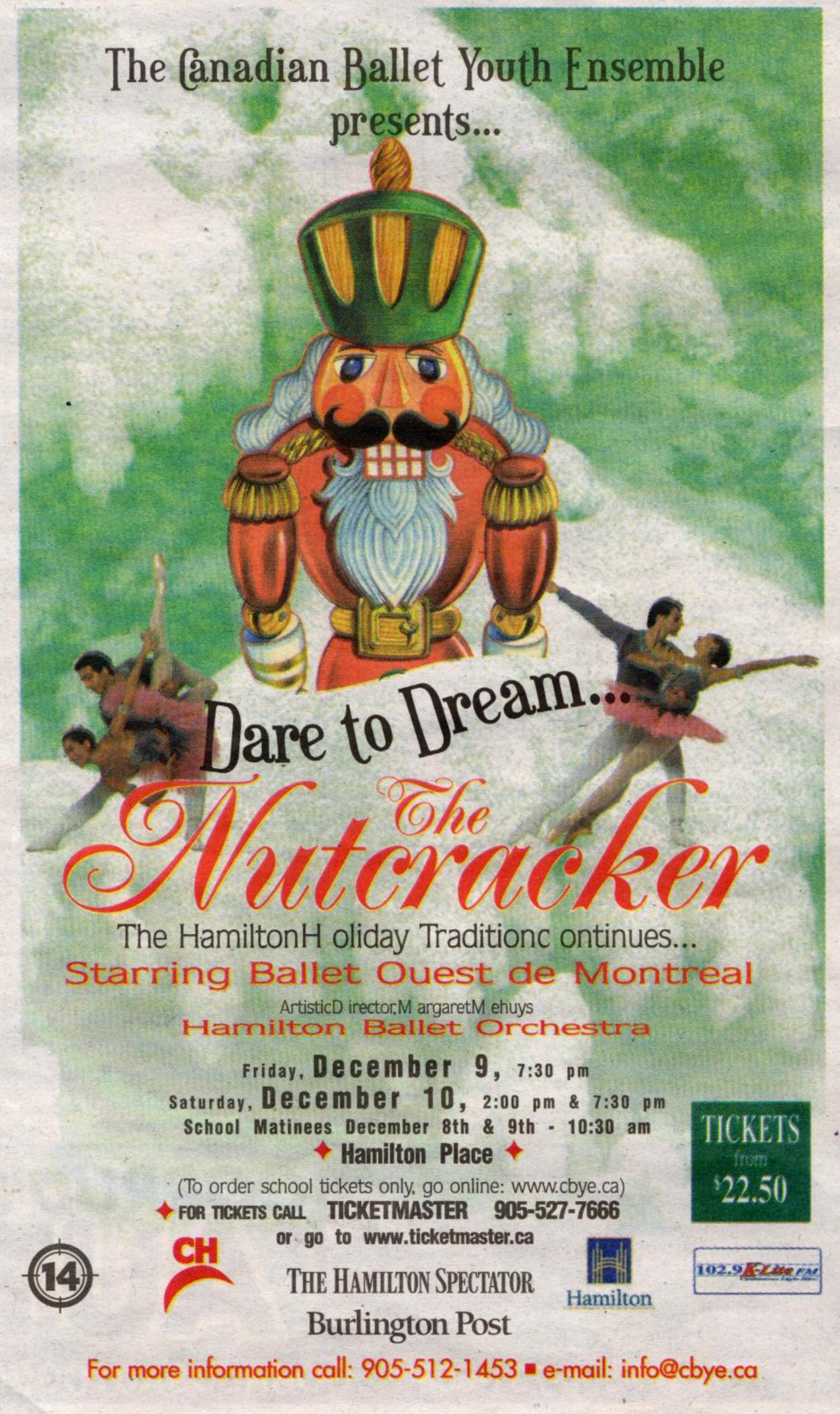
One of the largest changes made in this strategic pla is the introduction of a source water protection plan something sparked by the tainted water tragedy i Walkerton.

"We had watershed plans (included) before, but ther was no tie between surface water and ground water, Maguire-Garber said, explaining the source water pro tection plan goes one step further.

The plan will be presented to CH's supportin municipalities in January or February, along with tw other documents— a report card on how CH did imple menting the last strategic plan and its Publi Accountability Statement, which is new.

-By Stephanie Thiessen, specie







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