

# ACTON FREE PRESS



121-year-old high school to get \$13M upgrade

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Earth Hour special section

8-Pages



50 cents (+GST) Vol. 131 No. 2 Wednesday, March 26, 2008 44 Pages Circulation 21,220 Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

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## FRIDAY...

The honourees for the second annual Halton Hills Sports Museum induction ceremony have been determined. See details Friday.

For breaking news go to: [www.independentfreepress.com](http://www.independentfreepress.com)



Halton Regional Chairman Gary Carr (left) was joined by Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette (right) as they delivered the first GreenCart to the Jordan family in Acton Monday. Family members (from left) Mary and Katelyn are avid recyclers and welcome the new container which will be used to send their kitchen waste to the Region to be processed into compost. Photo by Ted Brown

## The GreenCarts are coming!

Halton Region began distributing its GreenCarts to residents this week. From now until April 5, trucks will be delivering the GreenCarts and a Kitchen Catcher (a small bin to collect organic waste in the kitchen), an information package and sample certified compostable bags, to all residents in Halton Region who currently receive curbside waste collection.

The GreenCart will collect kitchen food waste (fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, bones, pasta, fats and oils) and compostable paper (coffee filters, flour bags, paper coffee cups) creating valuable compost material that can be used in landscaping, agriculture and restoration projects.

See GREENCART, pg. 3

## Region DC plan will scare off business, say critics

MELANIE HENNESSEY  
Special to The IFP

A Halton Region proposal to hike development charges (DCs)— in some cases by more than double the current rate— will be a big turn-off to businesses looking to locate in Halton say members of the north Halton development community.

The Region's administration and finance committee, which held a public meeting last week, heard from a variety of local developers and chambers of commerce during the lengthy session.

DCs are levied by municipalities to recover growth-related costs associated with things like roads needed to service new development.

And with a whopping \$2.5 billion needed to pay for growth-related infrastructure between now and 2021, the Region is proposing to raise its DCs by thousands of dollars and phase out discounts currently given for industrial development.

Local developer Isaac Meisels of the Lawrence Avenue Group Ltd., which owns property on Steeles Avenue in Halton Hills, said he had a couple of parties interested in building on the land, but now they're backing out because of the proposed high charges.

"It's hurting me very much financially," he said.

Carol McDonald of the Milton Chamber of Commerce said the DCs must remain competitive in order to attract development.

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