

# Plan outlines recreation priorities

Continued from pg. 1

Georgetown Memorial Arena and the Dick Licata Pool land through a public consultation process

- expanding the Gellert Centre to include a gymnasium, youth centre and seniors' space
- enhancing teen opportunities through more space and programs in Georgetown and Acton.
- working with seniors groups to expand their centres
- implementing the key findings in the Trails & Cycling Master Plan

• addressing the current and future shortage of soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts as well as children's spray pads.

"It's a 10-year plan that sets priorities for council to look at," said Director of Recreation and Parks Terry Alyman. "What's in the plan serves to inform us better as to the priorities (at capital and operating budget time)."

SAP is available on the Town's website, [www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca). Copies are also available at the Recreation and Parks Department and both branches of the Halton Hills Public Library.

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## Recreation facilities: What we have; what we need

The Town's Recreation and Parks Strategic Action Plan summarizes current assets and future needs:

### INDOOR RECREATION

- **Ice pads**— currently there are 4.25 ice pads but demand requires another 1.25 now, growing to 1.75 ice pads by 2016. The building of new ice pads was deemed the highest facility priority among Town residents in the Household Survey.
- **Indoor pools**— the town has three— a surplus of 1.4 until 2016
- **Gymnasiums**— there are none but current demands calls for at least one, growing to 1.3 by 2016

### OUTDOOR RECREATION

- **Soccer fields**— current supply of 38.5, a deficit of 5.5 fields, growing to 7.5 by 2016
- **Ball diamonds**— supply of 33.5, a surplus of four, but two more will be needed by 2016
- **Tennis courts**— 11 courts, a deficit of three growing to five by 2016
- **Basketball courts**— two courts, a deficit of three, growing to 3.5 by 2016
- **Skateboard parks**— the current two skateboard parks are sufficient to meet demand until 2016.
- **Splash pads**— two (including the one to be built in 2008 at Dominion Gardens), but at least one more is needed
- **Playgrounds**— 37, with one more needed by 2016

### PARKLAND

- **Local parkland**— 47 hectares, but the demand is for 66 hectares

• **Non-local parkland** (ie. Trafalgar Rd. Sports Park)— 95 hectares but the demand is for 138 hectares. The demand will increase without the addition of new parkland.

### SENIORS' CENTRES

• There are two in Halton Hills but growing population is necessitating need for additional space. It's recommended that the current space in Georgetown be continued with possibly an additional dedicated lounge as part of the Gellert Centre expansion. In Acton, an expansion plan should be developed including looking at use of the adjoining hall.

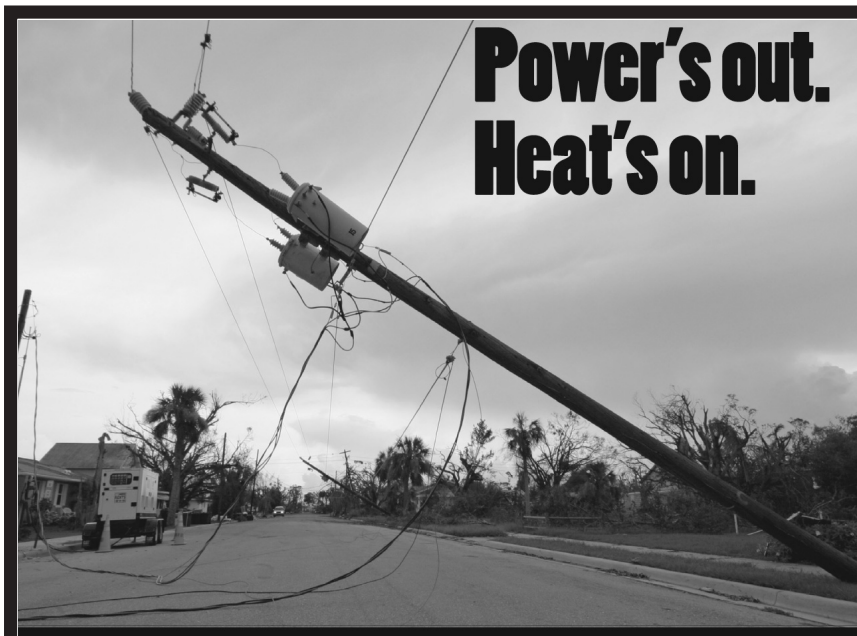
### YOUTH SPACE

• Youth centres in Halton Hills are provided by Links2Care with few municipal dollars. More space is in high demand, and SAP recommends youth centres be provided in Acton, and as part of the Gellert Centre expansion and in the Mold-Masters SportsPlex through renovation of existing space.

### WHO WE ARE

- The current population, according to the 2006 Census, is about 56,000.
- A demographic shift between now and 2021 is occurring with more population increases expected in the 65+ (74%) and 55-64 age (89%) categories and in the young adult (20-34) age group (59%). The child age group will only increase by 9.5 per cent.
- The annual income is higher than the provincial average, which often results in higher recreation participation rates.

—By Cynthia Gamble, staff writer



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## New Horizons for Seniors Program Public Notice

The Government of Canada invites local non-profit organizations to apply for funding under the New Horizons for Seniors Program.

Capital assistance is available for upgrades to community buildings and equipment related to seniors' programs and activities.

**The deadline for applying is December 14, 2007.**

For more information, please visit [www.hrsdc.gc.ca](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca) or call us at: **1-800-277-9914** and select '0' to speak to an agent  
 TTY: **1-800-255-4786**



**Dufferin Aggregates would like to invite its neighbours to a public information session. This is an opportunity to meet and discuss future activities at the Acton Quarry.**

#### DATE

**Monday, November 19, 2007**

#### TIME

**7:00 – 9:00 PM**

(Formal presentation will begin at 7:30 pm)

#### LOCATION

**The Hall at the Acton Arena  
 415 Queen Street, Acton**

For more information please call **905-532-3209** or visit <http://www.dufferinactonquarry.com>