

THE INDEPENDENT

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Roasted cauliflower soup

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60 Pages

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

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Guild marks 40th anniversary

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WEDNESDAY...

Halton homeowners are being encouraged to 'see the light' about solar power. Read about it in Wednesday's edition.

For breaking news go to: www.independentfreepress.com



In high places

Perched high above St George's Anglican Church in Georgetown, contractor Albert Otten, of Heritage Contracting, set a newly created cross in place on the peak of the roof Wednesday afternoon. Otten enlisted the help of Colonial Tree Service, (inset) with owner Brian Butler at the controls to suspend Otten over the roof. The cross is one of three that Otten installed on the church, to replace the three crosses that had been destroyed over the years— one struck by lightning in the 1920s, and the others through the rigors of time.

Photos by Ted Brown



Town decision: 20,000 max in future pop growth

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

Halton Hills council "reluctantly", but unanimously, voted to send a list of recommendations to Halton Region's Sustainable Halton planners that called for acceptance of a maximum of 20,000 persons in new residential development in an expanded Georgetown between 2021 and 2031, at its special council meeting Wednesday night.

Sustainable Halton is a planning process foisted upon this region through a Provincial mandate that calls for a population increase of more than 120,000 persons between 2021 and 2031. That population will be split between Milton and Halton Hills. The Sustainable Halton planners have come up with five concepts as to where that growth should occur, and requested each municipality to select its preference.

Town staff, through public consultation, recommended a moderately paced growth plan that aims to increase industrial land allocation along with limited residential growth to a maximum 20,000 persons.

The word "reluctantly" was uttered by Mayor Rick Bonnette but his council colleagues had a number of other adjectives too describing how they felt when voting on the recommendations: "boxed in", "bad taste in mouth", "little guy standing up to the Province", "struggling with the intangibles", and "keeping growth under control."

At this stage, council refrained from selecting a specific concept due to too many unknowns: whether new residential growth will be based on well-water or a lake-based system; what is the financial feasibility of a lake-based Big Pipe, and the impact on agriculture, environment and shale deposits in the study lands, not to mention the social fabric of the community.

The list of recommendations also included support for additional employment lands north of Steeles Ave. in the 401 Corridor and in the Mansewood area, west of Hwy 25 on Campbellville Rd.

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