CN Hub meeting well attended by locals, politicians

Meeting draws 240 concerned citizens sharing impassioned message: no CN Logistics Terminal

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A meeting about CN's proposed Intermodal Hub in Milton drew a lot of hostility despite everyone in attendance being on the same side. It appeared to be a chance for some to finally speak openly about how passionately they oppose the CN plans.

Milton councillors Robert Duvall, Zeeshan Hamid and Mike Cluett led the meeting to update citizens on the impacts of CN's proposed Milton Logistics Terminal at the Milton Lions Club Hall April 4. Some 220 people attended, including both resident groups that have formed in

opposition of the project (Milton Rail and Milton Says No), Mayor Gord Krantz, most of council and Halton Region chair Gary Carr.

Residents were upset that neither Milton MP Lisa Raitt nor Halton MPP Indira Naidoo-Harris were in attendance. Cluett said both were invited but Raitt was ill and Naidoo-Harris had other commitments.

During the overview, councillors explained that in the 1990s CN purchased 1,200 acres of land under various numbered companies, in different small parcels. Cluett noted that Halton Region does not control the sale of land.

The current proposal

includes 400 acres of land, east of Tremaine Road and south of Britannia Road, for the Milton Logistics Hub. The hub would see an additional 1,600 trucks a day on local roads, running 365 days a year, all night long. It includes 20 kilometres of additional tracks and is double the size of the current hub - a 200-acre facility operating out of Brampton.

They provided a video showing the trucks hauling out huge containers, often in double stacks.

Councillors said that CN promised the Region of Halton in 2008, that it was not going to build an intermodal.

"They said, 'Don't worry, this is not what this land is going to be used for.' Instead they suggested it would be developed into an

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