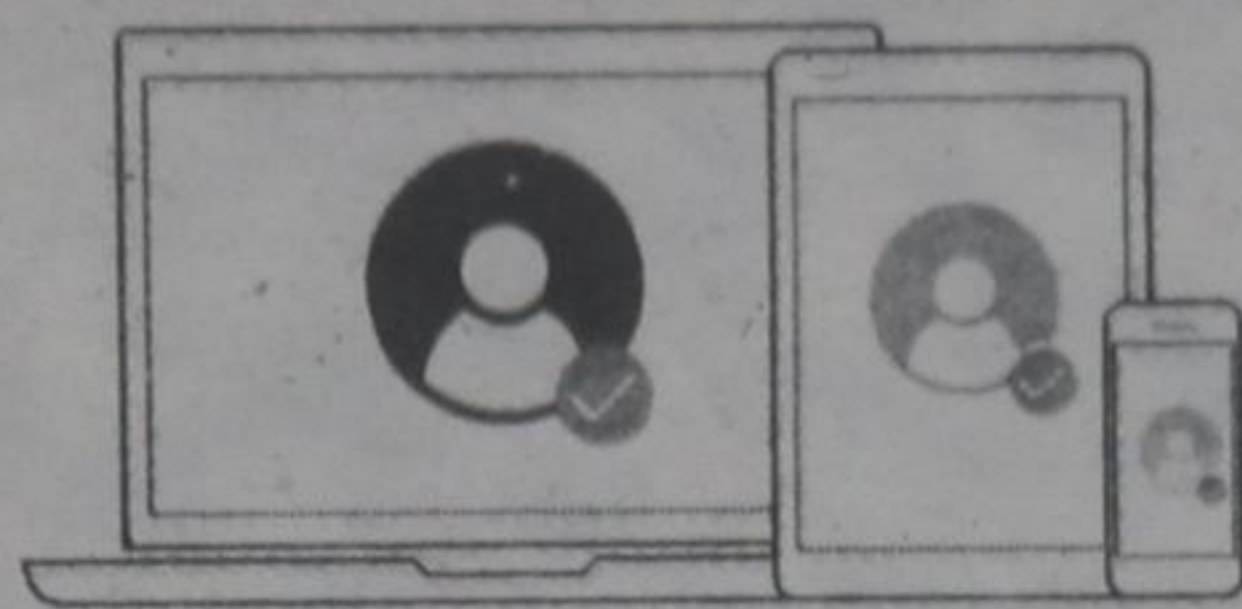


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Notice of Construction

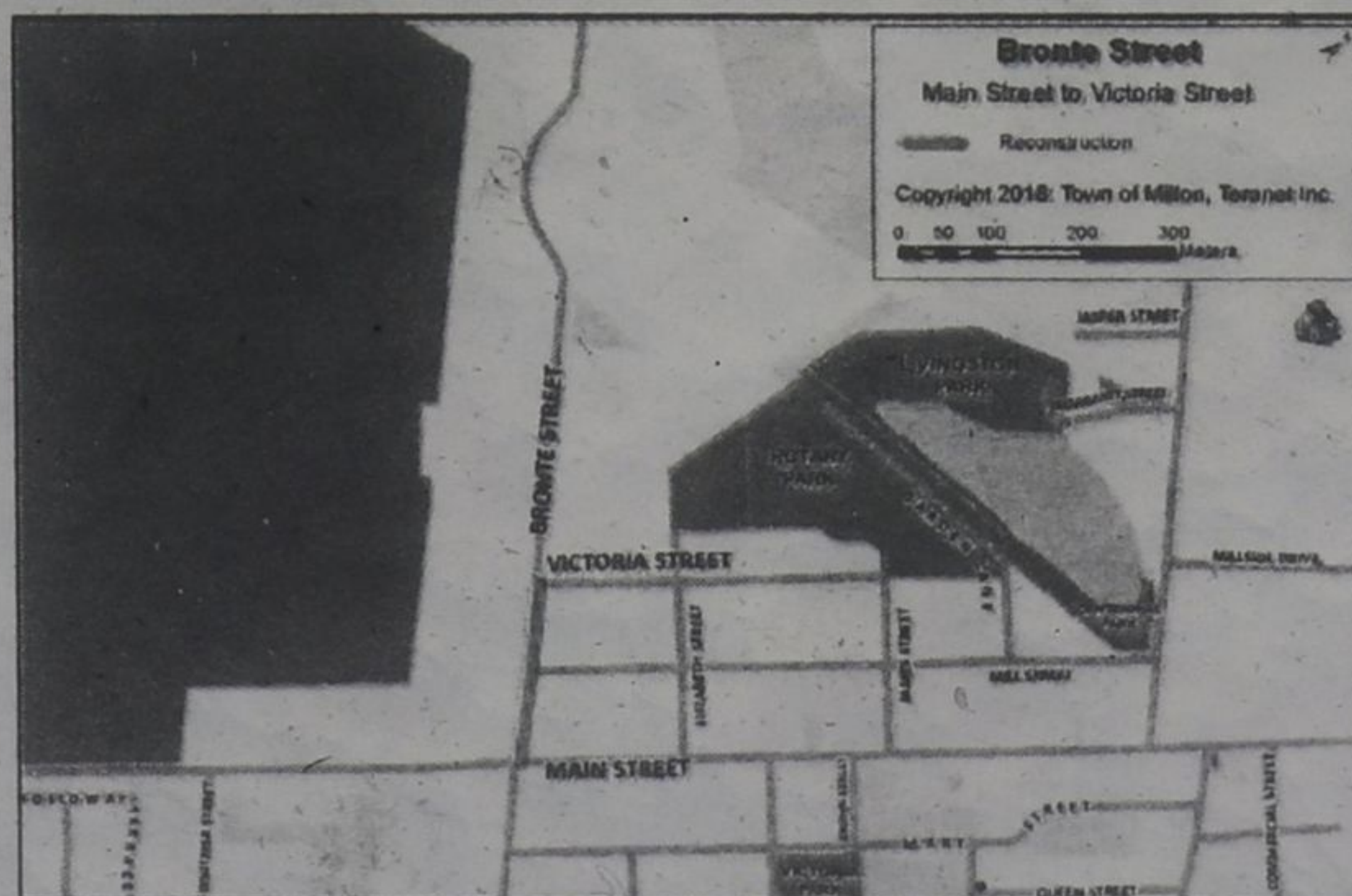
Bronte Street Reconstruction - Phase 1 (Main Street West to Victoria Street)

The Town of Milton will be undertaking the reconstruction of Bronte Street from approximately 75 metres south of Main Street West to Victoria Street. The construction contract has been awarded to Graham Brothers Construction Ltd., who will be on site the week of July 23, 2018 to begin work.

Reconstruction work includes the reconstruction of the intersection of Main Street West and Bronte Street, including replacement of the traffic signals, excavation, drainage, curb and gutter, pathway, sidewalk, topsoil and sod. While reasonable steps will be taken to minimize impacts, traffic delays are expected. Access to all businesses and emergency services will be maintained during construction.

Start date: July 2018

End date: October 2018



The schedule is subject to change due to weather and construction scheduling. For updates, visit www.milton.ca/Roads and the Town's Facebook and Twitter feeds.

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NEWS

PATIENTS ON RECALLED BLOOD PRESSURE DRUGS LOOK FOR ANSWERS

NOT ALL DRUGS CONTAINING VALSARTAN HAVE BEEN RECALLED, BUT THOSE THAT HAVE MAY CONTAIN A CARCINOGEN



Toronto Star file photo

Health Canada has recalled a some blood pressure medication containing valsartan.

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Since the recent recall of several blood pressure drugs containing valsartan, pharmacist Zak Patel has been getting lots of calls from his customers. Patel, who owns a pharmacy in Milton, says people want to know if they should stop taking their medication - especially after learning some valsartan products may be contaminated with a carcinogen.

His advice to anyone with questions is simple: Don't panic, then talk to your pharmacist about whether your drugs are part of the recall.

"Not all lots (of each product) are affected," he explained, adding that there are numerous drugs containing valsartan on the market and many of them aren't part of the recall. "Somebody might stop it for no reason or get it switched for no reason. Anything that has been recalled is legally removed from the pharmacy shelves that day of the recall."

Valsartan is typically used to treat blood pressure and cardiovascular conditions. Health Canada says it learned June 27 about a "potential issue related to an impurity" in some valsartan being used in Canadian drugs.

After contacting the pharmaceutical companies using it and doing some additional research, all drugs containing valsartan supplied by Chinese company Zhejiang Huahai Pharma-

ceuticals were recalled. Health Canada spokesperson Maryse Durette says the recall occurred July 9, while a notice listing the affected drugs on the federal Healthy Canadians website is dated July 10.

The valsartan from Zhejiang Huahai was found to contain N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), a chemical classified as a probable carcinogen. Durette said she did not have details on the cancer risk associated with the drugs, or the type of cancer they could cause.

"Health Canada is working with the companies and international regulatory partners to determine the cause of this issue and confirm that any necessary corrective actions are taken, as well as working to identify how long the problem may have existed," she said July 18. "Health Canada will take further action and inform Canadians should any new safety information become available."

According to a report published by Reuters on July 17, exposure to NDMA can cause cancer with long-term use. It said the European Medicines Agency believes the contaminant may have been in Zhejiang Huahai's valsartan since 2012.

The lack of firm answers or information on the risk has upset Burlington resident Bruce Davidson, who says he's been taking the drug for 12 years, and knows a friend who's been taking it for 20. The 82-year-old got a phone call from

For a full list of products containing the recalled valsartan, visit HealthyCanadians.gc.ca.

his pharmacist a couple days after the recall, warning him to stop taking the drug. He feels the government should have done more to alert people that their medicine could be causing cancer, and says even his doctor hadn't heard of the recall when he first reached out.

"It would seem to me that there is large dissociation ... between the medical profession and health ministry to the detriment of the public," Davidson said. "It doesn't satisfy the anxiety. People of that age group can be very easily upset by changes to routines or medications."

He said he's appalled that the government hasn't provided more information about the risks. "Where is it going to cause the cancer if it does?"

Patel, the pharmacist, believes the chances of getting cancer from these medications are likely quite low. He says each lot of the drug would have been tested by the government.

"It's just like baking a cake, and sometimes you get a bad batch," he said.

He noted there are likely to be shortages of non-contaminated valsartan-based drugs, but pointed out that there are lots of other options for patients that won't cause adverse reactions.

"There's no need for widespread panic," said Patel. "That's not productive."