



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Burlington Mayor-Elect Rob MacIsaac (middle) and Milton Mayor Gord Krantz receive a few snow boarding tips from Tidy the turkey vulture Saturday at Glen Eden. The three helped introduce improvements at the local ski resort.

## Snowfall helps kick off Glen Eden ski upgrades

By STEVE LeBLANC  
Special to The Champion

Glen Eden's Bob Harris described Friday's snowfall as "a good omen" for this year's skiing season.

Just 24 hours before \$1.5 million in improvements would be showcased at the local ski resort, old man winter came knocking on southern Ontario's doorstep.

This, as much as anything, probably accounted for a huge turnout at the open house Saturday, when two new features were officially introduced at Glen Eden.

Two aging t-bars near Sidewinder and Slow & Easy have now been replaced by a quad chair lift, which has increased capacity to service 7,200 skiers per hour.

"The upgrade will speed things up dramatically. With the old t-bars, skiers were very susceptible to snow conditions and the machine's movement. We'd have to stop and start, stop and start whenever someone fell off, and people fell off a lot," explained Mr. Harris, Glen Eden's area manager for the past 19

years.

"It has also freed up space for people to ski under the lift."

A six-acre snow board park has also been added at the west end of the resort, beside Scimitar.

Dubbed 'Drop Zone', the park includes a half pipe, and according to Mr. Harris should create a whole new market for Glen Eden.

"There's been great demand for this (a snow board area) for a couple of years now. I'd estimate that snow boarders will make up roughly 15 per cent of our overall visitations," he said.

In addition to these two showcased improvements, Glen Eden will now be able to weather mild winter spells more effectively, thanks to a 43 per cent pumping capacity upgrade to their snowmaking equipment.

Glen Eden's new snow board park, plus the rest of the 12-hill ski resort, is expected to open the first weekend of December.

## No good news on mail front

Canada Post and its largest union were at a standoff yesterday morning as the two sides had no plans to meet in an effort to avert what could become a nationwide postal shutdown.

Neither side had said at press time what action they planned to take — a lockout, rotating strikes, a general walkout or a continued wait-and-see approach.

Talks broke off last week after the 45,000-member Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) presented its latest proposal to the company.

Canada Post rejected it, saying it was the same set of demands the union had when talks began seven months ago.

The union is in a legal strike position this morning (Tuesday) and the company could lock out workers.

## MPP surprised

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commissioner" a government employee similar to an ombudsman.

Mr. Chudleigh felt any complaints against the wording of the question were hard to defend.

"Those in favour of chlorination are a very significant group with no political representation," said Mr. Chudleigh, who agreed the split vote has lent some credence to his hope that individuals could be provided with choice.

"I was surprised by the outcome," he said, "I expected 90 per cent plus to be against chlorination."

At press time yesterday morning, the two sides had last met on Saturday, but spent less than three minutes together before Canada Post walked out, saying there was nothing new in the union's position that would allow talks to resume.

A strike would mean closure of the Milton post office and no delivery service, except for government pension and social assistance cheques. The union has made a commitment to deliver them.

Mike Aikenhead, president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers' local 223 representing about 35 mail carriers and wicket clerks at the Milton post office, said Friday he was waiting for word from union leaders as to what action, if any, they will take.

He has said 80 per cent of the Milton postal workers voted to strike if necessary.

The union's main bones of contention centre around wage increases and job security for the 4,000 positions the workers' maintain will be lost due to Canada Post restructuring, Mr. Aikenhead has said.

The union has demanded an 8 per cent wage hike over 18 months. The company has offered 3 per cent over three years with wage increases of zero, 1.5 per cent and 1.5 per cent annually.

Letter carriers and clerks earn \$17.41 an hour.

Canada Post has said the threat of strike already has caused mail volume to drop by 50 per cent. It urged customers Saturday not to use the mail for the time being.

A Canada Post spokesperson couldn't be reached for comment at press time.

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