



# COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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## Credit where it is due

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz has always seemed a bit out of his element at Halton Region, but one probably would not have guessed that based on his shrewd and aggressive display there last week.

In a telling stroke that appears to have shifted the tone of debate and put Milton over the top, Mr. Krantz played his trump card.

Faced with naysayers from south Halton who were looking for any flaws in Milton's growth plans, Mr. Krantz turned their arguments back on them.

Burlington, it turns out, could face a growth freeze without expansion of the Skyway wastewater treatment plant to the tune of \$85 million.

Some Burlington councillors have been challenging the concept of Milton growth by demanding that it in essence pay for itself, with negligible or no impact on other Halton taxpayers.

Mr. Krantz turned this around, suggesting that it might be in the interests of other Halton ratepayers if the same scrutiny Burlington councillors advocated for any Milton growth plan was tied to Burlington development proposals.

That would mean the Skyway plant expansion would only proceed once everybody in Halton outside Burlington was satisfied that it wouldn't cost them a cent.

Clearly such a precedent is unfair, to say nothing of untried, impractical and likely unworkable.

In the past Oakville and Burlington have grown — perhaps more than they wanted to — without asking for Milton's leave, or anyone else's.

Yet under the brassy plan advanced by some regional councillors Milton would kowtow to other centres. Burlington Councillor Mike Wallace even suggested that specific developments — subdivisions — be scrutinized by Halton prior to being built in Milton.

What's next? Do they want to impose a local dress code as well?

In fact, as something of a mixed blessing, it was Mr. Wallace's gambit that prompted Mr. Krantz to remark that perhaps it was time to apply equal scrutiny to Burlington's plans; such as the Skyway improvement initiative.

Shortly after that, it seems, resistance to Milton's growth project became far more muted.

In the end the expansion strategy passed the joint committee scrutiny unanimously. It still faces full regional council Wednesday, but it would appear the matter is by and large settled.

Whatever one's opinions about Milton doubling or trebling in size, credit must be given where it is due.

It has taken approximately 15 years to negotiate the so-called Halton Urban Structure Plan, in various incarnations, through regional council. Mr. Krantz has been steadfast throughout that process.

He supported it in the beginning, and he is backing it at the end. It was a looming issue when he was elected mayor, and in this the probable twilight of his mayoral career, it promises to be a political victory of magnitude.

Rob Kelly



## OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

### Doctor who had heart attack thanks hospital for care

Dear Editor:

It is because of the dedicated staff and modern technology that I am here today with a normal electrocardiogram at my bedside.

I would like to say a special thanks to Valerie Ashley, Cindy Cressman, Marcia House, Dr. Chung, Dr. Hui and Dr. Koslowski, who, in a team effort in the emergency department of Milton District Hospital, saved my life by utilizing expert knowledge and advanced scientific medication.

My gratitude also goes out to the nurses in the intensive care unit and the other staff throughout the hospital who cared for me in my convalescence.

How lucky we are in Milton to have such a wonderful facility and such caring and well-trained personnel.

Sixty percent of all heart attack patients are clinically dead by the time they reach the hospital. I certainly would have been included in that statistic had I not been in the hospital at the time my cardiac event occurred.

I strongly recommend that everyone in the community take CPR courses and keep them up to date.

The day will come when Milton hospital will serve a larger population than Oakville or Burlington. We as users of our fine facility should insist that amalgamation do its duty to pursue and enhance services in all clinical, surgical, and obstetrical areas at Milton hospital -- not absorb and dismantle them.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and good wishes.

To all my patients, I will be back to work as soon as my doctors allow me, if not before.

Dr. Ivan Hunter  
Milton

### Speed kills so slow down

Dear Editor:

I've just returned from another "relaxing" walk through Moffat. As per usual, I watched several cars speed along No. 15 Sideroad at well over the posted 60 km/h limit.

Finally, I lost it and had the audacity to yell "60" at a black Jeep that was clearly travelling at double that speed, frightening both me and my leashed dogs. His response was to continue along at high speed with his horn blaring.

Since moving here, I've seen countless animals dead on our road. The most disturbing of those killings was the cat that bled to death in front of our house after being struck by a car in the night. It was my job to dispose of the body.

Frankly, I can't help but wonder how long it will be until a neighbour's child is struck by a vehicle here. This is clearly a residential stretch of road, but the cars and enormous trucks that barrel through have absolutely no regard for the safety of the residents. In the two years I've lived here, I've never seen a radar trap.

As for the idiot I encountered, I have only this to say: You'd better hope that your wife or child or loved one never encounters a driver as ignorant and dangerous as you, although you would deserve the ensuing grief. You've clearly forgotten that life is precious, and that speed limits exist in residential areas in order to protect all of us.

Natalie Rowe  
Moffat

### Pud

by Steve Nease



NEASE, '98