



OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Man has different take on state of Mill Pond

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the article that appeared on the Community Page dated July 21 -- 'Millpond committee wants action now'.

Regarding the harvesting of weeds, these weeds keep the water clean and provide habitat for the fish in the pond. To keep the weeds out would mean it would have to be harvested three times a year. The committee says no one will swim in the pond because of the weeds.

To my knowledge, no one has swam in the pond for more than 35 years. The committee members say they have film from the 1970s and claim the water level was much higher. It only seems higher.

The fact is the pathway was built up to allow for wheelchair access and strolling, which means the water level is the same -- the path way is higher. They say the water in the pond is six feet deep. In fact, for the most part (roughly 95 per cent) it is between 24 and 30 inches deep.

They suggest that the pond be dredged and the silt sold. In order to accomplish this, the pond would have to be drained and allowed to dry before the silt could be removed, and you can't imagine the stink that would come from this procedure.

They claim lack of movement of water at the spillway is evidence of no flow of water. It is the middle of summer, and there is no flow of water anywhere.

They say there was a wooden wall at the west end of the pond four years ago. In fact, there has been no wall

there for at least 35 years.

They claim that the pond has a long history of being dredged when in fact the last time it was dredged was in the 1950s.

One thing they don't address when discussing the foul odours around the pond is the slaughter house at Sargent's Farm, which is located beside the pond. The smell from which, naturally, is greatly magnified in the summer heat.

I have fished in and around the Mill Pond for more than 40 years and I would suggest that Keith Timbers and Pat Duignan research their facts and potential cost of their proposed solutions to the pond and the Sixteen Mile Creek before any action is taken.

I would estimate that the dollar cost of this committee's solutions to be in the range of \$600,000 to \$1 million. I presume the taxpayers in the town would be expected to help out with the cost.

In my opinion, and in light of the upcoming development of land in Milton, the pond should be back-filled and made into playing fields. There may also lie within a potential solution to the huge skateboard and rollerblading population which is fast becoming a motorists nightmare in the town.

In closing, before this committee of two or three do-gooders is allowed to propagandize any further, I would expect that a complete and un-biased study of the cost and environmental impact be conducted.

Michael Winney
Milton

Letters welcomed

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone number of the writer included. Mail letters to: The Canadian Champion Box 248, Milton, Ont. L9T 4N9

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Request for Public Comments on Proposed Submissions for Long-Term Care Facility Beds.

Regional Municipality of Halton
650 Beds Project LTC98006

On April 29, 1998, the Ontario government announced a \$1.2 billion expansion of Ontario's long-term care system. As a result of this initiative, proposals to develop new long-term care facility beds in the Regional Municipality of Halton were requested.

The next phase of the process involves inviting the public to comment on the applicants who have bid for the beds. If you or your group wish to comment on one or more of the applicants, this may be done at a public meeting or through a written submission. You must pre-register 48 hours prior to the meeting. Details regarding this meeting and/or mailing address for written submissions can be found below.

For more information on this initiative and/or to receive a list of the applicants bidding for these beds, please call the number listed below.

Regional Municipality of Halton Public Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 1998

1:30 - 4:30 pm

Burlington Public Library

2331 New Street

Burlington

Centennial Hall

Call (905) 546-8294 or fax (905) 546-8255 to pre-register and to receive a list of applicants. Written submissions may be handed in at the public meeting or sent to:

Ministry of Health
Long-Term Care Division
119 King Street West, 11th Floor
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y7
Fax: (905) 546-8255

Ontario