



COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Nobody will pay that much

One item that sticks out from the rest in the Town of Milton's report on proposed user fees is the sum planned for a Leisure Centre membership.

If all goes according to municipal staff recommendations, an annual membership would skyrocket from the current \$300 to \$800 per annum by 2003.

Perhaps a conflict of interest should be acknowledged here -- the author of this piece is in the Leisure Centre, as a member, usually five times a week.

Municipal councillors may rest assured that if the membership fee goes to \$800, or anything close, people will not pay -- unless the facility is drastically upgraded.

Not that there's anything particularly wrong with the Leisure Centre. The people who work there are nice, for the most part, and at \$300 for a membership it's well worth it.

But nobody in their right mind would pay \$800 to work out at the Leisure Centre when there is a nearby private sector gym with far better equipment that charges around \$650.

Perhaps the real discussion point here, as Councillor Wally Hunter seems to be suggesting, is whether the Town of Milton should be in this business at all. If his alarming statistic about the Leisure Centre losing \$500,000 per year is accurate, then the answer is probably not.

Rob Kelly



OUR READERS WRITE

Can the ads, Mike Harris Tories are told

Dear Editor:

This letter is addressed to the four Progressive Conservative MPPs in Halton Region. Gary Carr, Cam Jackson, Terence Young and Ted Chudleigh, we the public have had enough. We are disgusted at the constant media bombardment your political party is promoting throughout Ontario, regarding education and health care. The millions of dollars you are wasting could be better spent improving the very social programs you have devastated. Just think of the hospitals and schools you could fund for \$50,000,000 — which I believe you have spent on advertising.

The tax payers of Ontario do not need to be told through misleading advertising that you are doing a good job. They need to see it in action. Spend the money where it belongs. Spend it on the poor, the homeless, the ill, the seniors, and our future, the children. Come the next election you will be judged on your actions and their results, not your slick television ads and glossy brochures. We will not forget your crimes against humanity, your wasting of tax dollars and your arrogance and gentlemen, we won't be fooled again.

Ron Caldwell
Burlington

Pharmacist does family a good deed

Dear Editor:

With bad things happening frequently in Canadian news, I would like to make note of something nice that happened in Milton.

On Thursday, Nov. 18, my husband, three-year-old daughter and myself were driving along Main Street, just talking about everyday things. We were talking about the poor child who recently passed away due to the flesh eating disease, teachers' strikes, cutbacks in every area of the country and so on.

We made a stop at the I.D.A. in Milton to pick up some prescriptions. I was inside with the pharmacist (Chris) and my family was in the car. After a few minutes, my husband came in and announced the car was dead. We asked if there

was a pay phone around and Chris let us use his.

We decided we would walk home, since it wasn't too far, about 25 minutes. Chris asked if we needed a boost. We thought, well, we can try it, otherwise we will walk.

The phone rang and Chris took his call. We decided to wait outside for him.

We waited about five minutes and Chris came running outside. He told us he had to take this phone call, it was a customer who had a sick child. He then proceeded to tell us the alarm number for his vehicle, gave us his keys and said to my husband to take us home if we wanted, in his vehicle.

We said "thank you" and stayed, and tried to boost our car. Not once

did Chris come out to make sure we hadn't stolen his vehicle, or anything else of importance in his vehicle. We were about 25 minutes. He trusted us completely and was eager to help.

Not only did Chris help us out, he also helped the customer on the phone.

Not often is it possible to help two people out at the same time, but Chris did.

If there is a Good Samaritan Award in Milton, I highly recommend this gentleman for it. It is my pleasure to have met such a wonderful caring person in this community. Chris, thank you ever so much for your help, you definitely have our family as customers.

Kim Borst
Milton



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Box 248, 191 Main St. E.,
Milton, Ont. L9T 4N9

(905) 878-2341

Editorial Fax: 878-4943

Advertising Fax: 876-2364

Classified: 875-3300

Ian Oliver **Publisher**

Neil Oliver **Associate Publisher**

Bill Begin **General Manager**

Rob Kelly **Editor**

Karen Cross **Circulation Manager**

Teri Casas **Office Manager**

Tim Coles **Production Manager**

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They like the choice of Algar as new chief

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the North Halton Cultural Awareness Council, and personally, I would like to convey our pleasure with the selection of Deputy Chief Ean Algar as the next Chief of the Halton Regional Police Service. The board has certainly shown leadership by selecting one of Halton's own to lead the Halton Regional Police Service into the next century.

We have always been impressed with Deputy Chief Algar's deep commitment to community policing and cultural sensitivity.

Additionally, by choosing someone who has come up through the ranks of the Halton Regional Police (and who has earned respect, both in the community and in the service), the board has shown faith, credibility and support for the programs in which Halton has taken a lead role.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Peter Campbell for all the support, guidance and

encouragement that our council received from him. He will certainly be a tough act to follow — but we are confident Deputy Chief Algar will continue to uphold the excellent standards that have been set by his predecessors.

The North Halton Cultural Awareness Council hopes the future vacancies within the service are filled from within the ranks in the same manner as the chief's position was filled, thereby ensuring that there is continuity and commitment to the community.

The North Halton Cultural Awareness Council looks forward to continuing a close relationship with our new chief and his command staff in the very productive and open manner we have always enjoyed with Chief Campbell. We wish both Peter and Ean all the best in the future — both will be starting new lives, but we are sure that both will be successful.

Elizabeth Carmichael,
Chairperson