

# Questions still lingering about new super board

By IRENE GENTLE  
The Champion

The Greater Toronto Services Board (GTSB) is officially a go, but some Halton concerns remain to be addressed.

The GTSB is designed to run and fund GO Transit as well as help coordinate municipal services in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

The legislation was passed December 10 of last year and came into effect January 1. Despite extensive consultation by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Al Leach, the final act does not address some key regional issues.

It does not, for example, include a clause exempting Halton's landfill from use by the rest of the GTA.

It also doesn't exclude Halton from having to shell out for any future landfill sites.

The Milton landfill is reasonably safe even without a clearly stated exemption, said Halton Chair Joyce Savoline.

The reason is that Halton would have to give approval before other areas could use it.

"We'd have to be willing hosts. We're not," she said. "We'll keep a very close eye on it but I feel we're protected."

Ms Savoline said she'll also be taking a close look at the funding of GO.

Currently, GO is to be funded by the regions using it, meaning Halton, Toronto, York, Durham and Peel.

Hamilton-Wentworth will also be called upon to shoulder some of the costs, though it isn't part of the GTSB.

Expansion of the transit system is estimated to cost about \$1.2 billion.

Ms Savoline said she's hoping to convince the federal and provincial governments to help carry some GO costs.

"We're trying to encourage the federal and provin-

cial levels to assume their rightful responsibility and interest in capital funding for a safe and efficient system," she said.

Membership in the GTSB could come at a high price if more than transit costs are eventually shared, said Milton Mayor Gord Krantz.

"The 905 areas and Halton might just be thrown onto the board just to help Toronto as we know it. That's one of my fears," he said. "Do we want to pick up all their social costs? No damn way do I want to."

Even the future direction of the GTSB is in question. At present, it isn't known if it will remain a coordinating body for the GTA or turn into a whole new level of government.

That uncertainty doesn't sit well with Halton residents, said Ms Savoline.

"I think taxpayers expect some predictability. If I went out and talked to taxpayers today, I wouldn't be able to give them that," she said. "People's uncertainty about what and how it will evolve — that's big."

In the meantime, Ms Savoline said being a member of the GTSB will be a whole new ball game for the regional politicians.

"We're going to play in a playing field where in a lot of cases things are done differently," she said. "In Halton, we're spoiled. We don't experience all the sensationalism, all the big politics."

Just being heard will be a challenge, said Ms Savoline.

That's because voting on the GTSB is based on population, with more votes given to high density areas like Toronto and Peel.

The total number of votes is 110. Of that, Toronto has 55, Peel 21, York 15, Durham 11, and Halton 8.

Since most GTSB votes are won by a two thirds majority, that means it would be a tough slog for other regions to kibosh a policy supported by Toronto and Peel.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Regional Official Plan Amendment and Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment

A Joint Board will hold a public hearing regarding a proposal by Jannock Limited to proceed with an undertaking, namely, the amendment of the Region of Halton Official Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan, to allow the inclusion of approximately 31 hectares (76.6 acres) of land into the Urban Area of the Town of Milton. The Joint Board will be composed of members from the Environmental Assessment Board and the Ontario Municipal Board. The subject land is located at the North-East corner of Steeles Avenue and Tremaine Road in the Town of Milton, in the Regional Municipality of Halton. The legal description for this land is Pt. Lots 1 & 2, Concession 1, Registered Plan 20R-2604 in the Former Township of Esquesing, now in the Town of Milton. The subject land is located in an area designated as "Environmental Protection" within the Niagara Escarpment Plan and it is designated as "Escarpment Protection and Escarpment Rural Area" in the Region of Halton Official Plan.

To proceed with this undertaking Jannock Limited has sought: (1) the amendment of the Niagara Escarpment Plan to delete these lands from the boundary of the Niagara Escarpment Plan, to permit their inclusion in the Town of Milton Urban Expansion Area; (2) the amendment of the Region of Halton Official Plan to allow for Urban Expansion/Future Residential.

The Joint Board will hear the application to amend the Niagara Escarpment Plan together with the appeal of Jannock Limited in respect of Regional Council's failure to adopt the requested Official Plan Amendment.

The purpose of a Joint Board Hearing is to hear all of the issues related to the undertaking at one time, rather than having two or more separate hearings, together by two or more boards. The Acts being consolidated for this hearing and the approvals being sought are outlined below in the section entitled Statutory Authority. Please read that section carefully to ensure that you are aware of all of the processes and/or hearings that are being consolidated.

### STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The hearing is being held under the authority of the Consolidated Hearings Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.29, as amended, which applies in respect of an undertaking in relation to which more than one hearing is or may be required or held by more than one tribunal under one or more Acts.

The undertaking proposed by Jannock Limited requires a hearing under each of the following statutes:

- subsection 12(2) of the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. N. 2, which under a hearing must be held before a hearing officer in respect of an application for an amendment to the Niagara Escarpment Plan;
- subsection 22(7) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 13, as amended, under which a person may appeal a municipality's refusal to adopt a requested Official Plan amendment to the Ontario Municipal Board.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Groups or individuals interested in participating in the hearing may express either their private concerns or their concerns regarding the public interest. They may participate as either a Presenter, Participant or Party. A Presenter may make a statement to the Board, either orally or in writing. A Participant may make a statement to the Board, either orally and/or in writing, may receive copies of all documents relied upon by the Parties, and attend site visits. Normally a Participant is expected to attend every day of the Hearing. A Party assumes the rights and responsibilities of the fullest form of involvement in the hearing process including the right to call witnesses and cross-examine witnesses called by other parties. Parties are usually represented at the Hearing by legal counsel or an agent. The Board will consider requests for Party and Participant status at the Preliminary Hearing. Anyone who wishes to participate in the Hearing should attend the Public Information Meeting.

Evidence or submissions regarding the proposal will not be heard at the public information meeting or the preliminary hearing. Such information will only be received at the main hearing which will be held a date to be announced at the preliminary hearing.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Staff of the Office of Consolidated Hearings invite all interested groups or individuals to attend a public information meeting to discuss how they can participate in the hearing. The date, time, location, and purpose of the public information meeting are set out below. All persons or groups wishing to participate in the hearing should attend the public information meeting.

The public information meeting will be held on:

Date: Monday, February 22, 1999  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Place: Glen Lawson/Mansewood Room, Halton Regional Centre  
Regional Municipality of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road,  
Oakville, Ontario L6J 6E1

The purpose of the public information meeting is to:

- provide groups or individuals with information on the hearing process and the different ways in which they can participate in the hearing;
- identify groups or individuals who wish to participate in the hearing, and outline how they will be involved;
- ask each person or group that wishes to participate to describe their concerns and to say why these are important for the Board to consider;
- provide an opportunity for those with similar interests to discuss their issues and concerns to see if an umbrella group can represent their interests at the hearing;
- create a List of Potential Parties and Participants; and
- prepare a description of issues to be discussed at the preliminary hearing.

### FILING OF NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE

After the public information meeting with staff of the Office of Consolidated Hearings anyone wishing to participate in this hearing should submit written notice of their intent to participate to the Board by Monday, March 8, 1999. The Notice of Intent should contain a clear statement of the person's or group's interest in the hearing and whether they wish to obtain status as a party, participant or presenter at the hearing.

Please include the name, address, telephone and fax number of the person who will be communicating with the Board on behalf of the individual or group. This Notice should be submitted to the Office of Consolidated Hearing at the address below. Please quote file number 98-074.

Please note that the names, address, telephone and fax numbers of contact persons may be circulated in advance of the hearing in order to ensure discussion among potential parties and participants.

### PRELIMINARY HEARING

A preliminary hearing will be held by the Joint Board appointed to conduct the hearing on this undertaking. The date, time, location, and purpose of the preliminary hearing are set out below.

The preliminary hearing will commence on:

Date: Thursday, March 11, 1999  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Glenorchy/Dakota Room,  
Halton Regional Centre  
Regional Municipality of Halton,  
1151 Bronte Road Oakville, Ontario L6J 6E1

The purpose of the preliminary hearing is to:

- hear submissions from those who will be seeking party or participant status;
- identify the issues to be considered at the hearing;
- plan the pre-hearing process (information and document exchange; meetings of parties and their legal and technical representatives; scoping of issues; resolution of conditions of approval; planning of the main hearing);
- deal with any other preliminary matters.

### MAIN HEARING

The hearing of evidence will commence on a date and at a location to be determined at the preliminary hearing.

Notice of the date and location of the main hearing will not be published in a newspaper. If you wish to find out when and where the main hearing will be held please attend the preliminary hearing or contact the Hearings Registrar. There will be no court reporting services provided by the Office of Consolidated Hearings for the Hearing. If the parties and participants consider that they require a transcript of the proceedings they may, with the Board's approval, obtain such service at their own expense. The Board has no objection to the unobtrusive tape-recording of the proceedings.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You may be affected by the decision the Board makes. If you have concerns, you should come to the public information meeting and, if necessary, the preliminary hearing, or have someone attend who can represent your concerns. If you (or your representative) do not attend, the Board may proceed in your absence and you will not receive any further notice of these proceedings.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Copies of the applications and documentation submitted by the proponent pertaining to this undertaking are available for inspection during normal business hours at:

Regional Municipality of Halton Municipal Offices 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, Ontario L6J 6E1 Phone: (905) 825-6000 Fax: (905) 825-8838	Office of Consolidated Hearings Suite 1201, 12th Floor 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4 Phone: (416) 484-7800 Fax: (416) 484-7825
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For further information about the hearing, you can check our website at [www.ert.gov.on.ca](http://www.ert.gov.on.ca) or call Janet Martell, Hearings Registrar, Office of Consolidated Hearings at (416) 314-4600. The Board accepts collect calls. Ms. Martell may also be reached by e-mail at [martella@oeb.gov.on.ca](mailto:martella@oeb.gov.on.ca)

It is your responsibility to contact the Office of Consolidated Hearings to determine the dates, times and location for the hearing as it proceeds.

Dated at Toronto, this 28th day of January, 1999.

*J. Martell*  
Janet Martell  
Hearings Registrar

Pour obtenir un exemplaire de cet avis en français, veuillez vous adresser au Bureau de jonction des audiences, en composant if (416) 314-4600.



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