



# OPINION

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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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## Time for more tax relief

We'd like to take MP Julian Reed at his word that next year's federal budget will bring some tax relief. It's about time.

There really hasn't been much of that from the feds. Granted they have brought spending under control to a large extent, and balanced the national books, but there is still much to be done in terms of both increasing the purchasing power of the beleaguered middle class and attacking the monstrous accumulated debt.

The Liberals should be given credit for a certain amount of fiscal prudence, if for no other reason than that they finally sensed the national mood and acted on it, when their predecessors did not.

But the fact is there is still too much taxation in Canada, and a partial reason for that is because various governments shift financial burdens to other levels, then proudly declare that they have balanced their ledgers.

The Grits get an easy ride in Canada because the vote from the right, if there is still such a thing beyond name only, is so badly split.

So it is again to the credit of the Liberals that they have bothered to come as far as they have, since no viable governing alternative is likely to challenge them for power in the next election. More of the same, please.

## New leaf for Councillor Furik?

What's with Councillor Ron Furik lately? He's come out swinging on issues, speaking his mind, staking out positions.

He used to be criticized as a fence sitter. Now he's starting to look more like a leader. Hopefully we'll see more of this, since he's a good counterweight for the more right oriented bloc on council.

## That #%\*& 'F' word is everywhere now

What's up with the F word?

Is it my imagination, or does everybody use it now?

Is it even a swear word anymore?

I know, I know, these are pressing questions in an otherwise trivial world.

I assume I can discuss this topic, considering editor Rob Kelly is probably thinking of changing the heading of his column to: Fake Orgasms And You.

When I was a kid, the F word was one you could use once you'd gone under the bridge and lit up a cigarette. It made you feel like you were getting away with something.

Nobody I knew as a kid would ever dream of saying that word around adults, unless they happened to be running away at the same time. And never did we hear an adult say it themselves.

A number of years ago, while having a family dinner at my father's house, somebody mentioned that something didn't taste so good. "Yeah," my youngest daughter remarked calmly. "It tastes like s—."

We all froze for a split second and then laughed our asses off.

Ass is a word you can now say on television, and use in print. That means it's acceptable in everyday language.

It didn't used to be. How did it become that way? Who decided?

I still think it's used a little slyly and smirkingly, but it's still used.

The cheer we used for rep softball when I was coaching in Bolton last year went like this: "We are Bolton, we're first class, we are her to kick your...ayyyyyy Bolton!" They weren't supposed to say the actual word, but they all did, and I told them if their parents said anything, to remember I told them not to.

This is actually the first time I've used the word ass in print. It kind of gives me a feeling of freedom. Really, it's been a long time coming. Heck, so much that we do concerns our ass. We sit on our asses, we threaten to kick someone's ass, we move our asses. And none of that has anything to do with the synonym for donkey. Although, both can be appropriate. For example, some of you might think your boss is an ass, at the same time as you're kissing his ass.

The S word is next to come out of the closet, I



### On the loose

with MURRAY TOWNSEND

think. To tell you the truth, it might already be okay, considering I didn't even think you could write the word "orgasm" in a family newspaper.

But the F word? Ohhh, I don't think so.

There isn't anybody who hasn't heard the word, or probably used it, so it's not like it would be offending many people. There aren't many movies that don't have it, and even when they show those movies on television and silence those parts, we all know what they're saying.

I know a popular sports television broadcaster who uses it every second word. He told me how difficult it was to talk "TV talk" at first. As if

vice phase one of the development without forcing us to drink Lake Ontario water.

There are a growing number of people who, through Carol Gustafson's efforts, have become aware of the situation.

We do not think this is a done deal by any means. I encourage residents to get involved, join Carol in the fight to keep Milton water separate from Lake Ontario water, we all have much to gain by keeping our water safe.

S. Hawkes  
Milton

## OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

### Editorial about water was misleading, says reader who believes fight can go on

Dear Editor:

Rob Kelly, your editorial of February 19, 1999 is misleading.

Blended water is still not a done deal. True, there have been many studies of the water system, unfortunately they have been based on apparently false assumptions. The result, as usual, is that more taxpayers' money has been wasted.

We are extremely concerned that more money is about to be spent, unnecessarily, on a new water pipe from Lake Ontario. It appears that one additional water well will allow the existing water system to ser-

"TV talk" was different than the norm because it contained no swear words. I'm still waiting for him to slip, and say: "That was a great f—— goal!"

I have to admit I use the F word on occasion, but usually only if I'm mad or astounded. For example, The Champion sometimes spells my first name, Murry, leaving out the A, which surprises me to no end. I utter the familiar expletive out loud each time. And when the wrong team scores in a hockey game, I sometimes say it just to myself.

I don't generally use it in conversation, because I'm still afraid I can get my mouth washed out with soap. I can't think of many who don't though. Males, anyway. Actually females, too, although it is not nearly as predominant.

It's amazing how much it has become such an everyday part of our language. I doubt that most people even think about whether they're saying it or not.

So, is that a good thing or a bad thing?

How the f—— would I know?