

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

We don't want our town to become another Brampton

Dear Editor:

Today I became aware of the proposal to extend James Snow Parkway between Fourth Line and Fifth Line in the Milton area. I am writing to express my concerns.

According to the James Snow Parkway Environmental Assessment Study — Environmental Study Report prepared by McCormick Rankin Corporation (MRC) (page E-2), "On the basis of investigations carried out during the study by specialists, it is not expected that there will be any significant effects, resulting from the recommended improvement plan, that cannot be mitigated."

I can't quite see how building a four-lane roadway on farmland and through woodlots from Milton to Oakville, across the east Sixteen Mile Creek could not have significant environmental effects. I can't see how a road that is to be built to accommodate the expansion of Milton by 50,000 people could not have significant environmental effects. But then, I'm not a specialist.

I remember David Suzuki saying that, although he spent years studying the fruit fly and was considered to be an expert on it, he really didn't understand the first thing about it. He found it absurd that humans could be so arrogant as to believe that they could even begin to understand the environmental impacts of their actions.

The report states that the plan "has general support from the community." Well, it doesn't have my support, and I would suggest that the only reason MRC thinks it does have general support is that most of the community are unaware of the situation or believe there is nothing they can do about it.

The people I talk to all say the same thing: they like the "small-town" feel of Milton, they don't want it to become another Brampton or Mississauga, and they wonder who does support the proposed expansion.

I understand that a request has been made by a citizen in Milton to pump up the Class Environmental Assessment Study of the James Snow Parkway to an Individual Environmental Assessment, but that she's being asked to withdraw that request. She does not intend to do so, in fact, is trying to raise awareness of the issue. I support her request, as I also feel that this proposal needs more discussion.

This letter was addressed to the minister of the environment with copies to Mel Iovio, Town director of planning and development, and The Canadian Champion.

Dave Toderick
Milton

Letters welcomed

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters.

Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone number of the writer included. Mail letters to:

The Canadian Champion
Box 248,
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or leave them at our office, 191
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