

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Save bus service for our seniors

Dear Editor:

It was with much dismay that I read again of the continued debate about our Milton bus service. The Milton councillors think there's no need for the service. Well, I must speak up (again) that many senior citizens and others feel quite differently about it. Surely there are ways and means open to finding answers to poorly-used routes and times of use and service.

If indeed our bus lines are mainly used by our elderly -- for appointments, social gatherings, hospital visiting, etc. -- are they not entitled to a convenient mode of transport?

Taxis are not cheap and not all of us have access to a car, or can see well enough to drive one. I speak for many that ask again that this debate could be settled in a positive manner.

Annette Harris
Bronte Street South

Don't let proposal go any further

(The following letter was addressed to Mayor Gord Krantz and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

Dear Editor:

It is my understanding that in the very near future town council will be asked to vote on a proposal by H.D. Investments to build 195 homes on the land behind E.C. Drury High School. After reading about the issue in The Champion, talking to other concerned citizens, and attending the open house on January 12, I am writing to tell you that I am totally opposed to this development for the following reasons:

1) There are serious safety concerns: increased traffic means increased danger for the young

children attending school there;

2) The deaf community considers this land to be their home;

3) The tennis club will be destroyed, taking away the opportunity for hundreds of children and adults to enjoy a fun, healthy opportunity (exactly the type of activity the Town should be promoting in order to give our youth something to do);

4) The park is currently used by many residents of Milton, from soccer teams to families visiting the pond to people walking their dogs or just strolling through one of the few remaining green spaces in town.

The developer is attempting to garner support for his plan by stressing the need for housing for seniors, but surely in a community that is about to explode with development, more than doubling its current population over the next several years, another site can be found.

The land should never have been put up for sale to be developed. Destroying a beautiful park is simply wrong, and Milton will be poorer if this proposal goes ahead. I urge you to vote against it.

Dave Toderick
Wilson Drive

Precious parkland shouldn't be sold

Dear Editor:

May I call on all Oakville and area residents to oppose the sale by the Province to private interests for development of a golf course and housing of the Bronte Provincial Park?

This is a precious property which should be kept for future generations to enjoy. It is the only provincial park in the Greater Toronto Area. Once sold and developed, it will be irreplaceable.

I urge all residents to write to

their local member of the legislature and to Premier Mike Harris to express their opposition to the sale of the Bronte Provincial Park.

Peter K. McWilliams, Q.C.
Martin Street

Help appreciated

Dear Editor:

On behalf of all the women and children that received Holiday Hampers through Halton Women's Place, we would like to thank the communities of Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and Acton for their generous support.

In late September 1999, we started asking the community to support 100 of our neediest families that have stayed with Halton Women's Place during the past year. These are women and children who have since left their abusive homes and are desperately trying to make it on their own.

Budgeting becomes a big factor in their day-to-day living and the ability for moms to provide gifts and extras for their children are just not thought about. Through the generosity of the community, these women are able to provide their children with gifts that would otherwise be unattainable. With the support of schools, companies, service clubs, churches and individuals, we were able to provide quality hampers filled with gifts and goodies for women and their dependent children.

As well, I would like to extend a personal thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted Halton Women's Place with picking up donations, sorting, packing and wrapping gifts. Once again, we would like to thank all involved for your generosity and spirit of giving.

Theresa Greer, executive director
Halton Women's Place

Government Initiatives Offer Credit Union Members An Advantage

Ontario's credit unions have always differentiated themselves from other financial institutions by their community roots and their unique member-owner structure. Now, credit unions can offer consumers something else the banks cannot - increased peace of mind on their deposits.

Budget commitments from the provincial government have allowed credit unions such as Halton Credit Union to increase their deposit insurance coverage to \$100,000 from \$60,000 on credit union member accounts. Deposit insurance covers savings and chequing accounts, term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates, as well as investments made under registered retirement savings plans (RRSP), registered retirement income funds (RRIF) and Ontario home ownership savings plans (OHOSP).

In the May 1999 budget tabled by Finance Minister Ernie Eves, the Ontario government recognized credit unions as "unique, community-based financial institutions that provide Ontarians with an alternative to the banks and trust companies" and introduced a number of initiatives aimed at enhancing credit unions' ability to provide Ontarians with the banking services they need.

Peter Buwalda, CEO of Halton Credit Union, said the changes will allow credit unions to be more competitive and more attractive to consumers.

"Credit unions now have an even greater opportunity to differentiate themselves from banks and trust companies, and Ontario consumers have more good reasons to experience the credit union advantage", Mr. Buwalda said.

Credit unions are provincially regulated deposit-taking institutions. Banks and other federally regulated financial institutions' deposit insurance coverage through the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) remains at \$60,000.

The increase in deposit coverage to \$100,000 should be of particular interest to consumers during the busy RRSP season, when many people's accounts exceed \$60,000.

For further information:

Nancy von der Kammer
Halton Credit Union
878-8105 #228



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123 Main Street, Milton 878-7007

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We offer monthly field trips, daily crafts, songs, games and an indoor gym.

We have a low child to teacher ratio and our teachers are ECE qualified.

Join us for an OPEN HOUSE on Tuesday February 8th between 9:30 and 11:00 am or Wednesday February 9th between 1:30 and 3:00 pm.

Come and register your child for September 2000.

ATTENTION SENIORS BREAKTHROUGH IN MATURE LIVING

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario, at the Oakville/Burlington border, you'll find Heartstone by the Lake, a brand new 174 condominium complex designed to meet the needs of seniors today and in the future. Ownership of your condominium home yet access to everything from a central dining room to medical facilities. Whether or not you are thinking about making a move you need to experience the lifestyle and amenities at Heartstone by the Lake.

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"I'm doing okay, but I wish I didn't have diabetes. The people at CDA make it easier."

Jody, aged 10



HELP SOMEONE YOU KNOW.

CALL 1-800-BANTING

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