



Charlene Summerfield, B.A.A., PHEC., N.D. Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine

Charlene is now accepting new patients at the office of Dr. David Phillips, D.C. and The Milton-Pain Management Clinic

> 310 Main St. E., Milton Suite 201

For an appointment please call 462-2048 Most extended Health Care Benefits cover Naturopathic care.

## Consultant's plan would close 15 Halton schools and build 41 more

Plan calls for closing of Martin Street and P.W. Merry elemetary schools and E.C. Drury High School

By DENNIS SMITH

Special to The Champion

Trustees are reviewing a sweeping capital strategic plan that recommends spending \$409 million over 20 years to build and renovate Halton public schools.

"I don't know whether I'd call that entertaining, but it certainly was mindboggling," said Ethel Gardiner, chair of the Halton District School Board.

Her comment followed Wednesday's unveiling of consultant recommendations to build 33 new elementary schools and eight new secondary schools over the next two decades.

But the plan also recommends closing 12 elementary schools and three high schools and converting another high school into an elementary school.

The plan by C.N. Watson and Associates, which will be discussed further at upcoming board meetings, also suggests re-establishing junior kindergarten, using portable accommodation, financing construction with a debt underwriter and returning more students to schools in their home areas.

"It's a total package and we have to consider it very seriously in light of our very serious accommodation problems. A lot of this is catching up in terms of past decisions this board and previous boards have made." \*

ETHEL GARDINER

"This is a fairly aggressive program," said consultant representative Cynthia Clarke. "But, over the next 20 years, this will be one of the highest growth boards in Ontario and you might as well gear up for it now."

The plan forecasts enrolment will jump from 26,000 to 45,000 to 48,000 over two decades, with 75,000 new housing units added in the region. Currently, Halton has 125,000 housing units.

Schools recommended for closure (disposition) and suggested time frames are as follows:

Elementary -- Martin Street (2001/02) Fairfield (2000/01), Pauline Johnson (2001/02), Champlain (2001/02), Mountain Gardens (2001/02), Central (2002/03) in Burlington; and Lorne Skuce

(2003/04), Pine Grove (2004/05), Queen Elizabeth Park (2004/05), Linbrook (2006/07) and New Central (2006/07) in Oakville.

Secondary -- E.C. Drury (2013/14) in Milton; General Brock (2001/02) in Burlington; and Queen Elizabeth Park (2004/05) in Oakville.

It's also suggested that Central High School be converted into an elementary school and adult learning centre, starting in 2001/02.

"Undertaking to dispose of properties under this timing is a key point," said Ms Clarke. "And a commitment to this disposition may be required by the (debt) underwriter, especially to get a loan rate of less than eight per cent."

She said when school areas were reviewed, factors considered included projected enrolments of existing schools, their locations (there are some clusters of below-capacity schools), proximity to future development, age and condition of facilities, size of school sites, sustainability of enrolments and outlook for mature com-

Other key strategic plan suggestions are as follows, with construction startup times in brackets:

- · Make the northeast Burlington, northwest/north Oakville and urban Milton growth areas priorities for new schools. and P.W. Merry (2004/05) in Milton; Ms Clarke said Georgetown, which is also expanding, currently has enough capacity to handle three years' enrolment growth.
  - In Burlington, convert Aldershot High see CONSULTANT'S on page 11



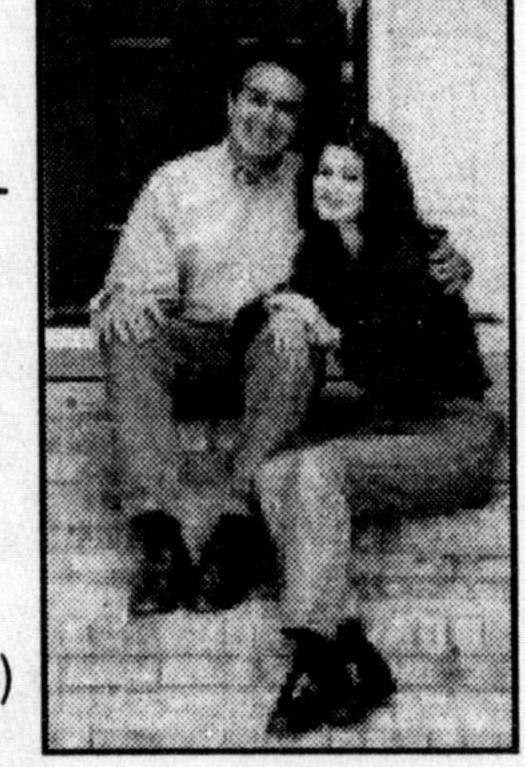
## Getting to know the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) of Halton

- The Community Care Access Centre of Halton provides quality services for home care, referrals to nursing homes and health information to Halton residents.
- The Community Care Access Centre of Halton works with many other agencies and organizations in Halton to offer coordinated community-based services. One such program is the Halton Oral Health Outreach (HOHO) Program.
- The Halton Oral Health Outreach program was developed to address issues that prevent the elderly and adults with disabilities from accessing oral health care services in Halton. In

partnership with the Halton Regional Health Department, the HOHO program will provide:

- Oral health education programs for individuals and their caregiver(s)
- Information regarding dental treatment services in the community
- Referrals to community oral health resources
- For further information, contact the Community Care Access Centre of Halton.

• The Community Care Access Centre of Halton is easy to contact. If you, a family member, or friend need home care services, personal support or placement into a nursing home, you can reach us, 7 days a week, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. by calling (905) 639-5228 or, toll free at 1-800-810-0000. There is no cost to the client for direct services provided by the CCAC. Services are funded through the Ministry of Health.



**Upcoming Board Meeting Dates** 

**Open Board Meetings** 

Community Care Access Centre of Halton

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday

of each month and commence at 4:30 p.m.

Board meetings are open to the public.

- Wednesday, February 16, 2000 Oakville Public Library, Central Branch, Auditorium. 120 Navy Street, Oakville
- Wednesday, March 15, 2000 CCAC of Halton, 440 Elizabeth Street, 4th Floor, Burlington
- Wednesday, April 19, 2000 Milton Regional Police Station, 490 Childs Drive (Pickett Room), Milton

For further information regarding Board meetings, please contact Linda Ferras at:

(905) 639-5228, ext. 8921 or call toll free 1-800-810-0000

How to contact us:

**Phone Numbers:** (905) 639-5228 or toll free: 1-800-810-0000

440 Elizabeth St., 4th Floor, Burlington

> Visit our website: www.ccac-halton.on.ca

Daily Hours of Operation: 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Office Hours (open to the public): 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday)