



# COMMENT

## This OMB ruling sets dangerous precedent

It may not affect our municipality, but the recent ruling by the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), which clears the way for development on part of an environmentally-sensitive area, sends a strong message to all groups fighting to keep urban sprawl in check.

The Oak Ridges Moraine has been given the nickname the rain barrel of southern Ontario because it provides drinking water for such towns as Newmarket and Aurora and feeds major waterways like the Don, Humber and Rouge.

The call for development on a section of the moraine has sparked an outcry from various groups, including some 450 scientists, who are urging the Province to freeze development until a comprehensive conservation policy has been drawn up. So far, the Province has been suggesting it's up to individual municipalities to protect the moraine.

Proponents of the development, which allows for a pipe linking King City to the York-Durham sewage system, believe the ruling addresses both residential and environmental issues. However, opponents feel the OMB decision will only spawn unbridled growth in the area, and they're probably right.

We wonder if the OMB decision in this case is an indication that opponents of the currently-proposed development around the Niagara Escarpment may be facing more of an up-hill battle than anticipated.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Lice really have no reflection on you

Dear Editor:

As a parent, you must be ready for whatever comes your way. When lice came to our home I wasn't prepared. I'd like to share a few of things I've learned so others may be prepared.

Most importantly, lice don't need to be treated with harsh chemicals. I used an olive oil/vinegar treatment, which combined with daily nitpicking, worked beautifully. The three, twelve-hour olive oil treatments should kill the lice while the vinegar should kill the nits.

No matter what course of action you take, the nits must be picked out regard-

less so you may as well go the natural route. I've learned from a public health nurse that tea tree oil shampoo, available at natural food stores acts as a deterrent.

You must have patience. They won't go away on their own. You should check the hair every day for three weeks for any remaining nits. I will continue to check the hair occasionally because early detection can save a lot of hard work down the road. The lice like clean hair so don't feel any shame. It's no reflection on you.

Jamie Henry  
Pitfield Road

### Our quality of life threatened

Dear Editor:

The recent Toronto Star article 'Milton's growth comes out of deep freeze' (February 19) reports that the population of Milton's urban area is likely to expand to 80,000 residents from its current 27,000 in about 10 years.

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz favours this growth, and is quoted as follows: "You either go ahead or go backward. We have been treading water so far as residential development is concerned for far too long."

Hmm... an additional 53,000 thousand people in 10 years! If this is "going ahead" I think I'd opt for "going backward."

And what happens when this tripling of Milton's population is complete? If "going ahead" is indeed equivalent to population growth, as Mayor Krantz seems to believe, Milton faces an interesting future.

For instance, when Milton's population hits 80,000, what then?

Applying Krantz' logic, it would need to continue to grow because a failure to do so would mean "going backward."

Will this mean 100,000 or 200,000 people for Milton? How about 300,000? Do people like Mr. Krantz foresee any limits to growth at all?

More growth in the already-crowded Greater Toronto Area (GTA) means more cars, more traffic, more pollution, more sewage, and on the flip side, the disappearance of valuable agricultural land and the degradation of surviving natural lands because of overuse. This is "going ahead?"

The mind boggles! The GTA cries out for visionary politicians who understand that bigger is not necessarily better and that our quality of life is not dependent on rampant growth, but is, in fact, threatened by it.

Don Scallen  
Georgetown

### Letters welcome

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Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone number of the writer included.

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or leave them at our office, 191 Main St. E., or fax to 878-4943.



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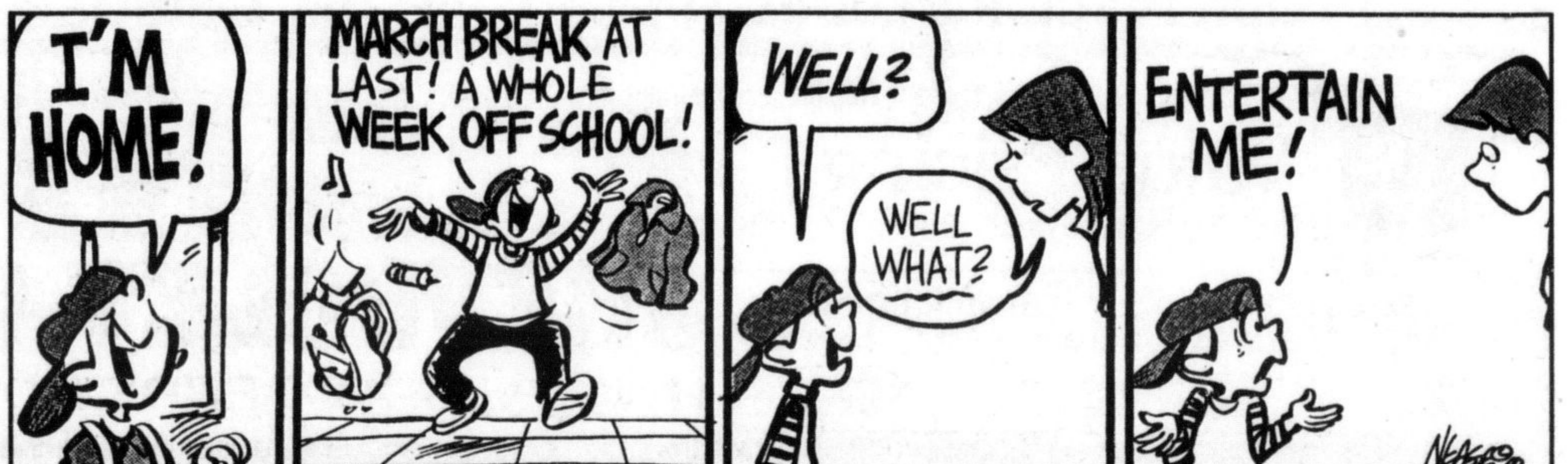
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### Pud



by Steve Nease