

Water tank could be used as billboard to plug town

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion

In Milton, new growth may not only pay for itself, but make an artistic statement, too.

A 1.5 million gallon above-ground water tank currently under construction on Steeles Avenue near Hwy. 401 may be used as a whopping billboard for the town, Milton's community services committee heard recently.

Talk of the tower began when the Town's community services director Jennifer Reynolds suggested using the site as a public art feature.

"It's definitely going to be there, be large and be looming," she said. "There may be an opportunity to propose something more creative." She requested permission from councillors to talk to Halton Region, which is footing the bill for the tower through development charges, about launching a public art contest to decorate the tank.

The \$2.4 million tower will serve the initial years of Milton's development.

Ms Reynolds' idea ignited the imagination of committee members, who saw it as an opportunity to advertise everything from the Escarpment Country trademark to

Milton area businesses, such as Mohawk Raceway.

What they didn't want to see was the Region of Halton's name emblazoned on the structure.

The appellation which eventually graces the tank will be the decision of regional council.

But Milton may have to pay a price to put its own stamp on the tower, said Councillor John Challinor.

"I don't want to see the Municipality of Halton up there and I think the only way you're going to resolve that is to put money down," he said.

He also suggested that the art contest be of a professional calibre.

"This is going to be a huge billboard for the Town of Milton."

Then it may as well be used as one, countered Councillor Rick Day.

He suggested using the tower as an advertising placard for Milton-area businesses.

"I wonder if it wouldn't look great with the golden arches on it, or Mattamy Homes, or Maytag," said Mr. Day. "It could be done so it could be attractive and commercial. I think we should be keeping the ideas open."

Though the Region shouldn't be mailed a blank cheque, ponying up for the project is likely the way to

go, responded Mr. Challinor.

"He who pays the piper calls the tune," he said. "That's the way it works. All I'm suggesting is we be prepared financially."

But Councillor Ron Furik wondered why Halton's name was even being considered for the tower.

But Councillor Rick Malboeuf wasn't sure the Region would be amenable to keeping their name off the site.

"It's the regional jurisdiction. They're paying the bill. If I'm paying the bill, I want my name on it. I think the only thing to do is take it to the Region and see what they say," he said.

In the end that idea was supported by committee, including Mayor Gord Krantz.

"I think we're all saying the same thing. This is something new, something novel," he said. "We have an opportunity here. I'm prepared to go down (to the Region) and push for something that says Milton."

Committee chair Barry Lee seemed amused by the proceedings. "This item sure has inspired a lot of creativity around this table. But we should get on it."

"It's going up fairly quickly and (the Region) may have their own design ideas. I'm sure they do."

Correction due following name errors

Both Milton Skating Club carnival photos that appeared Friday contained errors. Pictured on the front page was Karen Cseff, not Cara McGilloway. Also, a photo in the sports section featured senior skaters, not Cankaters. We apologize for the errors.

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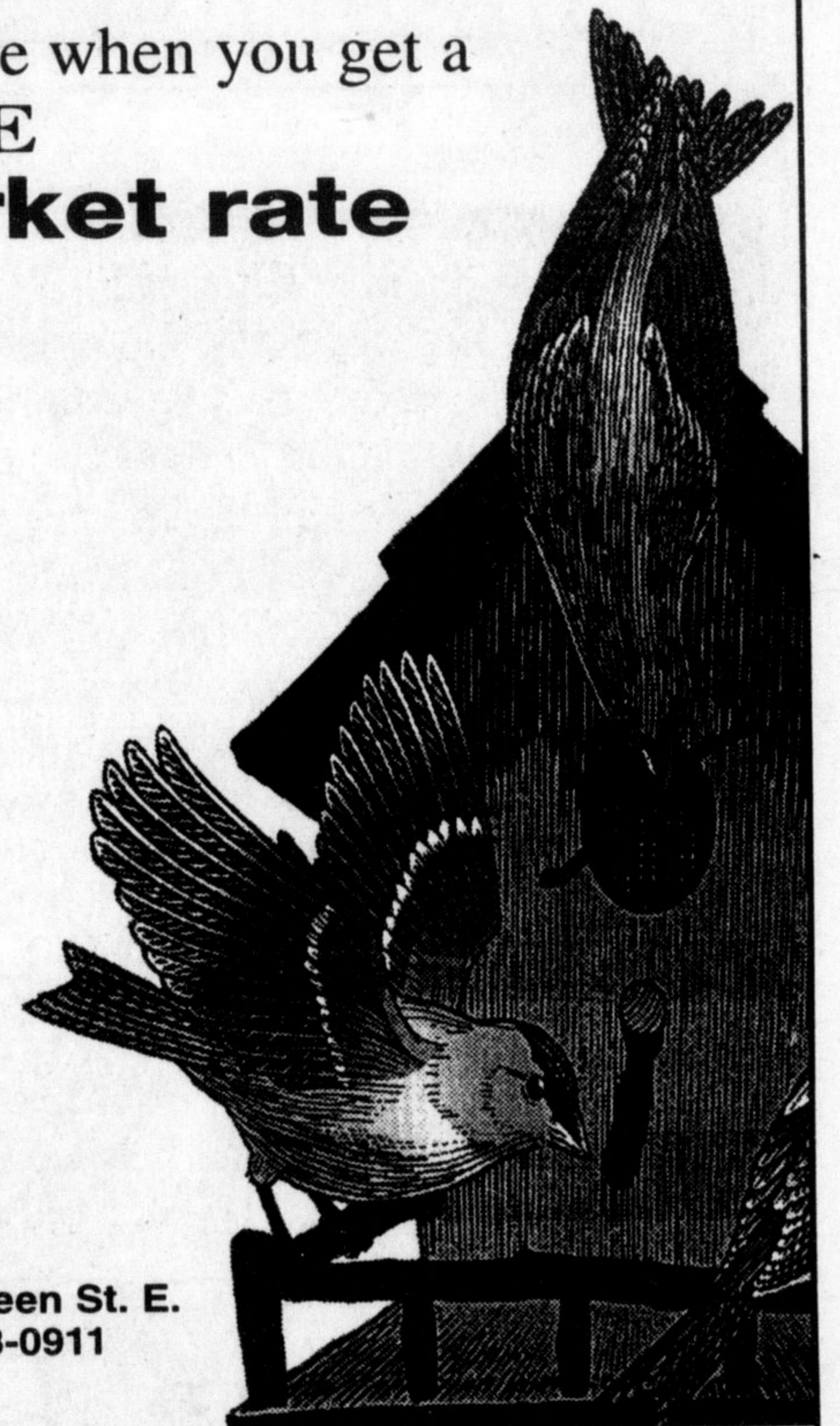
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Community Partnerships For Community Safety

Halton Regional Police Services Board
Halton Regional Police Service

Legislation as set down by the Ministry of the Solicitor General in the form of Adequacy Standards Regulation for policing under Section 32(2) states that:

"Every board shall consult with its municipal council, and the school boards, community organizations and groups, businesses and members of the public in the municipality it serves during the development of its business plan".

To comply with this directive, the Halton Regional Police Services Board and the Chief of Police invite members of the public to provide input to assist them in the development of a three (3) year Business Plan for the Halton Regional Police Service. We are seeking input to identify policing issues and recommendations for service delivery.

To ensure maximum public input, two public consultation meetings will take place; one in the South end of the Region, on **Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30 in the North Auditorium at the Regional Headquarters, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville** and the other in the North end of the Region on **Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown.**

All members of the public are encouraged to attend one of these meetings. For further information on these sessions, please contact Inspector Bill Ford (905) 825-4777 ext. 4722, Alix Kerr, Administrative Assistant to the Halton Regional Police Services Board at (905) 825-4816.

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