

COMMENT

Someone stands to lose in OMB ruling

The verdict from a recently wrapped up Ontario Municipal Board hearing into a proposed development at the E.C. Drury complex could be issued by November 30. But no matter what the outcome, some segment of the town stands to lose.

Nearby residents will see changes to the land they've grown to think of as a park if the application to build 189 geared-for-senior detached condominiums is approved.

Also, the deaf community will face the carving up of lands which have been historically ideal for hosting major cultural events.

But if the proposal is denied, seniors will wonder why their cry for urban housing is ignored. They'll wonder why the town they lived in, raised children in and paid taxes to for years wants them to leave simply because they've fallen prey to the passage of time.

As for the remainder of Milton residents, that bruised feeling is likely the result of being whacked in the wallet by pricey OMB proceedings.

This much is clear — if the current application is killed, another will simply follow.

And all the emotional opposition in the world is unlikely to turn this property into a real park.



OUR READERS WRITE

Post-surgery care was excellent: reader

Dear Editor:

In recent years funding has been drastically cut to health care services. In addition it has become fashionable during the same period to criticize the quality of care available.

For the past eight weeks I have been recuperating at home from surgery for a total hip replacement and I am writing this letter to express my admiration for the care and consideration given to me by the health professionals I came in contact with. Without the

assistance of Community Care Access Centre of Halton my situation would have been intolerable. Through this excellent home care service a wide variety of assistive devices were provided and weekly visits from a physiotherapist and the Victoria Order of Nurses were arranged. After this experience I can truly appreciate the value of such service and I applaud the dedicated professional who provide it.

Ron Dodds
Oak Street

Kelly believes this could be the last time we get to elect our own Mayor of Milton

Dear Editor:

This election will in all likelihood be the last time Miltonians will vote for the Mayor of Milton.

In fact, with proposed regional restructuring on the table, come the next election we may no longer be Miltonians but citizens of some new entity like the City of Halton.

The towns and cities composing the Region of Halton are fighting a battle to at best preserve the status quo and at worst retain their autonomy.

The Greater Toronto Services Board is seen as a threat to that autonomy.

This may not have happened had the little individual political

fields not been so protective of their turfs.

There have been suggestions on the table for years to combine electrical utilities, fire services, tax collection and road maintenance by forming a Halton Services Board.

That's why the Region was created.

Instead, local councils such as our own preferred local control regardless of cost and efficiency.

Has local control been of any benefit to you?

Four Mayors, four fire chiefs, four tax departments, four utility boards are just a few examples of costly and inefficient duplication withing Halton.

Political self-preservation has

come before any cost benefits to Miltonians and even Miltonians themselves are presumably unqualified for any senior positions at town hall.

Sadly growth will destroy most of our small town atmosphere and political intransigence means amalgamation of some form will shortly follow.

That's a few of the reasons I believe that those of you who take the time to vote will be participating in a major part of local history — Voting for the Last Mayor of Milton.

Patrick Kelly
Milton

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Pud

by Steve Nease

