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Follow the leader

Avid cross country ski enthusiasts Barbara Reid (left) and Sharon McCormick head out onto one of the trails at Hilton Falls Conservation Area for a morning workout. With the abundance of snow this year, trails are in great shape both at Hilton Falls and Rattlesnake Point.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

No tax hike is anticipated despite a doubled budget of \$13.2 million

Proposed budget to go before council Jan. 29

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion

Milton residents will likely enjoy the chill of another tax freeze despite a capital budget that has doubled in scale over last year.

"This is the first of a series of budgets that will deal with growth-related projects," Town CAO Mario Belvedere told Milton's administration and finance committee Monday.

"I believe what you have before you is an



"This is the first of a series of budgets that will deal with growth-related projects. I believe what you have before you is an aggressive and balanced approach."

MARIO BELVEDERE

aggressive and balanced approach." The budget was endorsed by the committee with little debate and will go before council for final

approval January 29.

In 2000, the budget came in at \$6.4 million.

But that has expanded to \$13.2 million, as a whopping \$6.3 million in growth-related projects were unveiled.

The total capital budget carries a tax levy of \$1.4 million, with the balance being funded through development charges, reserve funds, grants, donations and partnerships.

And \$4.3 million in slots revenue will be used to at least partly fund about 37 of the 76 proposed capital projects.

"Despite this doubling of costs, what you see before you is almost entirely supported by new revenues (such as development charges)," said Mr. Belvedere.

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INSERTS

- FRIDAY JANUARY 19 •
- A & P • Biway • Shoppers Drug Mart • Zellers
- Valassis Shop & Save* • M & M Meats
- Cristello's Village Market* • Canadian Tire
- Halton Conservation Authority* • Growmark* • Sears
- SATURDAY JANUARY 20 •
- Walmart • IDA* • Sears • Sears Whole Home* • Swiss Chalet

*Selected areas only



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