

# Two Quebec exchange students learning English language here

By **RICHARD VIVIAN**  
*The Champion*

There's no better way to learn a language than to surround yourself with it.

That's why two area students are spending six weeks in Quebec as part of the Halton Summer Works — Student Exchange program.

Lynn Stokes of Campbellville and Valene Brighton of Milton have been in Quebec since June 30, trading places with their French counterparts for six weeks.

"The whole point of the exchange is to improve their language skills," said Lindsay Bernard, Halton Summer Works — Student Exchange coordinator. "As long as they have some kind of a base, at least grade 9 French, they'll be fine."

"We kind of send them away and hope they'll be okay," she laughed.

While on their respective exchanges, students immerse themselves in the community by working for non-profit organizations. While in the Milton area, Chantal Quirion, 17, (staying with the Brighton family) is working at the Allendale long-term-care facility and Christine Robillard, 16, (staying with the Stokes family) is working at Crawford Lake Conservation Area.

"It's fun there," said Ms Robillard. "I give tours of the longhouses. I do it in English and in French because some people come from France and Quebec to visit."

Both exchange students told The Champion their main reason for joining the

exchange was to cross the language barrier.

It was a matter of preparing for the future, Ms Robillard explained. "I know that for my future jobs I need English. I think English is a good language to know because everybody speaks English."

When not putting in hours at their assigned jobs, the exchange students gather to tour Ontario and see the sights with others on exchange throughout Halton. The group has already been to Niagara Falls, downtown Toronto, and rented small water crafts.

"We are very busy," said Ms Quirion. "We work 35 hours a week and on weekends we travel. It has been a good time."

In addition to the obvious language lessons, the exchange program provides students with opportunities they may otherwise not have had, said Ms Bernard.

"A lot of them really haven't had a job yet and this way they don't have to go through all of the interview process — we set them up with the job," she said.

"And for a lot of them it's their first time



Chantal Quirion



Christine Robillard

away from home, so they come back with a little more maturity and a little more travelled. It's kind of a new experience in every aspect for them."

Ms Stokes and Ms Brighton were unavailable for comment on their experience with the program, but both Quebec students agreed it's an experience they would recommend.

"I recommend it to everyone who wants to learn English and to meet new people," Ms Robillard said. "I'm learning English and I'm so happy."

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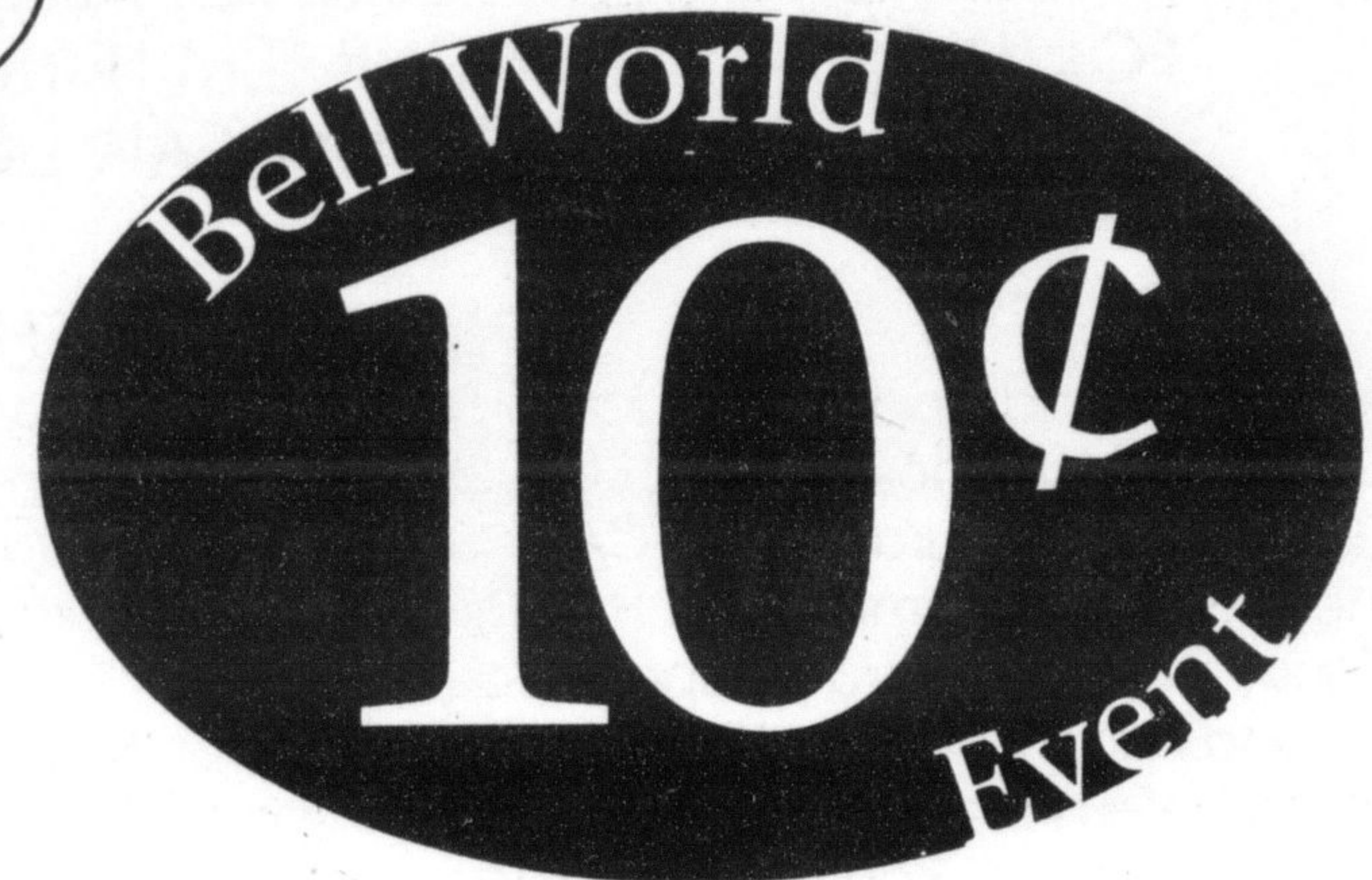


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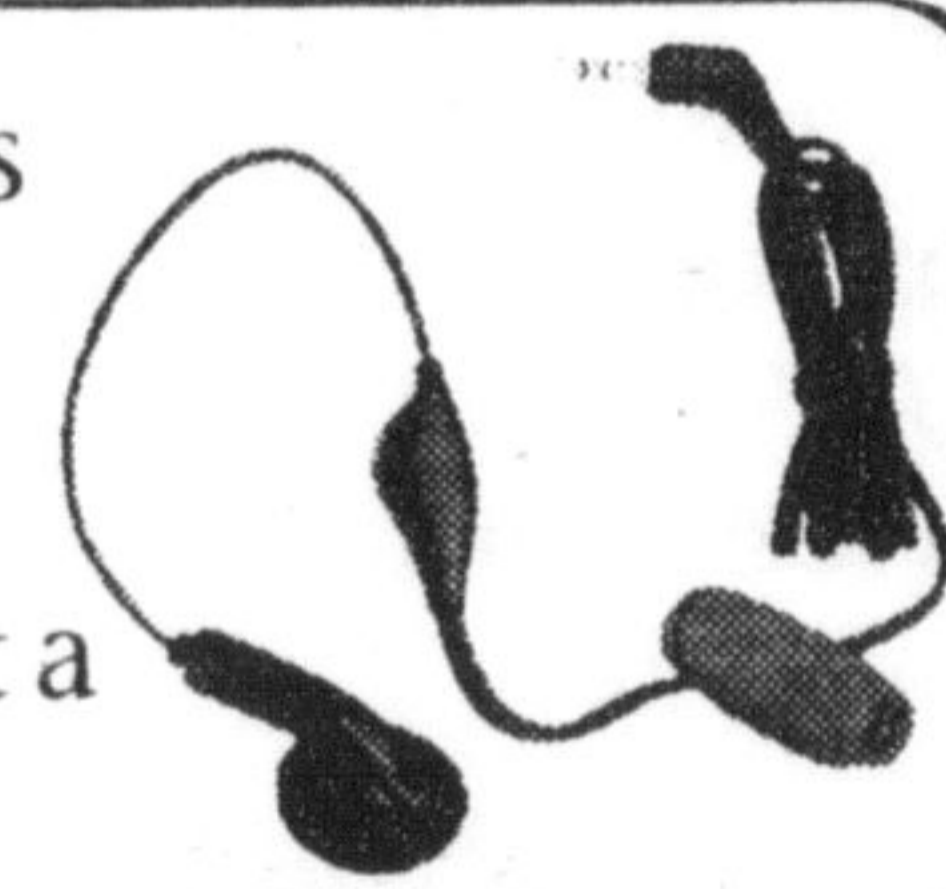
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## Notice of the Corporation's Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) of Halton invites any interested community members to the Annual General Meeting of the CCAC of Halton at the Halton Regional Centre, Auditorium 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville

The meeting will be held in accordance with the Corporation's bylaws.

6:30 p.m. Annual General Meeting

7:00 p.m. Refreshments

7:30 p.m. Keynote Address: Aging in Ontario — What's Happening?

Speaker: Dr. William Molloy

Dr. Molloy, Professor of Medicine at McMaster University, is the author of numerous books and articles on the topic of the elderly and aging.

Voting members of the Corporation as of August 17, 2001 are eligible to participate in the election of the Board of Directors.

For further information regarding membership, please contact the Community Care Access Centre of Halton.

Carole L. Ward  
Chair, Board of Directors

Sandra Shadwick  
Chief Executive Officer

R.S.V.P. by September 14th, 2001 to: Linda Ferras  
905-639-5228 Ext. 8796 or Toll Free: 1-800-810-0000

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