

Kelso master plan getting closer to becoming reality

By RICHARD VIVIAN
The Champion

Conservation Halton (CH) will look to tackle some long overdue projects if its new Kelso master plan is approved, says Bob Burchett, director of conservation lands services.

Included in the draft master plan are a new chalet and a pedestrian bridge over the railway tracks. Both projects, Mr. Burchett said, have been a long time in the making.

"Everybody hates the existing chalet building," he said.

"It's way too small for the number of people we have. The users at the ski hill have been promised a new chalet for about 20 years now."

In the draft plan, a new chalet will be built at the base of the ski hill, near the Sunset Day Lodge. The chalet provides offices for a ski school, washrooms, first aid, and a food service area.

The proposed pedestrian bridge

would provide access to the chalet by routing visitors well above the CP railroad tracks that cross the property.

"That way most people would not have to ride the shuttles, nor go through the tunnel entrance at Glen Eden. They've been walking through that tunnel for about 30 years, or something like that, and everybody hates the tunnel," Mr. Burchett explained.

"What we're looking at now is a plan that's not only good environmentally but it's also a plan that's actually do-able and something we can begin to phase in very, very quickly upon getting the necessary approvals."

Board must approve plan

Before the master plan comes into affect, the CH board of directors must first grant approval. The plan then goes to the Niagara Escarpment Commission for further consideration.

Public meetings were held last month to discuss the plan, but written submissions are still being

accepted by the conservation authority.

Response to the plan has been generally positive, said Mr. Burchett.

The only concern he said he has received so far was from a gentleman concerned about plans to establish a paved entrance off Appleby Line.

He said the man was worried the road will become the main entrance.

That entrance, Mr. Burchett maintained, is intended for staff and emergency vehicle access only.

The road has been used by staff during the summer months for years.

"We have no interest in a main entrance on Appleby Line. Appleby is a narrow road with a hill on one side and a small bridge under the (Hwy.) 401 on the other. Very little of my customers come from that direction," Mr. Burchett stressed.

Due to early holiday press deadlines, Steam-Era coverage will be published in this Friday's edition of The Champion.



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Fire department getting tankers and a pumper

The Milton Fire Department got a shot in the arm August 27, as town council favoured the purchase of three new vehicles.

The vehicles — two tanker trucks and a pumper truck — will succeed existing equipment on the force scheduled for replacement this year and next.

At a cost of \$918,400, the vehicles proved more costly than anticipated when being budgeted last year.

The additional \$46,167 will be funded by the Town of Milton's equipment replacement fund.

The vehicles are expected to arrive in the spring.

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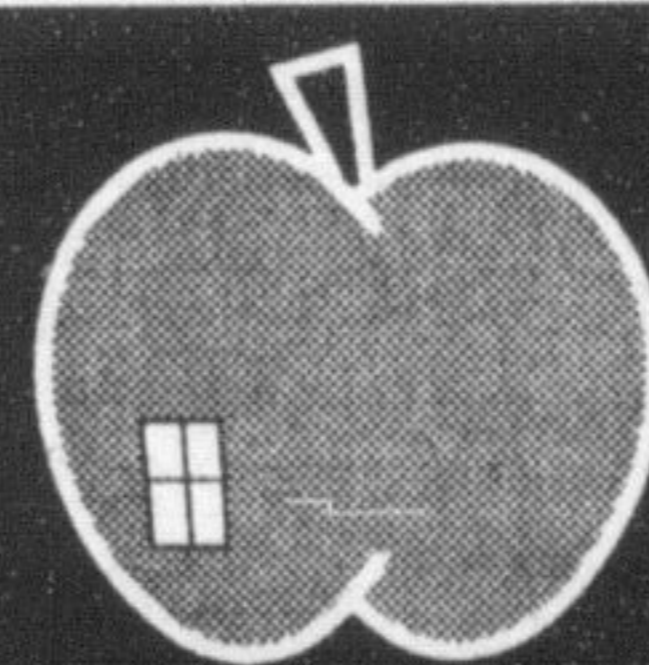
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