

Paul Boivin, owner of the Commercial Street Medical Building, says the new development is capable of accommodating any type of medical profession. The building, which will officially open Thursday, is the old Optimist Centre.

Photos by  
GRAHAM PAINE

## Medical building may help doctor shortage

By RICHARD VIVIAN  
The Champion

Milton's newest medical centre, Commercial Street Medical Building, is preparing to officially open its doors Thursday.

"It's been designed with the flexibility to accommodate any medical professional," building owner Paul Boivin told The Champion.

"They (doctors) look for things like roughed in plumbing for wash facilities and a variety of office space sizes. The other thing I've done is to make the building completely handicap accessible."

Mr. Boivin purchased the former Optimist Centre in July and has since converted the facility (squash courts, banquet halls, etc.) into 16 suites for medical offices.

Renovations also include the installation of a wheelchair ramp at the front of the building and an elevator to the second floor.

Depending on the size of offices desired, Mr. Boivin said the building could house

between 20 and 25 doctors.

There's already one general practitioner (GP) occupant, with three oral surgeons, a physiotherapist and other specialists expected to arrive in the next six months.

Office space is still available.

"This is a great opportunity for the community to get some more doctors in town," Mr. Boivin continued, adding that office space is a significant factor in attracting doctors.

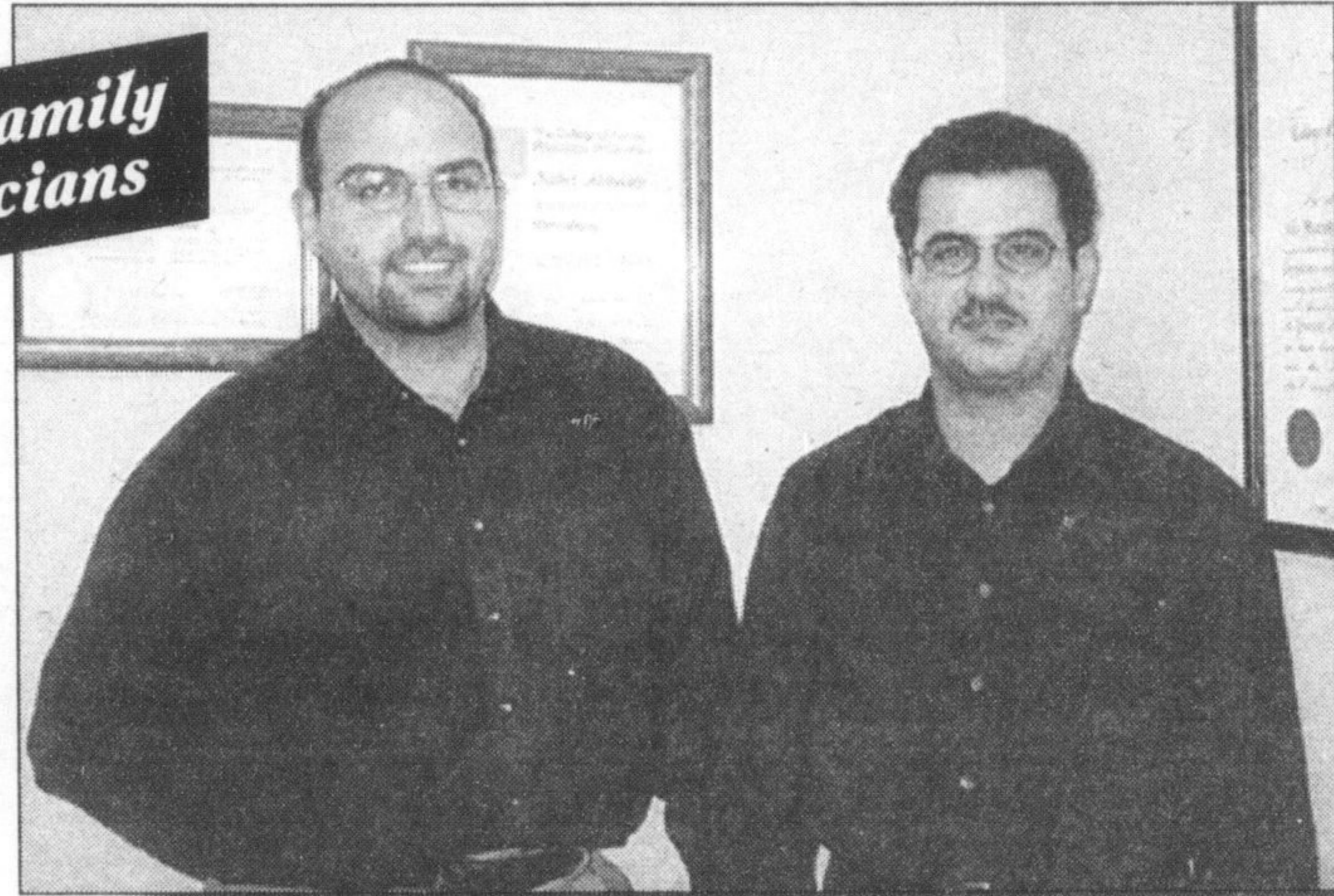
"Upon doing some research, I found out that Milton is probably about 10 to 12 GPs short, under serviced."

In addition to doctors' offices, the building will also house a pharmacy and small coffee shop — both scheduled to open next year.

"It'll just be a small coffee bar to accommodate the tenants and patients of the building," Mr. Boivin explained. "It won't be anything big."

In addition to the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony (6 p.m.) to open the building, Mr. Boivin has invited several doctors considering moving to the area.

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