

Homelessness in Milton a growing problem that needs immediate attention, meeting goers urge

By RICHARD VIVIAN
The Champion

Homelessness continues to be a growing problem in Milton and will keep growing until individuals and political structures take notice, attendees at a Halton Town Hall Group meeting heard Tuesday.

"There's still a huge gap in knowledge between what is really going on with issues of homelessness and what the average person in the neighbourhood knows," said Rev. Stephen Gross, meeting facilitator.

"When you look at things like the waiting list for subsidized housing in this region — there's a waiting list of seven years for seniors, five years

for other folks — it (homelessness) is a problem. The vacancy rate in the region is continuing to decrease and the affordability of apartments is getting so people can't afford it."

The key to addressing homelessness is education, Rev. Gross told the crowd at St. Paul's United Church. People need to not only understand that this is a problem in small towns like Milton, but also what they can do to alleviate the situation.

"There's a growing problem in Milton, in Halton with youth who are leaving broken homes, abusive situations or problems that they're creating, which leads to more and more 'couch surfing,'" he said, referring to people

sleeping on friend's or family member's couches, moving from one to another for extended periods of time.

"The reality of it is that if you can afford an apartment, you might not be able to afford anything else. Think about someone on welfare getting \$525 a month, where are they supposed to go, to live in Milton when there's no apartments available and most one bedroom's start at \$800 or more?"

There are several ways in which Miltonians can help tackle homelessness issues. Approaching representatives from all levels of government to offer developer incentives for the creation of affordable housing is crucial, Mr.

Gross said.

"There won't be any change until there is public and political will to make a change. There won't be public and political will until people are really aware of the problem, become involved in it and start to mobilize to make change," added Wendy Schau of the Milton Affordable Housing Coalition. "A lot of people in the region still don't see it (homelessness)."

Becoming active with groups such as the Milton Affordable Housing Coalition is also beneficial to the cause. The coalition is focused on education around the issue, but is also considering several projects that would see the direct creation of low-cost rental units.

Plastic waste bags won't be accepted in September

Plastic waste bags are costly to the environment and contaminate composting, that's why Halton Region is asking residents to consider the alternatives.

"The move away from plastics will start this spring on a voluntary basis, so residents can use up any plastic bags they have on hand in the spring," said Rob Rivers, Halton's director of waste management.

"The program will become mandatory in

September, so people have some time yet to adjust."

Alternatives to plastic waste bags include open reusable containers (bushel baskets or garbage cans), biodegradable paper yard waste bags and composting.

"The change will allow us to reduce costs, improve the quality of compost we are able to offer our residents and keep plastic waste out of the landfill," he said.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF HOME ELECTRONICS

SUNDAY APRIL 7TH

1:00 pm

(preview from 12 noon)

Georgetown

NO ADMISSION FEES

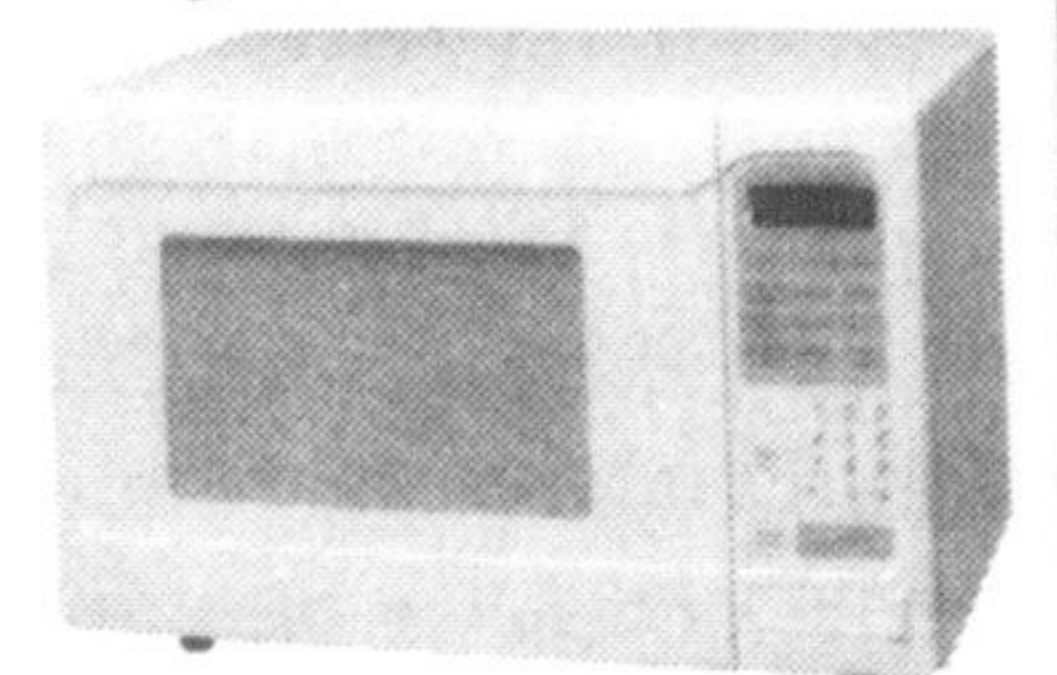
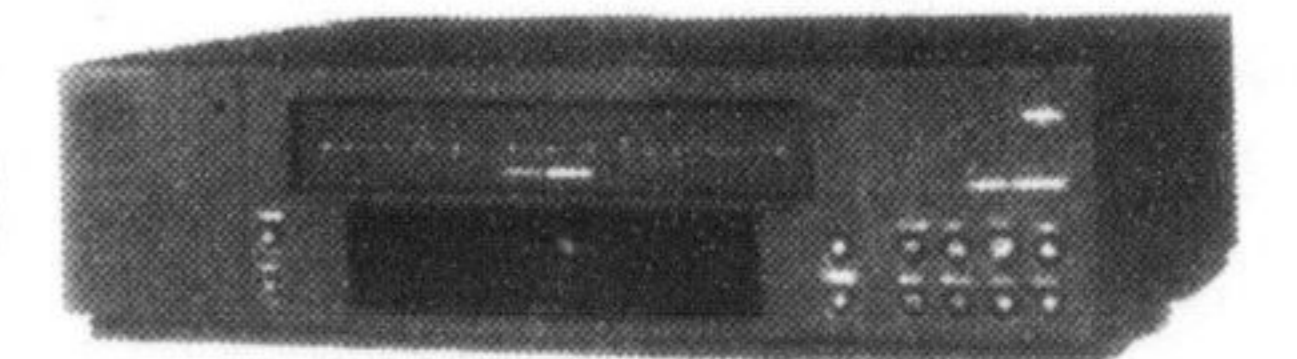
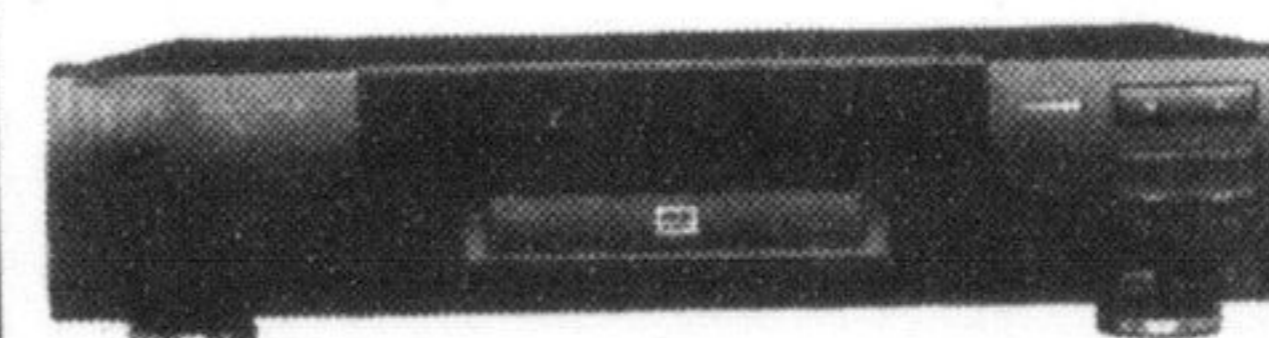
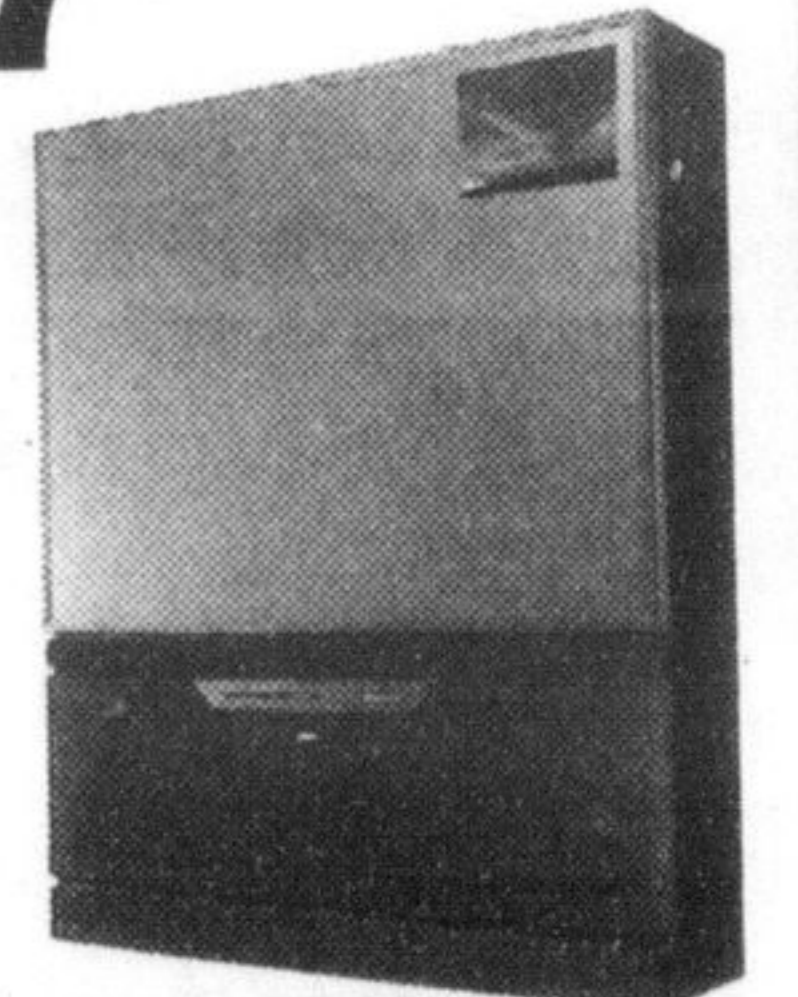
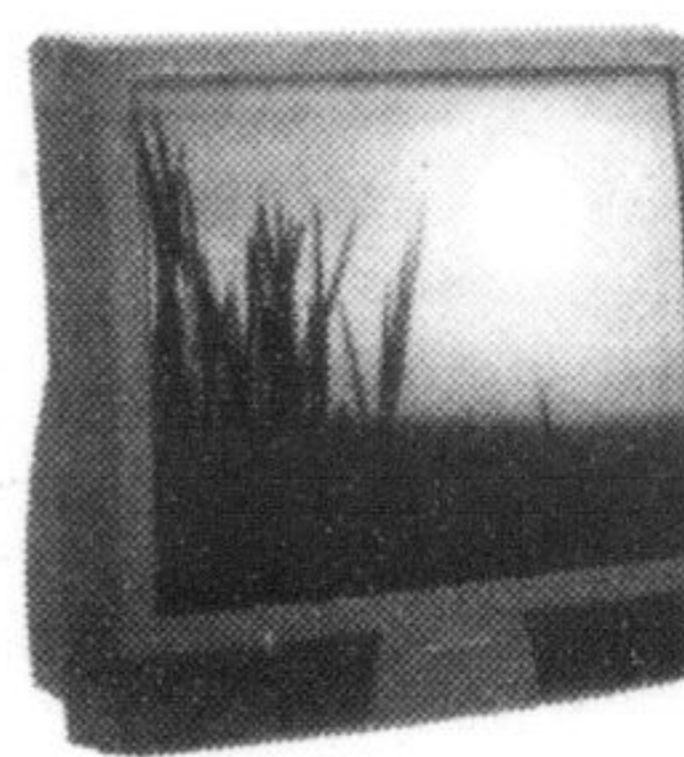
BIG SCREEN EXTRAVAGANZA

Selling by public auction: television sizes 13" to 61", including Hitachi Digital Projection TVs, DVD players, surround sound home theatre systems, Kenwood home stereo systems, portable CD players,

cordless phones with caller ID and more, microwaves in various sizes, Braun men's and lady shavers, top quality stainless steel pot sets, all types of VCR's, 2.4 Gig cordless phones, High definition projection TV's, Camcorders, convection ovens, Gateway computers, wide variety of discman also including a wide variety of giftware, artwork and furniture pieces and much much more.

Robert R. Gosse Auctioneer
Auction to be held at:
Georgetown Lion's Club
42 Mill Street
(off Hwy #7 behind Memorial Arena)

All products come with warranty.
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Ten percent buyers premium in effect.



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BY-LAW NOTICE

FORM 1

PLANNING ACT

NOTICE OF THE PASSING

OF ZONING BY-LAWS BY

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Mississauga passed By-laws 0146-2002, 0147-2002 and 0148-2002 on the 27th day of March, 2002, under Section 34 of the Planning Act R.S.O., 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the By-laws by filing with the Clerk of the City of Mississauga not later than the 23rd day of April, 2002, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the By-laws and the reasons in support of the objection, together with a cheque in the amount of \$125.00 for each of the By-laws payable to the Minister of Finance.

Only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a Zoning By-law to the Ontario Municipal Board. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or group on its behalf.

Explanation of the purpose and effect of the by-laws:

By-law 0146-2002 to amend Zoning By-law 5500 (former Town of Mississauga), by:

- adding the definitions of "PUBLIC SCHOOL" and "PRIVATE SCHOOL", and deleting the definition of "SCHOOL";
- adding a footnote to the school parking requirements in the general provisions of the Zoning By-law, requiring those portions of both publicly-funded schools and private schools used for places of religious assembly or other permitted non-residential uses to provide parking in accordance with the minimum parking requirements of the respective uses;
- adding the following general provisions for private schools in residential zones:
 - front yard abutting a minor collector road, a major collector road or an arterial road, as shown on Schedules "1" and "2";
 - minimum lot frontage of 45 m (148 ft.);
 - maximum lot coverage of 20% of the lot area;
 - maximum building height of 9.5 m (31.2 ft.) as measured from the established grade to the highest ridge of a sloped roof; and 7.5 m (24.6 ft.) as measured from the established grade to the top of the parapet of a flat roof;
 - maximum gross floor area of 190 m² (2,045 sq. ft.), plus 0.2 times the lot area;
 - minimum front yard requirement to be in accordance with the respective residential zone provisions;
 - minimum interior side yard requirement to be the height of the building or 10% of the width of the lot, whichever is the lesser;
 - minimum exterior side yard requirement to be the greater of the following:
 - the minimum exterior side yard requirement of the respective residential zone for the subject corner lot; or

- the minimum exterior side yard requirement of an adjacent residential lot having a rear lot line abutting the rear lot line of the subject corner lot; or
- the minimum front yard requirement of an adjacent residential lot having a side lot line abutting the rear lot line of the subject corner lot; or
- the height of the building or 10% of the width of the subject corner lot, whichever is the lesser;
- minimum rear yard requirement of 7.5 m (24.6 ft.);
- minimum landscaped open space of 40% of the lot area.

By-law 0147-2002 to amend Zoning By-law 1227 (former Town of Port Credit) and By-law 0148-2002 to amend Zoning By-law 65-30 (former Town of Streetsville), by:

- adding the definitions of "PUBLIC SCHOOL" and "PRIVATE SCHOOL", and deleting the definition of "SCHOOL";
- adding a footnote to the school parking requirements in the general provisions of the Zoning By-law, requiring those portions of both publicly-funded schools and private schools used for places of religious assembly or other permitted non-residential uses to provide parking in accordance with the minimum parking requirements of the respective uses.

Further information regarding these By-laws may be obtained from Chye Lee Vun (905) 896-5535 of the Planning and Building Department.

Dated at Mississauga this 3rd day of April, 2002

Arthur D. Grannum
City Clerk

128156