

Additional 'Greenland' locations proposed in Official Plan review

By RICHARD VIVIAN
The Champion

Designated 'Greenland' areas throughout Halton may increase in volume through the Official Plan (OP) review process.

Halton's planning and public works committee approved an early release of reports outlining new areas for inclusion as Greenland's A and Greenland's B designation Wednesday.

The release of the reports initiates a public consultation process and doesn't represent the final outcome.

Development of lands labeled as Greenland's A — which include provincially-significant wetlands and floodplains — is prohibited.

The majority of lands proposed to be added under Greenland's A involve minor expansions of previously designated lands. The Knatchbull Wetland Complex in north Milton has also been added.

Also released was a proposed 50 per cent

increase in Greenland's B areas.

The new lands — consisting of regionally-significant wetlands, provincially and regionally-significant areas of natural and scientific interest, significant woodlands and environmentally-sensitive areas — sit mostly on the Niagara Escarpment, but several new small areas are proposed throughout the region.

Boundaries for the Trafalgar Moraine and Acton swamp have yet to be determined, but both are considered Greenland's B.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is required prior to development on these lands. The EA would have to demonstrate the overall environment wouldn't be negatively impacted by such development prior to receiving regional approval to build.

The released mapping is subject to change not only through the public consultation process, but as more information comes forward from Conservation Halton and the Province.

Numerous north Oakville landowners criticized Halton Region for not making it clear in the documentation that the reports are in draft form and changes are possible.

"We ask you to please indicate these reports as draft reports so as not to prejudice the public consultation process," said David Faye of Star Oaks Development.

The comment was reiterated by Lynn Townsend-Renaud, representing North Oakville Management Inc.

However, a cover letter included in the released reports outlines that the mapping is subject to change following consideration of public comments, Ho Wong of Halton's planning department explained to the committee.

Public consultation on the greenlands, as well as the rest of the Official Plan review — expected for release later this year — will continue through early 2003.

A final document will be presented to regional council for consideration following the public consultation process.

Job forum for deaf to be held Thurs.

Are you hearing impaired and looking for a job? The Halton Social Planning Council and Volunteer Centre will hold a community forum to discuss job issues for deaf individuals.

The forum will take place this Thursday and Monday at the Employment Partners Centre at Derry Road and Ontario Street.

The forum Thursday will be held at 9:30 a.m. The forum Monday will be held at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call TTY (905) 608-1691 or E-mail to deaf_job_research@hotmail.com.

Champion awarded

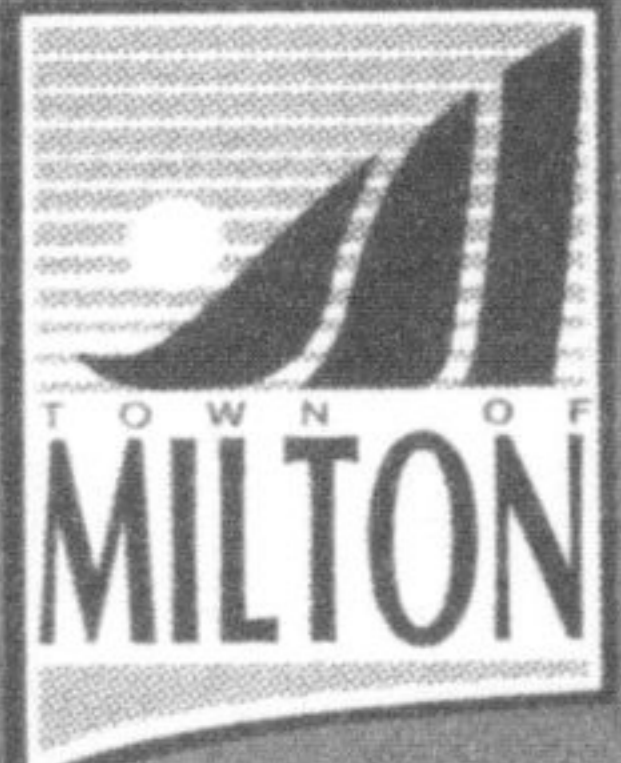
A pair of national awards were handed to the Milton Canadian Champion during an industry awards ceremony Thursday in Halifax.

Judges for the Canadian Community Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Competition awarded The Champion third place in overall general excellence (circulation 6,500 to 12,499) and second place for best front page (same circulation class).

Nova Scotia's Bridgewater Bulletin came in first for general excellence followed by the Spruce Grove Examiner in Alberta.


For best front page, the winning entry was the Stouffville Tribune.

The Bridgewater Bulletin came in third in the category.




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