

Construction firm gets nod to build new public schools

A construction firm has been selected for the building of public elementary schools in Milton and Georgetown next year.

Pre-Eng Contracting Ltd. of Concord, Ont. has been awarded contracts to put new schools on Woodward Avenue in Milton and Eaton Street in Georgetown by September, 2003.

Halton District School Board officials said Pre Eng was the low bidder for both projects. Trustees confirmed the contracts by 8-1 votes at a September 4 special board meeting.

Pre-Eng's most recent work for the Halton public board was building the newly-opened Florence Meares and West Oak JK-to-grade-8 facilities in Burlington and Oakville.

The planned Milton school will have capacity for 630 students. It will cost \$7.9 million, which includes \$390,000 for furniture and equipment and \$299,000 for the architect's fee.

The architect's charge will rise though if the school board goes ahead with a staff recommendation to reduce the size of the pending Millcroft 2 elementary school in

Burlington.

Milton 1 and Millcroft 2 are considered duplicate schools and design costs are usually lower when projects handled by the same firm have similar or identical designs.

However, if Millcroft 2 is downsized, as has been suggested by staff, architectural costs for it will go up as different plans would have to be rendered, board officials told trustees. How much costs will go up hasn't been specified.

The proposed Georgetown South school, rated for 655 pupils, has a price tag of \$8.05 million, which includes \$390,000 for furniture and equipment and \$421,000 in architect's fees. The latter amount, a 40 per cent increase over a different architectural firm's fees for Milton 1, prompted Burlington trustee Peggy Russell to ask staff why that fee is so high.

"A duplicate design does save some costs and we have incorporated it in some (past) cases," replied board facilities superintendent Gerry Cullen, the man responsible for monitoring construction projects.

"Georgetown (new school) is

long and narrow so it's not a duplicate (of Milton 1), so we had to use another architect.

"In my opinion this has been done in a very cost-effective way," he said.

Russell also questioned whether air conditioning, an expensive system to install and operate, was necessary in schools.

Oakville trustee and vice-chair Mary Chapin spoke in favour of air conditioning for Halton's new schools. "I know it is appreciated (by staff and students) in June and September" and during the summer months when schools are used by outside groups, said Ms Chapin.

Superintendent Cullen noted that in Ontario, to his knowledge, only the Peel District School Board isn't building new schools with air conditioning. The operations superintendent with the Peel public board said his board isn't putting air conditioning in new elementary schools but it's in its new high schools.

Mr. McNally said his general knowledge of the issue is that there are other school boards incorporating air conditioning in their new schools

School bus loading zones approved

Two new school bus loading zones were approved by the Milton community services committee Monday.

Loading zones were approved for Laurier Avenue, in front of Sam Sherratt School and Coxe Boulevard in front of E.W. Foster School.

A loading zone previously existed in Coxe

Boulevard, but wasn't listed in the Uniform Traffic Control bylaw.

Loading zones allow school buses to rest without having to stop traffic in both directions, as is otherwise required for loading and unloading.

Milton council is expected to formally address the issue September 23.

Blood donor clinic set for Sept. 19 at seniors' centre

It's time to roll up your sleeve to give the gift of life.

Canadian Blood Services will hold a blood donor clinic September 19 at the

Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr., from 1:30 to 8 p.m.

To book an appointment or for more information, call 1-888-2-DONATE.

White Rock Ostrich Farm

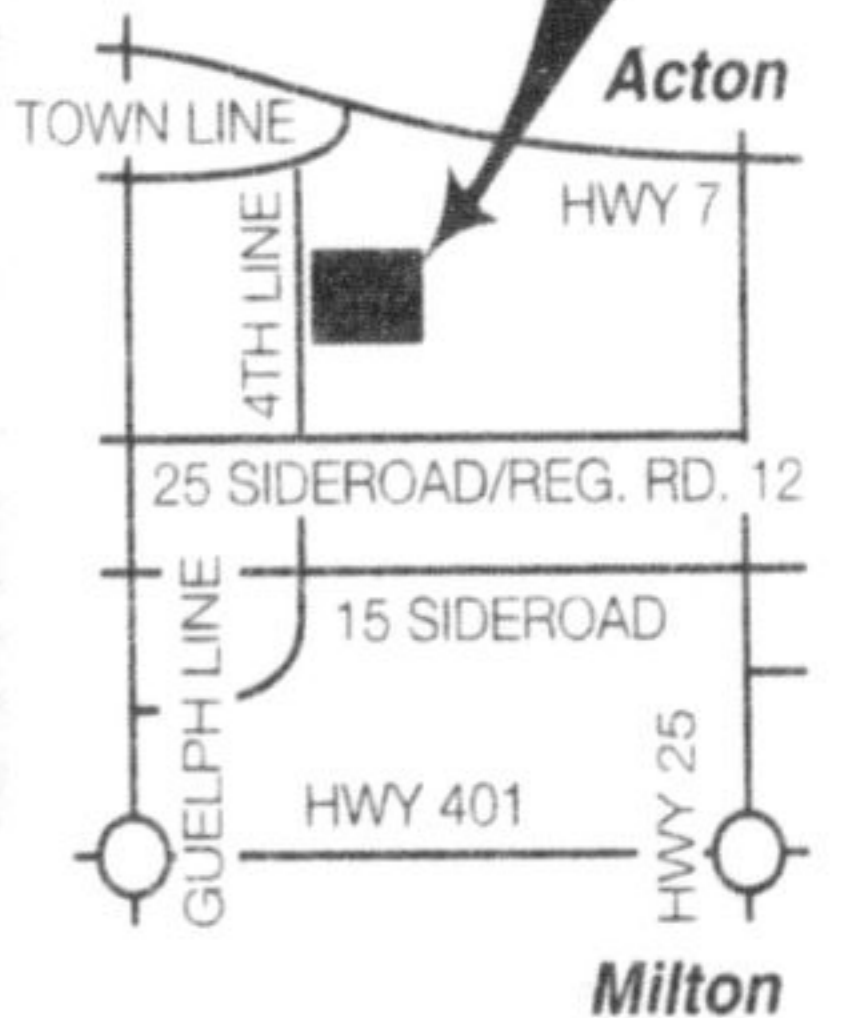
- Wagon Tours • Gift Shop • Ice Cream Cones
- Barbequed Ostrich Burgers & Hot Dogs
- Ostrich Oil Products • Screamfest Haunted House in October

THIS WEEKEND!

Mark your calendar for the
5TH ANNUAL OSTRICHFEST
ON SEPTEMBER 14TH & 15TH.

This year we will have chefs preparing Ostrich meat in a variety of different ways with a small charge for each sample. Egg cooking demonstrations will be held, specialty food vendors and more for you to enjoy! Ostrich burgers, hotdogs, Italian sausage will be grilled along with smoked ostrich on a bun and our just picked sweet corn from the garden! A portion of the barbecue proceeds will go to Halton Women's Place.

Fun for the whole family!



School tours are offered with a Teachers Kit available in September. We also do Seniors and Daycare Tours.

A special "Thanks" to Elmira Farm Service for donating an extra tractor in support of Halton Women's Place!

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May - Oct: Wed - Sun. 10-5
Nov. Dec. Mar. Apr: Weekends 10-5
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A: To live longer.

By walking across the road, the chicken gained a healthier heart and lungs... and a positive attitude.

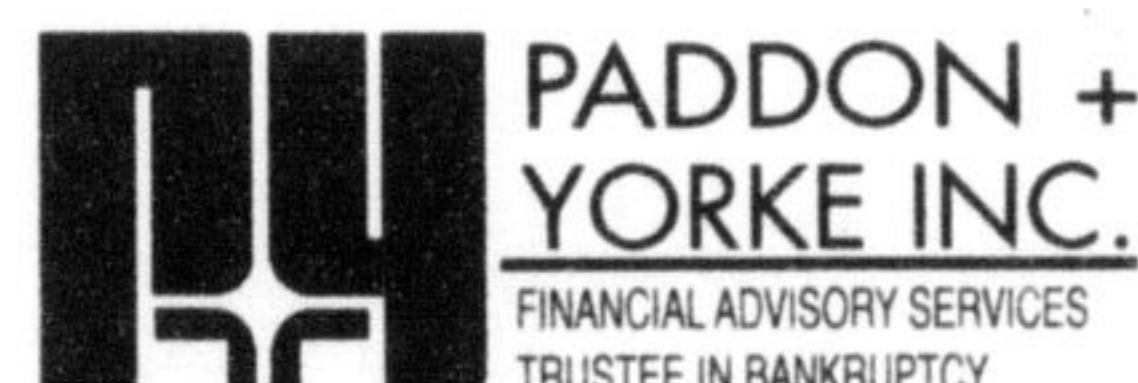


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A better solution!

EMERGENCY HOUSING ADVISORY GROUP

An Invitation To Become A Part of the Solution.

The Emergency Housing Advisory Group (a group of 15 community representatives chaired by Halton Region Chairman Joyce Savoline) is collecting information and advice for the development of criteria for siting an Emergency Shelter in Oakville. Please join the Emergency Housing Advisory Group Members at these Round Table discussions:

Thursday, September 19th, 2002
Halton Region Headquarters
1151 Bronte Road, Oakville
In the Auditorium 6:30 pm registration/7:00pm til 10:30pm

Individuals interested in attending are invited (but not required) to pre-register by phone at 905-825-6000 ext. 7998 or by e-mail at advisorygroup@region.halton.on.ca. On-site childcare will be available for participants but pre-registration for childcare spaces is required. Background materials, including a list of topics to be covered on the 19th, will be available for pick up Monday, September 16th at Halton Region Headquarters and on the Web site.

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