

Official Plan revisions at public-input stage

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Some concerns raised by landowners at meeting

By **RICHARD VIVIAN**
The Champion

Following months of review, proposed revisions to Halton Region's Official Plan (OP) are heading out for public comment.

Halton's planning and public works committee received an OP directions report from staff Wednesday, sending the document forward to gather public opinion.

Included in the report were 15 directions for improving the OP.

"I'm happy to say there is a 'greening' of Halton in the directions report," said Jane Clohocy of the Region's planning department.

Among the directions in the report are to annually assess the extent of homelessness and introduce programs accordingly, promote Halton agriculture, inclusion of non-farm businesses on agricultural land and not to expand the existing urban envelope.

"The directions are purposely broad so as not to exclude possible other directions received from the public," added Patrick Murphy, Halton's commissioner of planning and public works.

Oakville Green — an environmental group that has routinely said the OP doesn't go far enough to protect the environment — spoke favourably of the directions report.

"This is a real step forward. This gives us something to work with," said group representative Mike Lansdown.

"This is a good start. We'll provide the rest of our comments during the public consultation process."

Public consultation is scheduled to begin later this month, following the council selection of an OP review steering committee.

The committee will include members from a variety of Regional advisory committees and members at large from each of the four municipalities.

Individuals interested in taking part on the committee will be asked to apply to the Region.

In addition to a series of public meetings, open houses and committee workshops on the issue, the staff directions report is available for public viewing and comment on the Region's Web site, www.region.halton.on.ca.

While still generally supportive of the directions report, concerns were raised by a pair of speakers representing landowners in

development areas.

"My client has significant (property) holdings in Halton and we want to have meaningful input into this process," said Scott Snider, representing Paletta

International.

"We're a little concerned about the progress made to-date without input from the public."

Upon conclusion of the public consultation process in November, OP amendments will be prepared for regional council

consideration.

If adopted, the amendments would be included in the OP and used during the consideration of developments.

Regional council has yet to address the directions report, but is expected to consider the issue tomorrow.



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To be eligible to tutor, candidates must be enrolled in mathematics, science, applied science and technology programs in Ontario.

Tutors will be required to work eight hours per week for 20 weeks (November 1 to April 28) and will be paid \$2,000 for their services.

For an application form or more information, call (905) 335-3665.



Milton Minor Baseball Association

Rookie – Born in 1995 or 1994

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Rotary Park

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Rotary Park

Minor Mosquito – Born in 1993

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Rotary Park

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Rotary Park

Major Mosquito – Born in 1992

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Rotary Park

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Rotary Park

Pee Wee – Born in 1991 or 1990

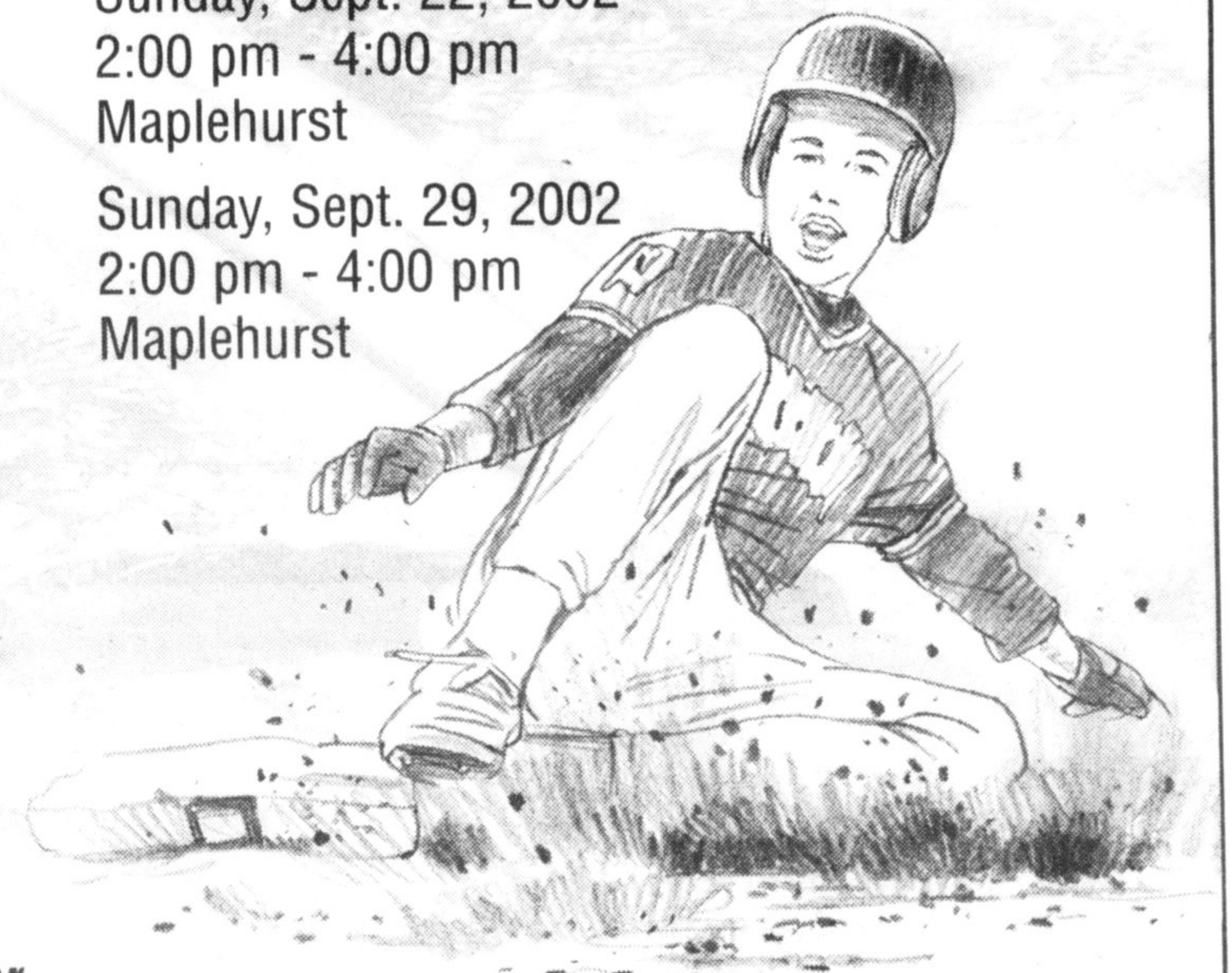
Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Bronte Meadows

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Bronte Meadows

Bantam – Born in 1989 or 1988

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Maplehurst

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Maplehurst



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