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Eco-Tech Village project gains committee's approval

By RICHARD VIVIAN
The Champion

The Town is a step closer to allowing the most environmentally sustainable community in Canada to be developed in Milton.

Members of the administration and planning committee threw their unanimous support behind a series of recommendations designed to promote the establishment of the Eco-Tech Village project Monday.

"I am excited by the potential of this project," said Councillor Brian Penman.

"Whatever shape, form it (project) takes, ultimately, the greater task will be to try to use that as a benchmark for whatever growth we experience."

The Eco-Tech Village pilot project is an effort by the Town and other partners (Halton Region, Milton Hydro, Rogers, Mattamy Homes and the Province of

Ontario) to reduce obstacles to creating a marketable, environmentally sustainable residential community.

"The Town of Milton is going to be experiencing a very high rate of growth over the next while. The principal behind the Eco-Tech Village is to reduce the ecological footprint (created by growth)," Ruth Victor, a planning consultant hired by the Town, explained to the committee.

Among the committee-approved recommendations — derived from a series of five workshops attended by the Town and its partners — are the active promotion of changes to the building code to permit the collection and re-use of rainwater for non-potable purposes, that pesticides and herbicides be restricted on private and public lands and to seek federal funding for alternative energy demonstration projects.

Several recommendations more

directly involved the Town and its policies.

The inclusion of policy provisions to permit live/work areas adjacent to transit ways, preservation/re-creation of natural systems in public parks and the reduction or prohibition of two car garages to promote use of transit were accepted in the recommendations.

If ultimately approved, the recommendations will be given consideration by the Sherwood Survey Secondary Plan Project Team in the development of the draft secondary plan for the urban Milton expansion, phase two.

The Town wouldn't be directly involved in the building of the Eco-Tech Village, but is involved in lifting possible policy barriers to its creation by private developers.

Milton council has yet to formally address the issue, but is expected to give it consideration Monday.

"The business that considers itself immune to the necessity for advertising sooner or later finds itself immune to business."

Derby Brown



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Middle Row: Michelle, Jennifer
Front Row: Norma, Christine, Heather, Tracey

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Be a Part of Halton Region's Official Plan Review

Halton Region
2002
Official Plan Review

This fall, Halton Region is seeking input from the public on its Official Plan. We will be hosting a series of open houses and workshops throughout the Region, and we look forward to hearing your ideas on the future of Halton.

What is the Official Plan?

Every municipality in Ontario is required to develop an Official Plan which outlines a community's vision for its future and guides decisions on development, transportation, environmental protection, and more.

Halton Region's Official Plan is now under review. This is an opportunity for residents and businesses to play an important part in ensuring Halton Region continues to be a great place to live, work and play.

What is important to you about Halton Region? How should we address the challenges our Region is facing?

Your participation is vital. Please register for a workshop or visit our website to learn more about the Official Plan Review.

www.region.halton.on.ca/officialplan
Try our new electronic comment form!

Official Plan Review Event Schedule

October/November

Saturday, October 26, 2002	Monday, November 11, 2002	Monday, November 18, 2002
General Workshop No.1 8:30am to 12:00pm. In the Cafeteria, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville	Greenlands Workshop 7:30pm to 10:30pm, North Auditorium Halton Regional Centre 1151 Bronte Rd. Oakville	General Workshop No.2 5:30pm to 9:00pm, Halton Hills Cultural Centre 9 Church Street Georgetown

Call us or visit our website at www.region.halton.on.ca/officialplan to download a copy of the Directions Report: *The Greening of Halton - Smart Growth, Smart Choices and other technical papers*. These documents are a starting point for a public dialogue about the important issues in our community. For more information contact Isabel Telford at EXT. 7195 / telfordi@region.halton.on.ca

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