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Salvation Army in dire need of more volunteers

Holiday season brings increased demand for help

ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER
Special to The Champion

As the holiday season quickly approaches, the Salvation Army faces it with a good news/bad news situation.

The good news being that the number of families needing assistance has declined from last years, while the bad news is that more volunteers are desperately needed to run the kettles at various locations through-

out Milton and Campbellville. With some luck, this Christmas season will be a joyous one.

The Salvation Army office in Milton opened approximately 14 years ago and, although open all year round, the holiday season is the busiest.

"Last year we helped 155 local families with the Toy Shop and food hampers," said Laurie Good, Family Services worker at the Salvation Army.

"This year we believe our total will be closer to 100, unless we get a lot of emergency families really close to Christmas."

Last year the numbers tended to be higher due to the repercussions of the terrorist attacks on September 11. Many people were laid-off from their jobs and they needed help making Christmas special for their families.

The Salvation Army was there to lend a hand.

The Toy Shop has toys and gifts for children of all ages, but more gifts are needed for the older kids and teenagers.

Items such as curling irons, small radios, compact discs, and clock radios are in high demand.

"The older children tend to be forgotten when people make donations," said Ms Good. "But Christmas is for everyone."

The Salvation Army also has food hampers available that contain a variety of non-perishable food items as well as a turkey, potatoes, carrots, and everything to make a scrumptious Christmas dinner.

In order to receive assistance from the Salvation Army, an appointment needs to be made at their office in order to register. The family's entire financial situation is taken into consideration when they register and the Salvation Army agrees to help.

"Most of our clients are 'working poor'," said Ms Good. "These are the families that are employed but are making minimum wage and, as we well know, it is very difficult to support a family on that."

Once the Salvation Army approves the registration, parents are allowed to select a specific number of gifts from the Toy Shop that are age-specific for their children and are given a food hamper before they leave. All the toys that are donated or purchased are new from the stores.

The major challenge facing the Salvation Army this year is finding volunteers to run the kettles at many locations in the community.

In fact, the lack of volunteers has forced the Salvation Army to postpone the beginning of the kettle campaign this year.

"We really need approximately 20 people to help with the kettles that donations are placed in," said Ms Good, "in order to make in a success."

If you can spare a few hours throughout the week to give the Salvation Army a hand in assisting our community, it would be greatly appreciated as would any donations of gifts, money, or non-perishable food items.

"The people in our community are generous all year long," said Ms Good, "but they are even more so at Christmas time."

This year though, the Salvation Army needs people to be generous with their time to help a very worthwhile cause: our community.

If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Trixie, the Kettle Co-ordinator, at the Salvation Army at 905-875-1022.

Ontario Energy Board

Commission de l'Énergie de l'Ontario



RP-2002-0132
EB-2002-0378

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

FRANCHISE APPROVAL FOR THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

Union Gas Limited ("Union") has filed an application, dated June 18, 2002, (the "Application") with the Ontario Energy Board ("the Board") under the *Municipal Franchises Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55, as amended, for an order of the Board approving the terms and conditions upon which and the period for which the Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Halton (the "Corporation"), is by by-law (the "By-law") to grant to Union the right to construct and operate works for the distribution of gas, and the right to extend and add to the works in the Regional Municipality of Halton (the "Municipality").

Union has also applied for an order of the Board declaring and directing that the assent of the electors of the Municipality to the By-laws is not necessary.

Union is presently serving the municipality and has a certificate of Public convenience and Necessity (F.b.C. 192) for the Municipality. Union's franchise agreement with the Corporation expired on August 16, 1987. Union has a perpetual Transmission Agreement with the Municipality dated April 13, 1954.

Copies of the Application are available for inspection at: the Board's office, Union's head office, Union's district office and the Municipality's office, at the addresses indicated below.

If you wish to participate in this proceeding you **must** make a written submission to the Board Secretary within 14 calendar days of the publication of this Notice. Information on how to participate may be obtained by calling the Board's Customer Service Centre toll-free at 1-877-632-2727, by email at Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca or from the frequently asked questions (FAQ) section of the Board's Web site at www.oeb.gov.on.ca. A copy of your submission **must** also be sent to Union and the Municipality.

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street
26th Floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Att: Paul B. Pudge
Board Secretary

Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (toll free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

The Regional Municipality of Halton
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1

Att: Susan Lathan
Deputy Clerk

Tel: 905-825-6000
Fax: 416-440-7656

ADDRESSES

Union Gas Limited
Box 2001
50 Keil Drive North
Chatham, ON N7M 5M1

Att: P.E. McMahon
Manager, Product and Services Costing

Tel: 519-436-5325
Fax: 519-436-5353

Union Gas Limited
(District Office)
360 Strathearne, P.O. Box 10
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3A5


Att: Michael Shannon
District Manager

Tel: 905-548-3439
Fax: 905-548-3462

DATED at Toronto November 20, 2002

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Paul B. Pudge
Paul B. Pudge
Board Secretary



On the way to Bethlehem

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday
Dec 6, 7, 8 & 9, 2002

**6:30pm - 8:30pm at Country Heritage Park,
8560 Tremaine Rd., Milton**

ON THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM is an outdoor Christmas nativity pageant sponsored by Milton's Christian Churches Working Together.

The outdoor walk through the living nativity pageant will take approximately 20-30 minutes. Between 6:30-8:30 p.m. each evening, small groups of visitors will set out every six minutes from the main entrance of Country Heritage Park, accompanied by a "guide." Approximately 450-500 visitors can be accommodated each evening of the pageant.

Visitors will experience what the first Christmas might have been like as they walk the road to Bethlehem interacting with Roman soldiers, shepherds, wise men and fellow travellers. Afterwards, visitors will be given a wagon ride back to the reception area for refreshments, where they will enjoy hearing a choir singing carols.

NO ADMISSION CHARGE.
A free-will offering will be accepted after the pageant.

BUS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE to and from Country Heritage Park every evening, courtesy of New Life Pentecostal Church. The bus will leave Milton Mall (east entrance) at 6:30 p.m., and pick up passengers at 100 Millside Drive and St. Paul's United Church (123 Main Street). The bus will return to Milton from the main gate of the Park leaving at 8:30 p.m.