



# COMMENT



## THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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## Let's hear about those extraordinary youths

We've all read stories about troublesome youths — that's no eye-opener. However, it's important to remember that this community — like every other one across Ontario — has its fair share of extraordinary young people, those that through a variety of initiatives are committed to making Milton a better place to live.

With that in mind, we're proud to once again support Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards, co-ordinated by the Ontario Community Newspaper Association (OCNA) and sponsored by the Tembec Paper Group. In conjunction with newspapers across the province, we're looking to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of outstanding youngsters, to showcase them and encourage others to follow their good example.

Please help by nominating a young person aged 6 to 18 years who's involved in community service, has performed acts of heroism, is contributing to the community while living with limitations or is a good kid who shows commitment to making life better for others.

The deadline for nominations is November 30, which should provide plenty of time to adequately illustrate just why a local boy or girl is worthy of distinction. Nomination forms and further information can be obtained from The Champion office or by calling the OCNA at (905) 639-8720.

Nominate a young person today.

## Don't expect an easy ride as a Milton politician

I want to applaud all of you who registered for the November 10 municipal election.

You have shown why we should be proud to live in a democratic society.

A total of 39 local candidates, including those for mayor, local and regional councillor and school trustee, have bravely thrown their hats into the ring.

Let it be known that you'll also be expending some blood, sweat and perhaps the occasional tear or two.

The mayoralty and wards 1, 2 and 4 races will prove to be boxing matches.

The mayoralty race will see six candidates duke it out while Wards 1, 2 and 4 each have seven candidates clawing for two spots.

Also, Ward 3 has four people battling for two spots. Two will spar for the position of Wards 2 and 4 regional councillor.

Barry Lee has been acclaimed as Wards 1 and 3 regional councillor.

This year's civic election stands to be one of the more demanding and influential Milton has seen in some time.

The town is growing by leaps and bounds. Issues great and small are emerging almost daily. Milton is on the cusp of finding a new identity within a sprawling GTA while attempting to maintain that small-town feeling many grew up with and others are only beginning to learn of.

In 2000, the 'Big Pipe' — a gigantic and expensive piping system that draws water from Lake Ontario — arrived in town. What it did was open the eyes of new residents and industries.

Prior to the pipe's construction, Milton's population levelled at around the 30,000 mark. The housing market had pretty much stabilized and manufacturing companies weren't always sold on



### The Big Picture

with JASON MISNER

moving operations to the community nestled against the Niagara Escarpment.

In 2003, Milton's population ballooned to 43,000 and will go much higher in the years to come. Which brings me to my point of blood, sweat and tears. This kind of development, whether you see it as good or bad, isn't really the point right now.

As a mayor, councillor or school trustee, local issues emanate from growth.

Parking. Garage sizes. Protection of the escarpment. Big box stores. Rural garbage pick up. Arts. Sports fields. Transit.

These are the things your constituents will look to you to address, and they'll expect you to be ready to handle it all.

The number of people you will represent will grow each year. The number you will be responsible for this year will grow next year, and again the year after that.

Being a Milton politician will require a lot of work. Don't be fooled.

Still, there are more issues that will come up that I can't even think of at this moment.

The winners in the fall election will be instrumental in charting Milton's future. The truth is, being a Milton politician will be a tough job.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Contrary to many politicians' beliefs, same-sex marriages are against natural law, says reader

Dear Editor:

Although the headline read 'Local teen says he's upset...', there was no clue in a recent letter about same-sex marriages as to whether Chris Willes was a boy or a girl.

According to the text, however, it's no matter.

It's tragic to see the likes of young Willes being brainwashed by left-handed ideology into believing same-sex marriage should be socially acceptable.

It's not because there's something wrong with society that in thousands of years homosexual marriage hasn't become fashionable — it's because it's a denial of natural law. As such, it's such a ludicrous

concept that it doesn't even merit consideration.

Willes expresses a belief in the Canadian tradition of giving equal rights to everybody, yet criticizes Halton MP Julian Reed for exercising his own right — or, in my opinion, his duty — to vote the way untold thousands wanted him to.

What left-handed thinkers refuse to admit is that homosexuals already have the same rights as everyone else, including the right to marry someone of the opposite sex.

A law that has always applied to everyone is hardly discriminatory.

Regardless of claims to the contrary by politicians who are out of touch with reality, legalizing same-

sex marriages does affect the traditional form.

I believe it contaminates and devalues a ritual its participants hold sacred, and tells normal, heterosexual couples that in the eyes of a gutless government and crackpot courts they're no better than homosexuals.

Willes thinks that anyone opposed to same-sex marriages is an outright bigot. Well perhaps it's time for society to evolve enough to accept bigotry as a normal, wholesome lifestyle.

Better to be a bigot than a bloody fool.

David Townson  
Milton