

# Legal opinion on bike path expected soon

By **JASON MISNER**  
*The Champion*

A legal opinion could come as early as this week that could determine the fate of a controversial bike path in the Hawthorne Village subdivision.

A lawyer is examining the legalities of the Town possibly having the paved bike path re-located or redesigned.

The Town has said the bike path is part of an agreement signed with Mattamy Homes, the still-owner of the three-year-old subdivision, before housing construction was allowed to start a couple of years ago.

"If we change it or delete it, what are we opening ourselves up to?" asked Paul Cripps, Milton's engineering director about what the legal opinion will detail.

He said it could show what liability issues the Town might face if it doesn't put in a bike path.

"It's a matter of risk assessment."

The bike path has become a sensitive issue because Mattamy had plans to build a controversial \$125,000 paved path that many residents vehemently opposed. It was proposed to run between boulevards — open pieces of land in front of homes — and would cross residents' driveways.

Homeowners — some saying they knew nothing about it when they bought their home — argued the type of path devalued their homes and was too unsafe because it would bisect driveways.

The complaints eventually forced the Town to send a letter in mid-September to Mattamy instructing them to halt construction of the bike path.

Mr. Cripps said the Town will hold a

public meeting once the legal opinion has been issued to keep them informed about what's happening.

"We want to get feedback and to hear what they have to say about the issue," he said.

Rob Deslauriers, a Waldie Way resident in Hawthorne where part of the bike path was to go, looks forward to the legal opinion.

"I think what's just as important is what the legal ramifications are if they do" go ahead with the paved bike path, he said.

Regardless, a potential path won't be built in Hawthorne until at least next spring when the weather warms up, Mr. Cripps said.

A Mattamy representative couldn't be reached for comment.

Jason Misner can be reached at [jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

# Halton applying for 311 access

Halton will participate in a joint application to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission to designate use of the 311 phone number for non-emergency municipal services.

"Recent studies show that access is one of Canadians' biggest barriers to getting government services," said Halton Regional Chair Joyce Savoline. "311 would provide Halton residents easier access to information

regarding issues such as water quality, growth management and construction, through a single telephone number."

Co-applicants in the 311 request include Toronto, Calgary, Montreal and Halifax.

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## MILTON WINTERHAWKS

### Calendar Lottery Winners for the month of October 2003 are as follows:

- \$50 Kathy Curran, Milton
- \$100 Alexander Kang, Milton
- \$50 Liz Vipona, Listowel
- \$50 Kent Hawkins, Aurora
- \$50 David Wiznuik, Milton
- \$50 Chris Winter, Milton
- \$100 Heather Caswell, Milton
- \$500 Tim Johnston, Milton
- \$50 Benjamin Seguin, Milton
- \$100 Karen Collins, Hornby
- \$50 Lori Jones, Milton
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- \$100 Robert Hunt, Milton
- \$50 Andrew Scarffe, Milton
- \$50 Benjamin Seguin, Milton
- \$100 Peggy Cahoon, Milton

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# Millennium garden now has a sign

Halton Region Chair Joyce Savoline congratulated staff on the placing of the 'Halton' name on the wall of the new millennium garden, as the first phase of the project nears completion.

The garden is located on the west lawn of Halton's headquarters at 1151 Bronte Rd. in Oakville.

The Halton Millennium Garden was proposed by Halton staff in 1999. Since then, employees have raised money toward the cost of the project and secured sponsorships for the remainder in the form of labour, materials and funds from local firms.

The first phase of the garden includes the signature piece — a raised bed and stone-wall backdrop with the word 'Halton' facing Bronte Road in large copper letters.

This phase also incorporates a large water feature that represents the significance of Lake Ontario and the many watersheds within the region.

Subsequent phases of the garden will be developed as fundraising and additional sponsorships permit.

Potential sponsors interested in becoming involved in any aspect of the garden project should contact Carolyn Calwell, sponsorship co-ordinator, at (905) 825-6260.

Sponsors will be recognized on milestones in the garden and will receive additional promotion related to their levels of commitment.

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