

Library union collecting books

CUPE Local 4366 — representing the workers at Milton Public Library — is collecting new children's books for the Salvation Army's Christmas hampers.

The idea behind the collection is that children will receive new books as well as new toys under the tree on Christmas morning.

Donations can be dropped off at the collection box in the foyer of Milton Public Library.



Helping out

Zellers store manager Harry Lawrence (left) and employee Denis Drost (centre) present a cheque for \$500 to Halton Women's Place director of development Heather Thomas. The Zellers Family Fund donation came from the sale of holiday gift boxes — an initiative which continues again this holiday season.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

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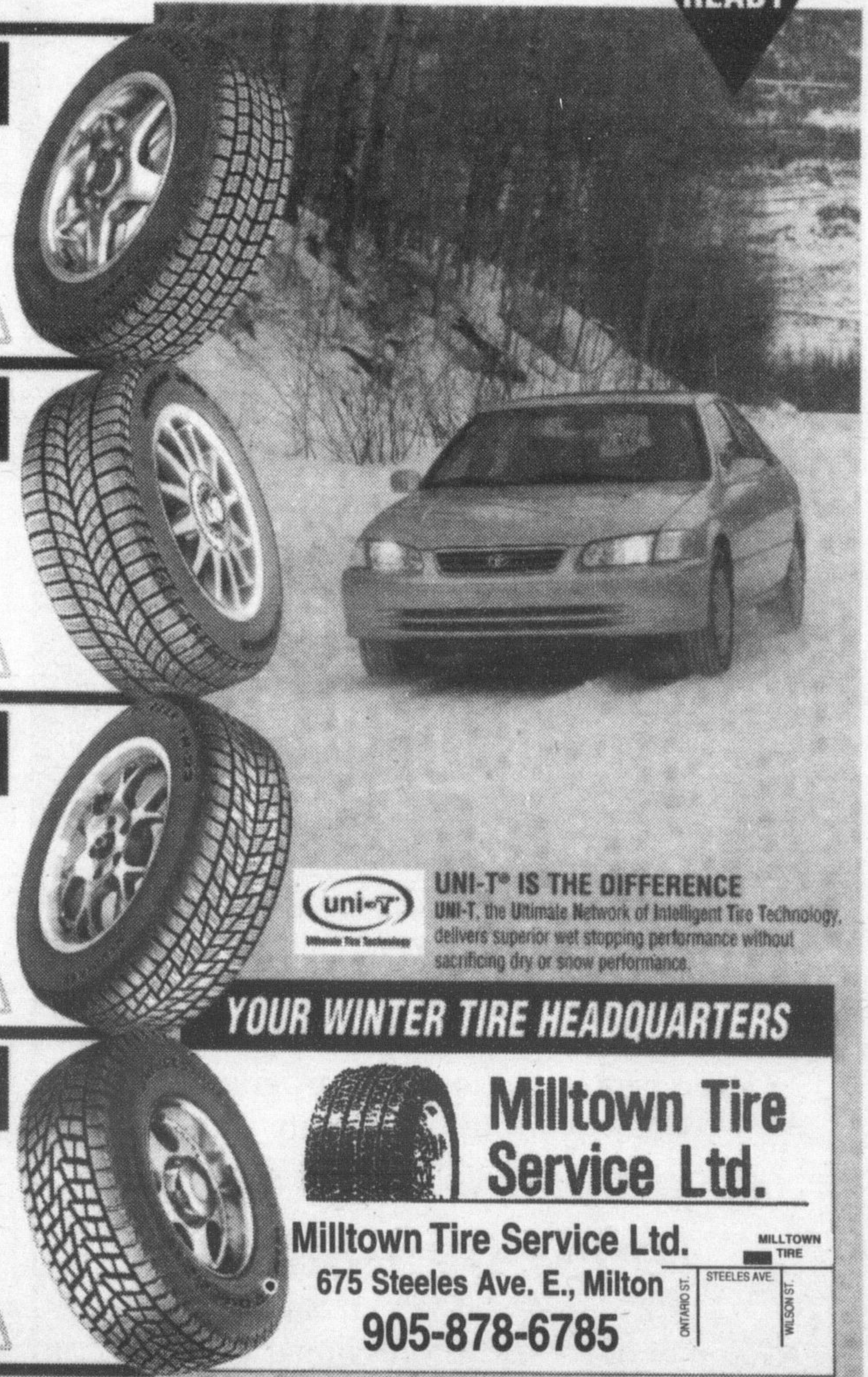
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FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

CHANGES TO EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Do your earnings vary from week to week?

Do you work part time or have temporary work?

Changes to Employment Insurance (EI) may benefit you.

The Government of Canada is increasing the Small Weeks threshold to \$225. When you qualify for EI and we calculate your benefit rate, we will, where possible, ignore weeks where your earnings fall below this level.

This change could increase your EI benefit.

Why is the Government of Canada making this change?

These improvements will encourage Canadians to accept workweeks of lesser pay without lowering their Employment Insurance benefit rate on a future claim.

The new threshold of \$225 for a regular week of work (up from \$150) reflects increases in Canadian wages.

This change makes EI more responsive to the needs of Canadian workers.

Some things remain the same:

- All insurable hours will still be used for eligibility purposes, even if they are not used to calculate your benefit rate.
- You must continue to report all earnings in the weeks you earn them.
- Earnings allowed while on claim are \$50 per week or 25 percent of your weekly benefit rate, whichever is higher.
- Employers must continue to remit EI premiums on every dollar paid and complete Records of Employment.

For information on Small Weeks:

- ☎ 1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)
- TTY: 1 800 465-7735
- 🌐 www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/ei

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