

Portables needed at Hadfield School

By **TIM WHITNELL**
Special to The Champion

Milton's new elementary school is getting 10 more classrooms to accommodate a growing student population.

Chris Hadfield Public School on Woodward Avenue will receive a 10 classroom port-a-pack, a collection of portable rooms, in time for the start of the 2004-05 school year.

Halton District School Board trustees last week approved a \$1.4 million contract to TRP Construction to build the modular addition at the JK to grade 7 school.

The port-a-pack's design includes 10 classrooms, a teachers' work room, wash-room facilities, space for custodial storage, air conditioning with individual classroom controls and wheelchair accessibility for students and visitors.

Board Facilities Superintendent Gerry Cullen said the expectation is that the port-a-pack will be needed on site for about 10 years.

He said the addition is assembled off site. It can be disassembled and transported to another site in the future if necessary.

"We may need to place some portables in the short term," noted Mr. Cullen.

He said unlike in the past, when most parents would move their family into a new home in the summer, many are now making the move when the home is ready, which is often during the school year. That trend may trigger the need for more portables before the port-a-pack is ready.

Hadfield currently has two individual portables on site with one in use. The other is expected to be in use after the March break. Portables are rated to hold 24.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) students.

Hadfield's main building has a capacity for 650 FTE students but with the portable, and considering junior and senior kindergarten pupils count only as half students, the school has 719 actual pupils.

Hadfield is projected to have 873 FTE students, 1,020 pupils, by this September.

Red Cross at GO Monday

To launch March as Red Cross Month, volunteers and staff will be at the GO Transit station Monday morning to distribute ribbons in exchange for voluntary donations.

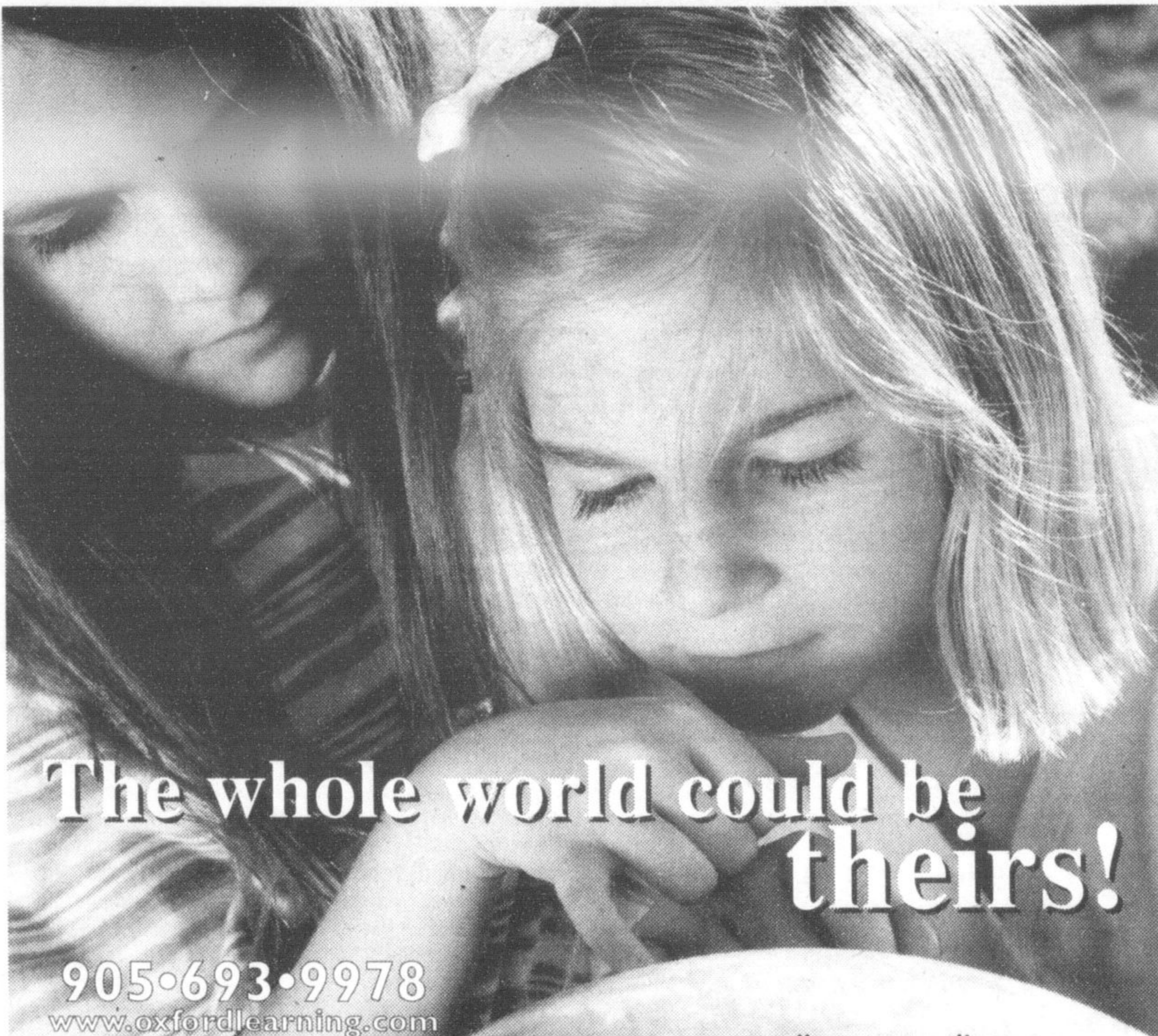
The donations, which can be given to volunteers between 6:30 and 9:30 a.m., will go to support programs aimed at helping the vulnerable as well as raising awareness about the Canadian Red Cross Society

in the community.

Throughout Canada, the Red Cross provides many valuable community services including Meals on Wheels, transportation services and home healthcare equipment loans.

In the aftermath of a house fire, flood, tornado, storm or any other emergency, the Red Cross is there to provide for basic needs including food, shelter and clothing.

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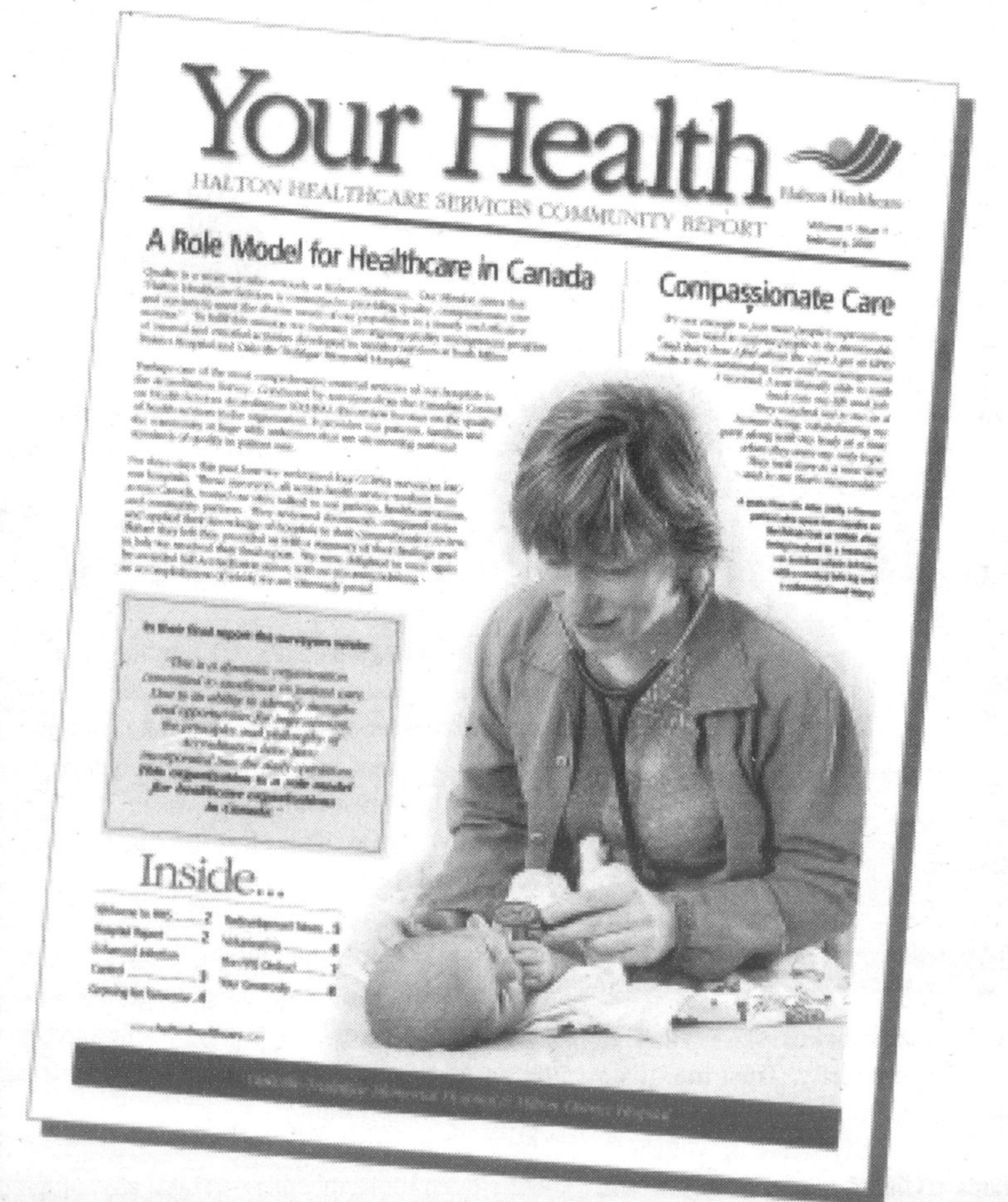
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