

# Report expected to come in July

• from COMPANY on page 2

"There are several legal issues we're going to have to consider," Halton Region's lead counsel, Mark Meneray, told the committee.

Jane Clohecy, Halton's acting commissioner of planning and public works, said after the meeting "we're still evaluating the full application."

That includes looking at most notably the impact on well water users and mitigation issues, among others.

"They (Hanson) have done a fair amount of work with us, but these are fairly complicated issues. As recently as last week we got the last bits of information from them," she said.

The committee decided that in July a staff report will come forward listing the legal issues and some of the "planning implications of the application as we know it at that time," the acting commissioner said.

Then in September, it's expected a report will come before the planning and public works committee outlining how to proceed with the application, Ms Clohecy said.

## Public meeting to be held

A public meeting will be needed and fall approval of the quarry is a possibility, she added.

Ms Clohecy said she understands Hanson's dwindling shale supply problem, but "it is their business dilemma. They're asking us if we can by all means review it quicker than we are, but we need to look at all of the information and not make a decision without evaluating all of that information."

In interviews after the meeting, regional councillors said they have to make sure they feel comfortable with the application before giving their approval.

Hanson "are good corporate citizens" but the Region needs to have all of the information, said Burlington Councillor Mike Wallace, also planning and public works committee chair.

Oakville Councillor Allan Elgar said "It's absolutely premature" to make important decisions without the right data in front of them.

"It's a long process."

Norris said after the meeting he doesn't know if the mid-August deadline for the property acquisition can be extended.

## WAL-MART CORRECTION NOTICE

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Boys' Cargo Shorts (#245200126) featured on page 5 of our current flyer (ending June 13th) will not be available.

We apologized for any inconvenience this may have caused.

# Pooling isn't the solution, say Halton councillors

• from HALTON on page 1

provincial government in 1998 to help Toronto pay for social services after the city was amalgamated.

Only Toronto receives pooling money and there has been growing concern from Halton politicians and staff that adding Hamilton to the mix would make pooling an even heavier financial burden on regional taxpayers.

"Property taxes fund significantly more social services costs than in other provinces," the regional report stated.

It also stressed that if an economic downturn ever strikes, costs for social services "will translate into tax increases that will severely strain municipal budgets."

Encouraging news came two months ago when the Ministry of Finance confirmed the pooling system won't include Hamilton.

But regardless of what the province has indicated, Halton councillors, aghast by the numbers presented before them at the committee meeting, insist the staff report's conclusions point out pooling simply isn't the solution.

## System needs fixing: Mulvale

"We need to articulate that the system is wrong, that it needs to be adjusted," said Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale, also president of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Halton Chair Joyce Savoline — who

raised red flags in her inauguration speech in December saying pooling risks undermining Halton's quality of life — echoed Ms Mulvale's comments.

"I think it's important we tell the clear story, the full story — pooling isn't the answer."

Councillors were however sympathetic to Hamilton's financial plight in trying to pay for what politicians and bureaucrats there say are rising social services costs. Halton politicians just don't want regional taxpayers' shoulders to bear the weight.

Burlington Mayor Rob MacIsaac — resigned to the fact "pooling is not going to go away" — said Halton is "exporting" social services costs west to Hamilton rather than east to Durham.

"When Hamilton is suffering socially, it's bad for Burlington, it's bad for Halton," he told the committee. "I don't know how to fix all of this. It's such a huge mess."

The chair's office will send a letter to the province emphasizing Halton's disapproval with pooling, that it be abolished and that new forms of adequate funding be created to help municipalities like Hamilton address their tough social services needs.

Overall, the Halton staff report stated pooling, in general, doesn't encourage efficiency and lacks accountability, predictability and timely information

## TERESA'S GARDEN CENTRE

88 Derry Rd. E., Hornby  
**(905) 876-1907**  
(between 6th Line & Trafalgar)

*Weekly Savings!*



10" Mixed Hanging Baskets **\$9.99** While Quantities Last

PERENNIALS from <b>1.49</b> <small>3 1/2" pot</small>	BOX PLANTS <b>99¢</b>
--	--------------------------

- Spikes
- Petunias & Pansies
- Geraniums
- Patio Planters
- Potting Soil
- Triple mix
- Shrubs
- Vegetable Plants
- Top Soil

*Plus Much More*

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK • 9 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.**



## FACTORY TILE DEPOT

**15% off ALL STOCK ITEMS** with presentation of this ad!

**Buy Direct From The Wholesaler Stocks on Site!!**

**HUGE SELECTION!**

\*We stock an extensive selection of floor & wall tiles for kitchens, hallways, bathrooms, porches and entire house!!

Open: Tues.-Wed. 9:30-6pm, Thurs. 9:30-8pm, Fri. 9:30-5pm, Sat. 10-5pm, Sun. 11am-4pm

**905-277-1760**  
505 Queensway East, Unit #5  
Mississauga

WAREHOUSE/SHOWROOM  






Show off your precious pet in the Canadian Champion's monthly section of **Champion Pet Showcase**.

If your pet is chosen as "**Pet of the Month**" you **WIN** a gift certificate from one of the participating vendors on the page.

Send in photos to:  
**The Canadian Champion**  
191 Main St. E. P.O. Box 248  
Milton, ON L9T 4N9



**GIGANTIC STORE-WIDE INVENTORY BLOWOUT!**

**SAVE 40-66%**

**OFF OUR REGULAR PRICES ON ALMOST EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!**

Excluding promotional goods. Sale in effect May 31-June 30, 2004. Details in-store.

**547 Main St. E. MILTON 878-0931**