

# Region says its flu shot initiative necessary

• from WORKERS on page 1

which includes those that work at Allendale and in the two adult day programs offered at Allendale, along with all regional employees involved with supportive housing.

Services for Seniors Director Sheldon Wolfson acknowledged at the health and social services committee last week that making flu shots mandatory is a fairly strong approach and that the Region expects to be challenged on it.

Speaking with The Champion Wednesday, Mr. Wolfson stood behind the Region's flu shot initiative, stating that it's necessary to protect the health of the vulnerable Allendale residents and co-staff.

"We're optimistic that staff will continue, as they have in the past, to act in the best interest of residents," he said, adding this is what makes Allendale so wonderful.

Another part of the reason this measure is being used is due to the low immunization rate in local long-term care facilities last year, which Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health Dr. Bob Nosal said was about 71 per cent. This is well below the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care target of 90 per cent.

Disputes between the Region and OPSEU have been long-standing. Last October, OPSEU filed an unfair labour practice complaint against Halton after the union found out that a decision had already been made to contract out footcare and hairdressing services at Allendale, affecting four employees.

This led to a settlement that deferred the consideration of contracting out at Allendale pending the outcome of collective bargaining next year.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at [mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

# Open house this Tuesday

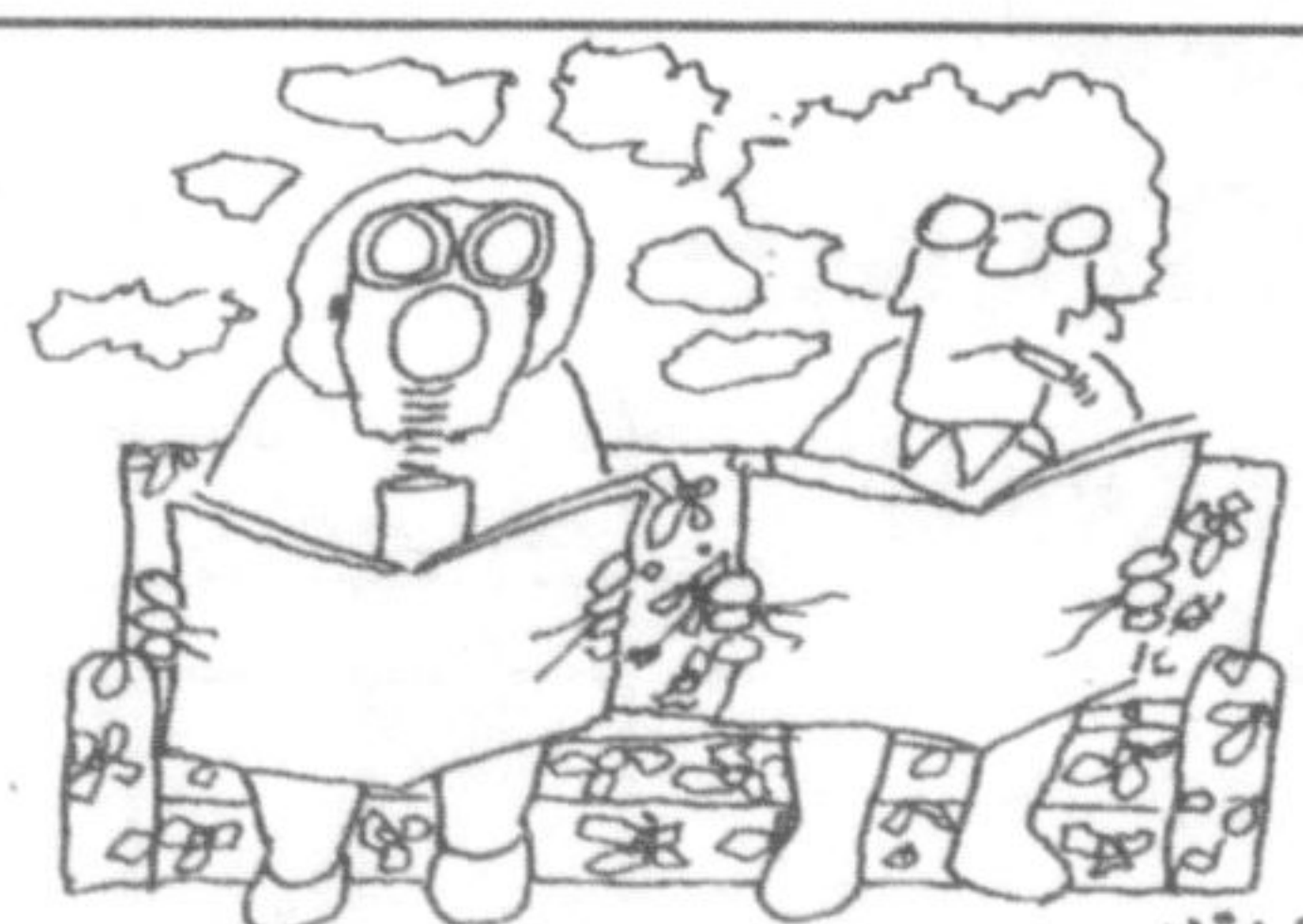
• from MILTON on page 2

About 16.5 hectares of land will be needed for a campus-style facility with direct access to the major road system and water and sewer service.

This will be dealt with at the October 25 council meeting.

Residents will have a chance to get a closer look at the operations facility future plans at a public information centre Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. at Hugh Foster Hall, 43 Brown St.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at [mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com).



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