

# Campbellville park ice rink didn't quite work out this year, but hopefully it will be different next year

By **ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER**

Special to *The Champion*

Although Mother Nature didn't cooperate this year to make the new Campbellville ice rink a success, valuable lessons were learned for next year, said Cindy Lunau, Ward 3 councillor and a volunteer with the project.

"We ran into a few problems this year due to the weather as well as the (grass) area for the rink," said Ms Lunau.

"We needed a few really cold days to freeze it thoroughly and, unfortunately, we didn't get it. There's also a significant but not visible slope in the outfield area where we put the rink and the water ran down and underneath the ice. It just didn't work."

The approximate 30-foot by 60-foot ice rink, at the new Campbellville Ball Park off of Reid Sideroad, was established in the fall with the installation of lights, benches, boards, and picnic tables by the Town of Milton.

When the weather turned cold, volunteer firefighters from the Town of Milton pumped a minimum of 16,000 gallons of water onto the rink as part of their training exercises for using the pump trucks, said Ms Lunau.

"Everyone has been really supportive of this project from the very beginning," she said.

"Campbellville residents have been very diligent in helping with the rink and there is such a strong willingness within the community to make this work. The firefighters have been great about flooding it even though it couldn't be used this year. There is, however, real promise to what it can be next year."

Ms Lunau said the ice rink is planned to be an annual event and the Town of Milton and the organizers will take into consideration all that has been learned this year.

To make the rink work next year, several options are being considered and the cost and viability of each will be considered.

## Maple syrup season opens at Crawford

It's maple syrup season at Crawford Lake Conservation Area, and visitors that stop by from now until April 10 can enjoy demonstrations and samples of the sweet stuff.

Events will run on weekends and holidays, and daily during the March Break, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Throughout the day, staff will teach about Iroquoian 'sweet water' traditions and prepare fresh cornbread with maple syrup for visitors to snack on.

The highlight of the season is the special First Nations-style maple syrup demonstrations in the reconstructed Iroquoian village.

There's also many maple products for sale in the gift shop, and several beautiful hiking trails throughout the park. Those that stop by can even take part in a discovery hunt and free crafts.

March 13 is Sweet Water Day and will feature activities for kids, a guest presenter, games, crafts, demonstrations and more.

Admission costs \$6 per person and children four years old and under get in free. Crawford Lake is located on the corner of Steeles Avenue and Guelph Line.

For more information, call (905) 854-0234 or visit [www.conservationhalton.on.ca](http://www.conservationhalton.on.ca).

The options available are leveling the current area with soil, relocating the rink to another part of the ballpark or installing a

rink liner to hold the water.

"A lot of building an ice rink is trial and error and all we can do is learn from our

mistakes," said Ms Lunau.

"We are very confident that next year's rink will be more successful."

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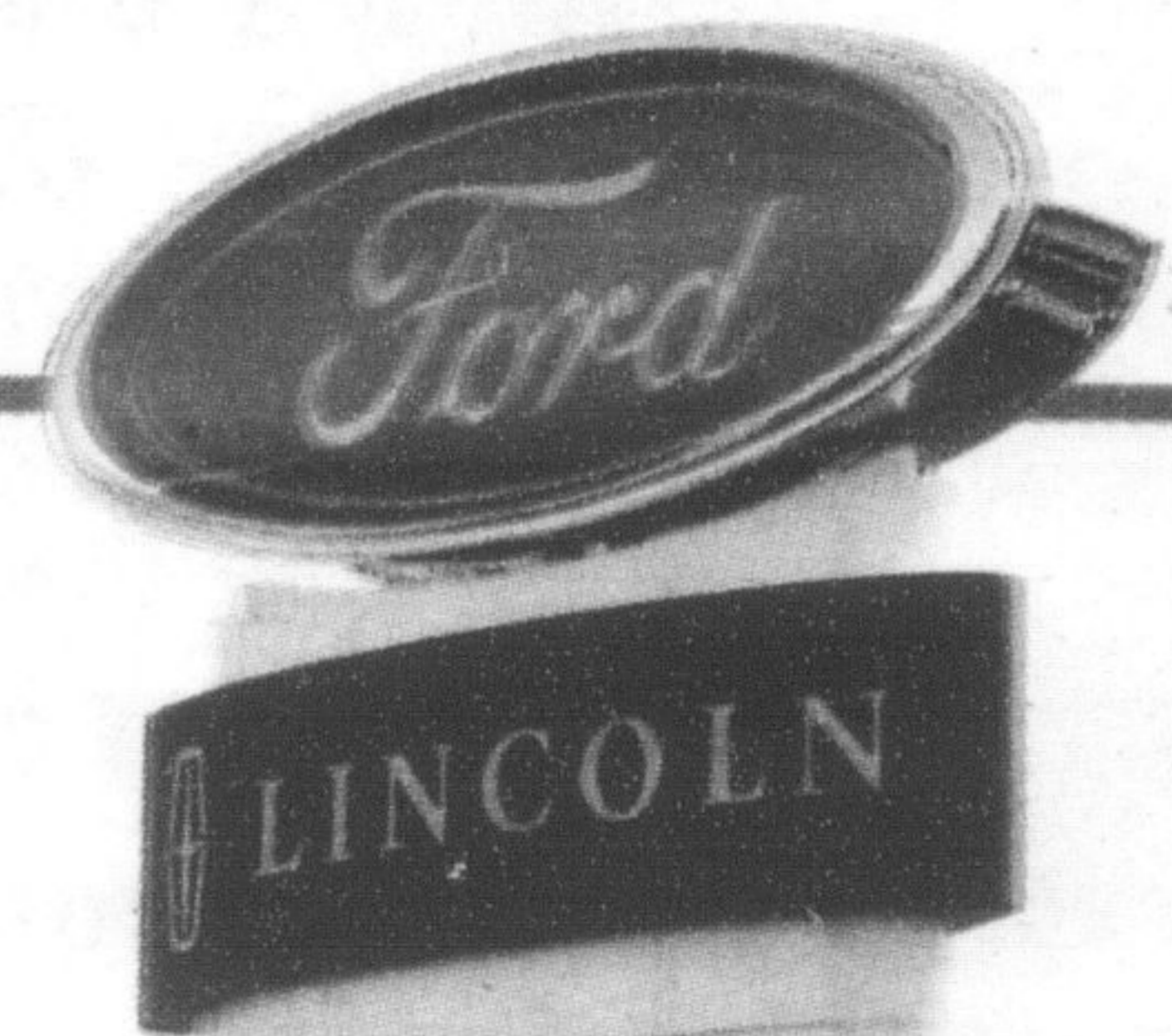
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