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36 PAGES "Using Communication to Build Better Communities"



## ✓ Snow angel

Four-year-old Jenny Paulett, a junior kindergarten student at Brookville School, makes a perfect snow angel while taking part in the school's winter carnival Friday. See more photos from the event in Champion Country on page 11.

Photo by  
GRAHAM PAINE

## ✓ Penman back as chair of CH board

*Conservation authority has some challenges to work out, he says*

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**  
*The Champion*

Ward 1 Councillor Brian Penman made the move from vice-chair to chair of Conservation Halton's board of directors at the environmental agency's elections Thursday night.

"The role of chair is so critical to our future. We need to set aside our differences and get on with who and what we are," Mr. Penman said at the inaugural meeting — held at its Burlington admin-



**Brian Penman**

istration centre — before the ballots were cast. He shared some of his vision for the organization, saying one of the most important concepts for CH to keep in mind is balance — particularly with the growth its municipalities are experiencing. "Each of our municipalities in our watershed are under tremendous pressure to grow. There needs to be a balance between that and the environmental mandate of Conservation Halton," he said, adding, "If we don't speak on behalf of the environment, who will?"

This position is nothing new to Mr. Penman,

who's served 25 years as a director on the board including nine years as chair. He was elected vice-chair last year after a three-year hiatus during which he worked with CH's fundraising foundation.

Mr. Penman spoke of a number of challenges currently facing CH, including a duplication of some efforts with the Region, which was pointed out recently by Regional chair Joyce Savoline — an issue that will be addressed by CH's external relations committee.

He added it's important that CH examine itself for potential problems, and not look only externally for issues that need working out.

Mr. Penman was nominated by Mayor Gord Krantz, who's served on the board for more than two decades. He championed Mr. Penman's expe-

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