

Prenatal nutrition program to get \$90,000 a year

Halton's Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP) will soon receive a funding boost from Health Canada.

The CPNP is going to get \$90,194 a year from April 1 to March 31, 2007. This money will support local organizations that work with pregnant women at risk for delivering low birth weight babies.

The funding from Health Canada will provide additional staff to recruit and counsel at-risk women in Halton.

It will also support additional group sessions at the established sites in Burlington (Ontario Early Years Centre) and Oakville (Salvation Army). Once staffing is in place, sites will be opened in north Halton, alternating between the Ontario Early Years Centre in Milton and Georgetown.

"The funding from the federal government will enable us to build on the success of this program in Halton and help more pregnant women who may be at risk," said Regional Chair Joyce

Savoline.

"This is part of our continued effort to build a healthy community, through taking a proactive approach and providing the tools, resources and education to support Halton residents."

The goals of the CPNP are to improve the health of pregnant women, decrease the number of babies born with low birth weight, increase the number of mothers who breastfeed and create linkages between pregnant women and existing community resources.

Women participating in the CPNP have access to the following supports:

- One-on-one nutrition counselling with a registered dietitian
- Health education resources
- Nutrition education and the development of skills related to food and nutrition in an interactive, informal environment
- Public transportation tickets

- Informal childcare
- Food vouchers
- A cookbook
- Referrals to other community services

For more information about the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program in Halton, contact the Region's health department at (905) 825-6000 or visit www.region.halton.on.ca.

Deaf organization gets funding boost

The Bob Rumball Associations for the Deaf (BRAD) has received a \$95,600 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The funds will be used to equip and furnish a new day centre for deaf children and youth with developmental disabilities.

The 8,000-square-foot facility located on Campbellville Road will feature classrooms, activity areas, a sensory room, common room, kitchen and administrative offices.

"This new centre will become a focal point for all our activities in Milton and Halton Hills," said BRAD Executive Director Brad Saunders. "The support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation makes it possible for us to complete our building by providing our clients with much-needed equipment and classroom furnishings."

Once opened, the day centre will provide programs and support for dozens of clients from across the region, primarily those graduating from the E.C. Drury School for the Deaf.

The BRAD has provided services for the deaf with special needs since 1985. Over the years, it has steadily expanded its outreach programs and currently runs seven residential centres in Milton.

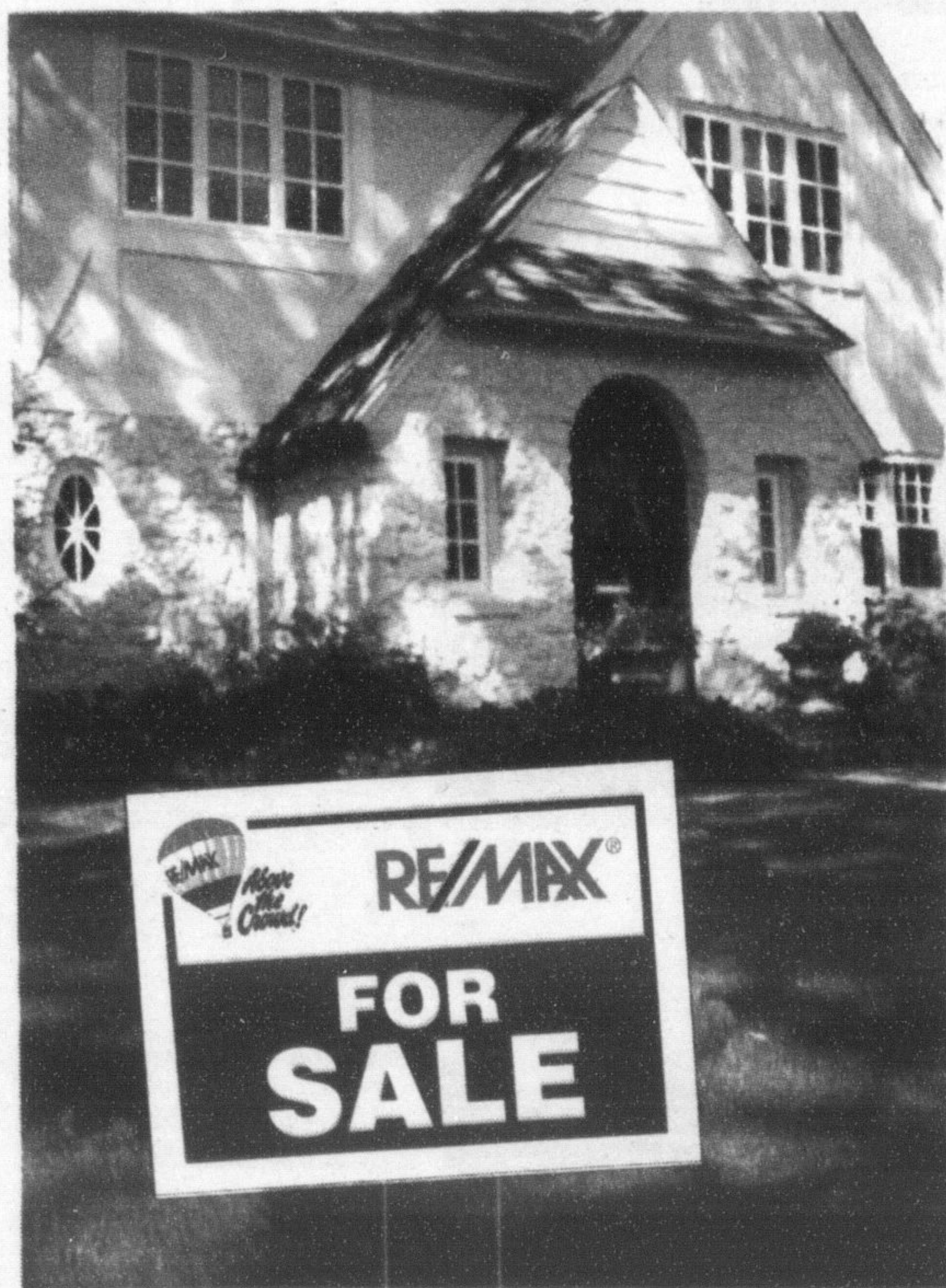
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Richard Howitt - Legal Council + CMHC Representative

Sharon Arnold, Senior Financial Services Officer, Prosperity One



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