

Milton • Means Business



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Roxul recognition

Roxul was recently honoured with an award from the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment at the ninth annual Canadian Pollution Prevention Conference in Victoria, B.C. Here (from left) operations manager Bent Soegaard, factory manager Jack Silva and president Trent Ogilvie show the award while surrounded by a few bags of their Flexibatt retail insulation and tons of recycled slag.

Home Depot on the way

80,000-square-foot store set to open early next year

By MELANIE HENNESSEY

The Champion

By early next year Milton will be home to the world's largest home improvement retailer.

The Home Depot has announced its plans to open an 80,000-square-foot store at the corner of Steeles Avenue and Hwy. 401 within the 31-acre RioCan Centre. This is also where the Galaxy Cinemas theatre will be built.

Home Depot Public Relations Manager Nick Cowling said construction is expected to get underway in the next month or so, with the grand opening taking place mid-January next year.

"We're pretty excited about opening in Milton," he said. "We love getting into a new market."

He said the location will also feature a 15,000-square-foot garden centre in addition to the store's usual line-up of everything from tools and building materials to window coverings and lighting.

Mr. Cowling noted that the new store will carry about 40,000 different products, including the largest paint selection in Canada, and provide services such as a tool rental centre.

"It's really sort of a one-stop shop," he said.

For local residents, this will also mean another employment opportunity. Mr. Cowling said they'll need about 110 employees to staff the new location and the company will hold a job fair about three months before the store opens.

He noted Home Depot will also run a community affairs program in Milton, meaning the store helps with things like constructing playgrounds and Habitat for Humanity homes.

"Anything we (Home Depot) can do around the home, we can do around these organizations," Mr. Cowling said.

RioCan has yet to officially announce what other businesses will be setting up shop on its property framed by Steeles Avenue, Hwy. 401, Maple Avenue and Thompson Road.

Plans submitted to the Town for the land show four buildings designated for restaurants and nine set aside for retail tenants.

Town Director of Planning and Development Mel Iovio said the only things guaranteed for the property so far are Home Depot and Galaxy Cinemas.

The plans also show 1,742 parking spaces and a six-metre wide landscaped strip around the perimeter of the site.

Mr. Iovio said site plans for the RioCan Centre will be approved by staff, not council.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@milton-canadianchampion.com.

Padgett scholarship winner announced

Deumer will use bursary to study Actuarial Science at Waterloo



Kristin Deumer

Doug and Gloria Francis of Padgett Business Services are pleased to announce that Kristin Deumer of Campbellville is the recipient of the 2004-05 Padgett Business Services Scholarship.

"Kristin has the attributes we were looking for in awarding this \$500 scholarship," said Mr.

Francis. "She has an outstanding high school record and her future scholastic and career plans are admirable."

Kristin will study Actuarial Science at Waterloo University. She's the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Deumer, who share ownership of Solex in Milton.

The Padgett Scholarship is open to sons and daughters of independent business owners, and was awarded to Kristin, a graduating student of Milton District High School.

For further information about the Padgett Scholarship Program, call Gloria Francis at (905) 693-8777.



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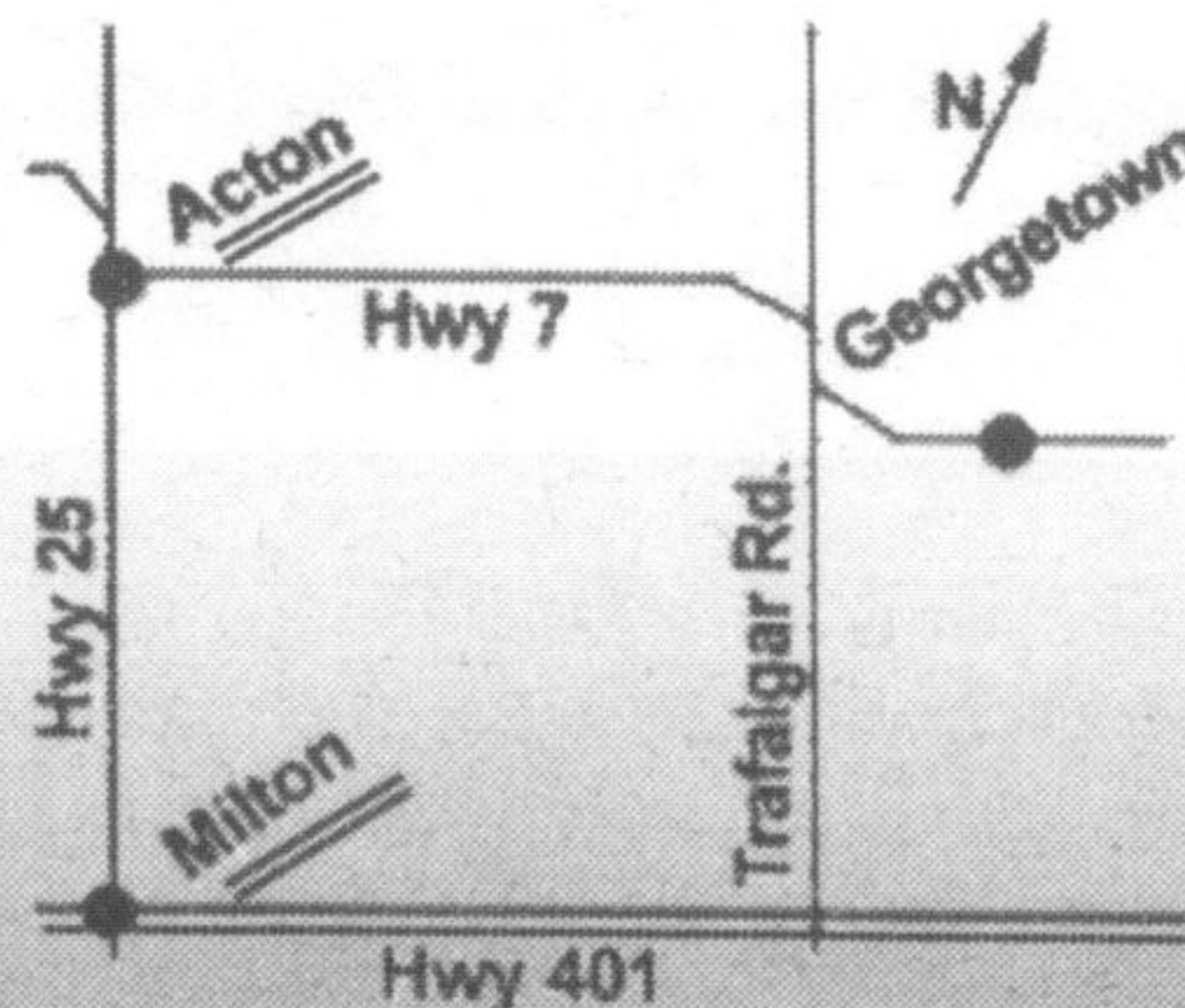
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