## Residents have their say on Brookville Park expansion

By Robin Downton-Poirier
SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

A playground and lighted pathway as well as improved access and parking were the primary concerns of residents who attended the Brookville Park expansion meeting last Tuesday.

The open house at the Nassagaweya Community Centre served as an opportunity for the Town of Milton to obtain public opinion about what should be included in the park design.

About 40 people attended.

John Bryant, the Town's manager of parks and open space, made it clear at the beginning of the meeting that, other than hopefully adding green space, there's no plan yet for the 2.12-hectare piece of property acquired when the Churchill Estates subdivision was built several years ago.

"I want to emphasize that there is no plan for this piece of property," said Bryant. "This is strictly an information-gathering session to field the public as to what it may be used for."

The Town of Milton has allotted a budget of \$250,000 to expand the existing Brookville Park that has two ball diamonds that cover most of its 3.6 hectares. The new piece will provide more green space — an area that can be enjoyed by the community — and will maintain some of the existing features of the property, such as the hedgerows, said Bryant.

"We want to put in something that is going to be used by the community, complement the existing features, and ultimately get the best bang for the buck," he said.

The audience openly shared ideas of what they would like to see incorporated into the park's design including an area

## Mascot design sought for Town's anniversary

It's time to sharpen those pencils, put on your thinking cap and design a mascot and theme for the Town's 150th anniversary celebrations in 2007.

The contest was recently launched by Milton's 150th anniversary committee, which is hard at work organizing next year's festivities.

Mascot designs and theme ideas can be submitted until March 10. The contest winner will get to ring in the new year with Mayor Gord Krantz on December 31.

Entries should be mailed to: Town of Milton, 150th anniversary celebration committee, Attn: Lorrie Ferrante, 43 Brown St., Milton, L9T 5H2, or submitted on the Town's Web site at www.milton.ca.

For copies of the entry form or for more information call committee chair Michael Cluett at (905) 878-1327.

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for younger children to play, as the Brookville School playground is often inaccessible.

Other popular ideas were a lighted hard-surface pathway that would lead to the schoolyard, and upgraded access and parking as the current driveway is a "mess," said several residents.

One idea that received some criticism was an alternate access and street parking on Inglis Drive as it would interfere with the Churchill Estates properties.

Bryant said the Town will use in-house landscaping architects to complete the design to devote the money to the park and not incur any outside fees.

Several meetings will be held over the next few months to present the collective ideas and a park concept, and then to fine-tune the design.

The construction contract will then go through a tendering process and be awarded to the most appropriate company. Construction should be completed by September, said

Bryant.

"This is a fairly conservative approach as we don't want to rush things," said Bryant. "We appreciate everyone's patience and want to work with you to develop a concept that you can support."

Several local councillors, including Cindy Lunau and Barry Lee, attended the meeting and encouraged the audience to make their ideas known, even if they're beyond the planned budget.

"This is the time to really dream about what you want for this space without being inhibited by the thought of a smaller budget," said Lunau. "If it turns out that what is envisioned for the two parks is not feasible for this budget, (the local councillors) will work to get it in a staged way, with this being stage one."

To submit ideas for a park design, contact John Bryant at (905) 878-7252, ext. 2160, or Lisa Vandervliet at (905) 878-7252, ext. 2186.

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