

Council defers its decision on controversial subdivision

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Should the Town support plans for a housing development near the Niagara Escarpment?

That was the question the Town's administration and planning committee struggled with Tuesday night, but ended up deferring to next week's council meeting with the hopes staff can negotiate a lower number of proposed homes with the developer in the meantime.

The staff recommendation that went before the committee but was ultimately put off to Monday's council session called for the Town to support, with

some conditions, the detailed concept plan from Central Milton Holdings Ltd. for 298 homes — 232 single detached and 66 townhouses — on land west of Bronte Street and north of Main Street.

A Town position on the proposal is necessary now that the development is going back to a joint board hearing of the Ontario Municipal Board and Environmental Review Tribunal in July. That means the joint board will make the final decision as to whether development can take place on the property.

Before deferring the matter, councillors first heard from several members of the public on the subdivision.

Coulson Avenue resident Richard Murzin encouraged committee members to stay true to what council previously decided — that there should be no development on the property.

"Milton doesn't need any more urban land or urban residential development than that which has already been slated for development, particularly at the expense of our escarpment," he said. "The people of Milton treasure the escarpment and its countryside more than anything else in our community."

Appleby Line resident Keith Hincks said he feels the land is under the protection of the public
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