The Canadian Champion Tuesday May 16 2006 - AF



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MILTON

TTY: 905-878-1657

905-878-7252

www.milton.ca

Destiny/Milion 2:

Public input is invited on the Draft Strategic Plan Framework

Destiny Milton 2 is a strategic planning process that is intended to identify what the priorities of the Town are with respect to quality of life and service delivery. The product will be a Strategic Plan, which will include a community vision and a series of goals, directions and initiatives. Once finalized, the Strategic Plan will help guide municipal decision making in the Town in both the short and longer term. If you weren't able to participate in the Destiny Milton feedback session on May 11, we would still welcome your input.

Steps to participate...

- 1. Read the "Destiny Milton 2 Draft Strategic Plan Framework" available at:
 - www.milton.ca
 - Town Hall Victoria Park (43 Brown St.)
 - Town Hall Annex 555 (555 Industrial Dr.)
 - Milton Sports Centre (605 Santa Maria Blvd.)
- 2. Submit your comments by May 18:

plan@meridianplan.ca

Fax:

705-737-5078

Drop off:

Town Hall Victoria Park,

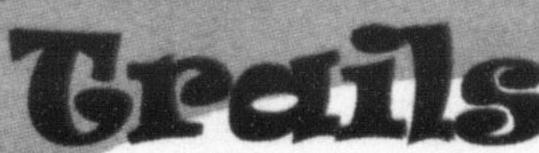
Town Hall Annex 555

Milton Sports Centre

Meridian Planning Consultants Inc., 113 Collier Street, Barrie, ON L4M 1H2

www.milton.ca 905-878-7252, ext. 2187 destinymilton@milton.ca







Parks By-law Community Open Houses

Join us for these information sessions for rural and urban residents.

Wednesday, May 17, 2006 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Nassagaweya Community Centre 11264 Guelph Line, Brookville 53 Brown Street, Milton

Wednesday, May 24, 2006 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Hugh Foster Hall

About the Parks By-law

The Town of Millton Parks By-law No. 126-74 is being updated to meet the needs of our growing community. The purpose of this bylaw is to ensure Town of Millton parks are safe and enjoyable by providing for their maintenance, operation, management and regulation.

Next steps

The by-Law is anticipated to be presented to the Town of Millton Community Services Standing Committee in June of 2006 and Millton Council in July of 2006. A draft copy of the by-law as well as comment sheets are available at www.milton.ca. Please provide comments by Monday, May 29.

Please forward questions/written comments to: Karyn Bennett, DeputyClerk

Phone: 905-878-7252, ext. 2102 E-mail: karyn.bennett@milton.ca

Residents tell panel how to make health care better

Citizens call for more local specialists

By Melanie Cummings SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

Take the coolness out of the health system and put some warmth in it.

The comment made by Anne Ptolemy sums up the consensus of about three dozen people who voiced their opinions recently to a panel charged with improving the delivery of local health care.

The group is formally known as the Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network (MHLHIN).

But those who participated in the evening workshop at Country Heritage Park don't have the only say. Capturing a "statistically meaningful" commentary is the hope of the MHLHIN, said Scott McLeod, who's the senior director of planning, integration and community engagement for the local network.

Residents can also submit their opinions through an online survey www.pwc.com/c/MHLHIN_pub

The transition from managing the province's \$33 billion health care budget from Queen's Park to creating 14 regional overseeing agencies, such as the one designated for Mississauga and Halton, is expected to be complete by 2007.

In the meantime, residents and providers in each area are being asked to identify the parts of their local system that work well, those that don't and to prioritize the trouble spots.

Among the Milton-specific problems residents put on the list at the forum were as follows.

- More pediatricians and other medical specialists are needed for the area.
- Only five per cent of the provincial health-care budget is spent on mental health issues among children. The North Halton Mental Health Clinic was cited as an excellent facility, but it only focuses on care for patients 16 and older. Concern was especially expressed about issues of stress, substance abuse and depression among children.
- · Due to increased obesity among children and the connections poor nutrition and exercise play in chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes, participants wanted more recreational opportunities offered town-wide and a greater push on prevention programs offered through the Halton Region Health Department.

· Equally so, seniors need more outlets for social experiences and physical exercise. The Mississauga Geriatric Advisory Task Force is looking at

improved delivery of service to seniors as well.

- Attention also needs to be paid to obesity among those residents between the ages of 20 64 Mississauga/Halton area. An estimated 44 per cent of the 687,000 adults in the area fall into this health risk category.
- The Milton District Hospital emergency department is overburdened and hasn't kept up with massive growth in the town. Also contributing to its overextended state is its use by residents in Burlington and Mississauga who head to Milton hospital to circumvent a long wait time in their respective hospital emergency departments.

 Hospice care is essential to the aging population.

· There should also be better co-ordinated communication among health-care professionals to better manage treatment and eliminate duplication of medical tests. Asthma was cited as an example of one of the most poorly-managed conditions, and considering Mississauga/Halton has a slightly higher asthma rate than the provincial average, it's a vital concern. (An estimated 9.1 per cent of the age 12 and over population in the area have asthma, compared to 8.3 per cent provincially.)

When asked to pinpoint the greatest priority for the town, participants all agreed that a new hospital in the region is necessary to improve the delivery of health care in Milton.

Mental health and pediatric services were identified next on the list and a greater focus, through public health programs, on promoting prevention, not just treating illness were also listed as immediately essential.

Ontario is the last province in Canada to adopt a system of regional health-care reform. It's a system that's currently in practice in England, Australia and New Zealand.



Victoria Day **Transit Notice**

Please note that there will be no Milton Transit Service or Accessible Transit Service on:

Monday, May 22, 2006 Scheduled services will resume on:

Tuesday, May 23, 2006 Phone: 905-815-2020

(Information Line for Oakville Transit, which is providing Milton Transit service)

Springers Gymnastics Club SUMMER CAMP

Milton

Online

Recreation Camp

Boys & Girls, 5-12yrs

8 Weekly Sessions from July 3- Aug. 21 Full Day: 9-4pm Cost: \$160.00 (Before/After care available)

Kindergym Camp

Boys & Girls, 3 1/2-5yrs

A.M.: 9-noon P.M.: 1-4pm Cost \$100 Weeks of July 17, July 24, Aug 14, Aug 21.

8 Week Session

18mths-3 1/2 yrs

Tuesday nights starting July 4th Parent & Tot, **Tumble Bunnies** Call for details.

Gymnastics Instruction by Qualified Coaches No Experience Required

LIMITED SPACE - REGISTER NOW! Milton Sports Centre • 605 Santa Maria Blvd. • 905-878-5030

All programs held in our air conditioned facility in the Milton Sports Centre