

# New parks bylaw has more clearly defined rules: Town

By Melanie Hennessey  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

The Town is bringing its 32-year-old parks bylaw up to speed with other area municipalities.

A draft of the updated document was presented to a small handful of residents at an open house at the Nassagaweya Community Centre in Brookville Wednesday night.

The purpose of the bylaw is to ensure Town parks are safe and enjoyable by providing for their maintenance, operation, management and regulation.

"The whole intention, with the growing community and town, is to update the bylaw to make it a bit more relevant," explained Jeff Fraser, the Town's parks development co-ordinator.

"We're not doing anything totally different. It's really a matter of trying to put something in place that protects the safety

and enjoyment of the public."

Amongst the changes to the bylaw brought about by the update are the addition of a definitions section and more clearly defined rules regarding animals and commercial activities in parks.

Town Deputy Clerk Karyn Bennett pointed out that a leash-free dog park, once created, would be dealt with under a separate bylaw.

As part of the update, Fraser said staff "looked at municipalities in the area and tried to get a handle on what their bylaws say."

He noted that as other Town bylaws are updated, it makes sense to do the same for the parks bylaw.

Uwe Samstag-Schnock of the Milton Soccer Academy — one of the citizens in attendance at the open house — shared his two cents' worth on the document.

"A lot of this bylaw is good. It's common sense," he

remarked.

Samstag-Schnock and the handful of residents went on to ask staff various questions about specific clauses in the bylaw.

The current parks bylaw was created in 1974 and amended by town council in 1995.

A second open house on the updated bylaw will be held tomorrow at Hugh Foster Hall, located beside Town Hall Victoria Park, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Town staff anticipates presenting the bylaw to the community services committee next month and to council in July.

A draft copy of the bylaw and comment sheets are available at [www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca).

For more information visit the aforementioned Web site, e-mail [karyn.bennett@milton.ca](mailto:karyn.bennett@milton.ca) or call (905) 878-7252, ext. 2102.

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