

# Algar reflects on his career

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dous support" of his efforts then addressed those police officers in attendance.

"It's been a wonderful time," said Algar, whom Halton Regional Police Services Board member Richard Burgess called a "consummate policing professional."

"I can't tell you how fast 38 years have gone. It's a career I have enjoyed immensely."

Algar then said he plans to spend more time with his family and his garden and, after some thought, volunteer in

some capacity in his community.

Algar replaced Chief Peter Campbell effective January 1, 1999 and was officially sworn in seven days later.

Although he was responsible for the entire region, Algar had a special local connection. A self-confessed "old Oakville boy," Algar attended three area high schools and has always been proud of his Oakville roots.

Algar — now a Burlington resident and married father of

two — spent several years specializing in drugs before the Oakville force was absorbed by the regional body in 1974. Three years later Algar was promoted to sergeant. In 1981 he made staff sergeant and was transferred to Burlington. A year later he was promoted to inspector and was soon back in Oakville. His star continued to rise — staff inspector, staff superintendent — before he was named acting deputy chief of police administration in May, 1994.

# Recruiting new police officers one of goals for new chief Crowell

By Dennis Smith  
SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

Additional police officers are on the 'most wanted list' for the incoming chief of Halton Regional Police.

Halton is growing rapidly and becoming more diverse and the force should reflect that, said Gary Crowell, who took over as chief Saturday.

"We're working very hard to maintain staffing levels and we're concerned that we represent the makeup of the community," said Crowell.

"There is a shrinking pool of people interested in policing as a career. It was a shrunken pool and it's starting to become a puddle."

When interviewed shortly after his mid-May appointment, the incoming chief noted while police officers are paid well, those with university and college education have the potential for high-paying jobs in information technology.

Meanwhile, many current Halton officers are reaching retirement age.

"We're going through very large attrition rates and we're having trouble bringing people through the door," said Crowell, the region's deputy police chief since 1999.

He said the Halton force is competing with Hamilton for new officers and even Toronto and Calgary forces have been trying to recruit locally.

"We're all losing people who are retiring and we're all competing for the same puddle," said Crowell. "Truly there's not the interest. There used to be a time when we'd look out the door and there'd be a line-up a mile long. Now,

we're having to recruit where we never had to before."

The force is planning a drive soon to attract new officers, he said.

"We're trying to get the banner out there about Halton Regional Police," said Crowell. "We'd love to have people from the Halton area."

He said the Halton force's approach has always been to have general constables and front line officers on their beat, although there are some specialty areas like forensics.

Crowell said as chief he wants to establish himself internally and on the outside, listening to the views of community partners.

"Our motto is progress through participation in constructive partnerships with stakeholders, police partners, new communities and different community groups," said Crowell.

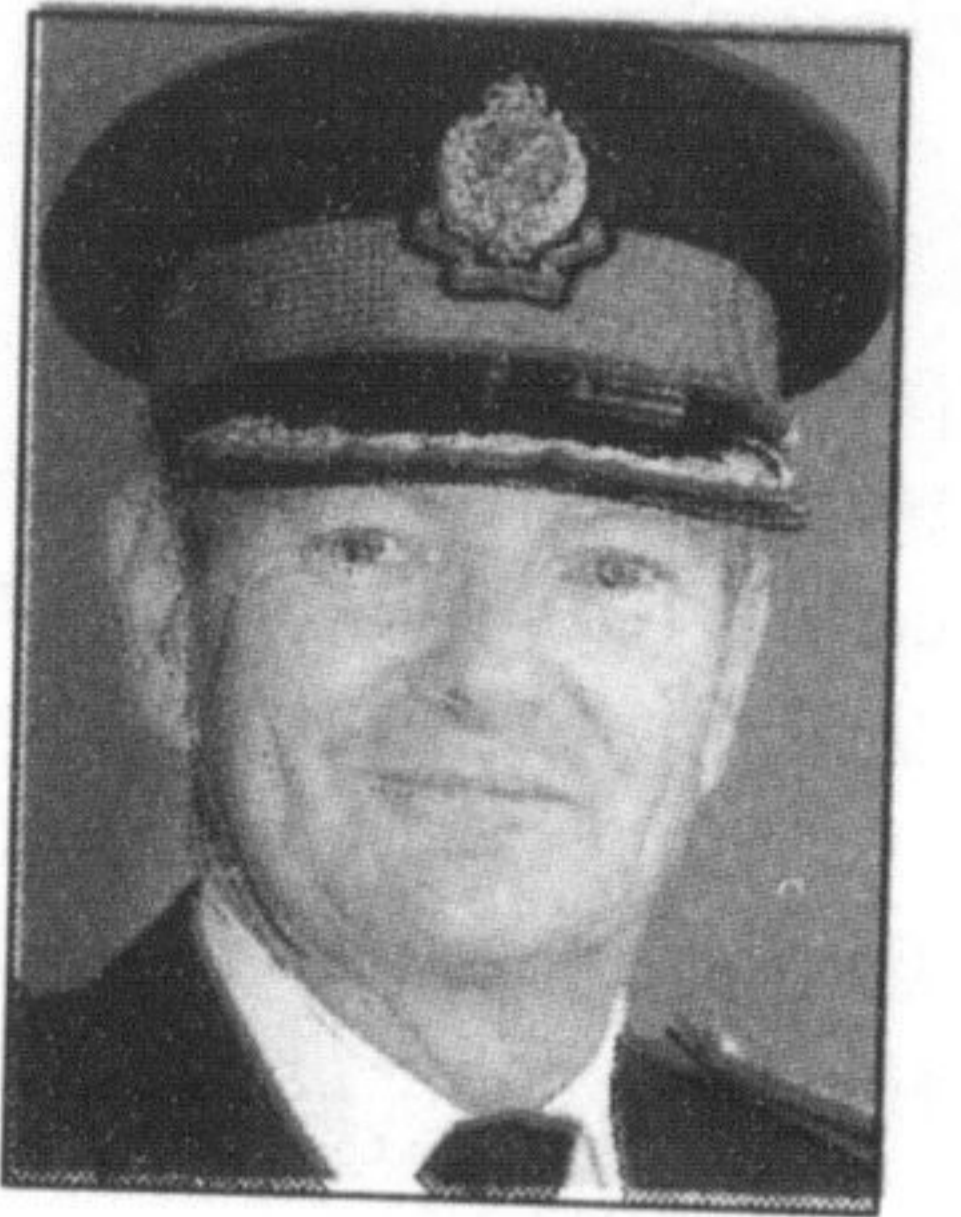
He said retiring chief Ean Algar should be applauded for his efforts in the community.

"We have a good relationship with community consultation groups and a number of diverse groups," said Crowell.

He's encouraged by recent statistics showing a low crime rate in Halton and again he pointed to community involvement.

"We have an excellent community in Halton that's willing to work with

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Gary Crowell

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## NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION AND TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 11(2) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, Chapter 25, as amended, that the Council of the Town of Milton at its meeting to be held in Town Hall, 43 Brown Street, on June 26, 2006 beginning at 7:30 p.m. will consider the adoption of bylaws authorizing construction and temporary road closure for the following construction project as noted below.

### PINE STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION (Pine Street from Commercial St. to Fulton St.)

To facilitate bridge repairs Pine Street between Commercial St. and Fulton St. will be closed to all through traffic for a period of approximately 8 weeks. Closure will occur between Monday July 10 and September 29, 2006.

Plans detailing the project will be available for viewing by appointment at the Engineering Services Department located at 555 Industrial Drive.

On June 12, 2006, the Community Services Standing Committee will give preliminary consideration to the proposed bylaws. At this meeting, Committee will hear, in person, or by their counsel, any person who claims that their lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-laws, and who applies to be heard. Persons wishing to be heard must notify the Clerks Department in writing, no later than **10:00 a.m. June 12, 2006.**

Any inquiries should be directed to the following:

**Rick Tipping, C.E.T.**  
Coordinator, Infrastructure  
Engineering Services Department  
Phone: 905-878-7252, ext. 2513  
Fax: 905-876-5029  
E-mail: rick.tipping@milton.ca