

Proposed housing strategy praised

DateLine

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the Allendale campus in Milton.

Before endorsing the strategy, the committee first heard from a few local residents on the matter.

Habitat for Humanity Halton (HfHH) Executive Director Kathrin Delutis said the organization thinks the strategy needs to include a home ownership component.

"We believe that the Region should, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Halton, support the provision of housing across the housing continuum, including home ownership," she said.

The strategy does recommend that the Region should

"investigate the potential for the creation of an affordable home ownership program delivered by Halton Region."

Delutis also asked that, in finalizing the strategy, the Region waive its various development fees for Habitat.

"By lowering the cost to build our homes we are able to pass these savings on to the home owner," she said. "Habitat's ability to provide home ownership to low-income individuals and families will assist in lowering the number of individuals on the waiting list for affordable housing, allowing us to assist you in delivering the comprehensive housing strategy."

Representatives from the Halton Housing Advisory Committee (HHAC) also spoke at the session and praised the strategy, dubbing it a "seminal report."

"This is a leading-edge initiative which underscores the Region's leadership in continuing to promote healthier communities in Halton," said HHAC's Lang Moffat. "We really feel very strongly that it's a step forward in this whole area."

Regional Chairman Joyce Savoline went on to sing the strategy's praises as well.

"It is truly as much a made-in-Halton solution as a model for other communities to follow," she said.

Halton Hills Councillor Clark Somerville said now, the Region has got to make sure the plan is "something that doesn't gather dust."

"We have to keep pushing it from here," he said.

Burlington Councillor Joan Loughheed said the document is a "cause for celebration."

"I think this first step is a really important step," she said.

Commissioner of Social and Community Services Adelina Urbanski noted that creating the strategy was truly a labour of love. She gave special thanks to her staff, who she said gave up their vacations and weekends to work on the document.

The housing strategy will go before regional council tomorrow for final approval.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@milton-canadianchampion.com.

Wednesday June 21

The Mississauga/Oakville Prostate Cancer Support Group meets from 7 to 9 p.m. at Wellspring, 2545 Sixth Line in Oakville. For more information, call (905) 257-1988.

The Town of Milton celebrates Seniors Month by offering seniors 65 and older free bus rides every Wednesday in June. Milton Transit information is available by calling (905) 815-2020 or at www.milton.ca.

Milton District Hospital holds a one-on-one breastfeeding clinic with a certified lactation consultant from 1:30 to 3 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, call Jean Gallen at (905) 878-2383, ext. 7030.

Wednesday Evening Worship takes place from 7 to 8 p.m. at Ebenezer United Church, 12274 Guelph Line. For more information, call Pastor Mark Rutledge at (905) 854-2423 or (519) 824-7303.

WIN With Results meets at Rattlesnake Point Golf Club with a golf clinic from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. with registration at 6 p.m. and the WIN meeting from 7:30 to 10 p.m. with registration at 7 p.m. The cost is \$49 for members and \$69 for non-members or, for the meeting only, is \$29 for members and \$49 for non-members. To reserve a spot, call (416) 226-3288 or e-mail meetings@winwithresults.ca.

The Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr., holds contract bridge at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$2 for members and \$4 for non-members. Its Weekly Lunch Counter also takes place, with a hot meal for \$6. Sign up at the reception desk or by calling (905) 875-1681.

La Leche League Milton meets from 7:15 to 9 p.m. at the Ontario Early Years Centre, 917 Nipissing Rd., for pregnant women and mothers interested in information on breastfeeding. Babies are welcome. For more information, call (905) 876-3322.

Thursday June 22

Milton District Hospital holds a one-on-one breastfeeding clinic with a certified lactation consultant from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, call Jean Gallen at (905) 878-2383, ext. 7030.

The Fine Arts Society of Milton's Evening Group of Artists meets from 7 to 10 p.m. The informal environment provides artists with an opportunity to exercise their drawing skills. For more information, call Janis at (905) 854-5753.

The Deck youth centre, 200 Main St. (rear entrance), invites high school students looking to play a game of pool to stop by between 7 and 10 p.m.

The Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr., holds its Thursday Afternoon Movie at 1:30 p.m. featuring *Memoirs of a Geisha*. Bid euchre and contract bridge are held at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$2 for members and \$4 for non-members. A foot care clinic takes place from 1 to 4 p.m. with a VON nurse by appointment. The cost is \$24. For an appointment, call (905) 875-1681.

Friday June 23

Milton District Hospital holds a group session breastfeeding clinic with a certified lactation consultant from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information or to make an

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