

Efforts underway to expand Energy Drill program

Initiative has taken off, says Milton Hydro president

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A Milton Hydro energy conservation pilot project could soon be expanding locally and into Toronto.

According to Milton Hydro president Don Thorne, the Toronto District School Board has applied to the Ontario Power Authority for funding to further develop the

local utility's Energy Drill program, which was created to respond to high electricity prices and critical supply constraints.

Thorne said it's also anticipated the initiative will be implemented in three additional Halton schools this fall. The schools that take part could include a mix of Catholic and public.

"This has really taken off," remarked Thorne, noting the program is getting atten-

tion from other regions like Durham as well. "The Energy Drill is a great education tool for the kids."

Last year, the Energy Drill pilot program — similar to a fire drill — started in Town of Milton facilities and Robert Baldwin School, meaning when electricity prices exceeded a certain threshold, Milton Hydro notified the pilot participants, who then activated their Energy Drill action plans.

The plans involve turning off non-essential equipment and deferring work that requires electricity, if possible.

Thorne said an Energy Drill could also be triggered by reliability or environmental concerns.

He noted the intent this fall is to restart the program at Robert Baldwin and have it run parallel with the other Halton and Toronto schools once approval has been given.

Milton Hydro is also working with the Town and local businesses to possibly expand the Energy Drill program in town.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessy@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Fall REGISTRATION

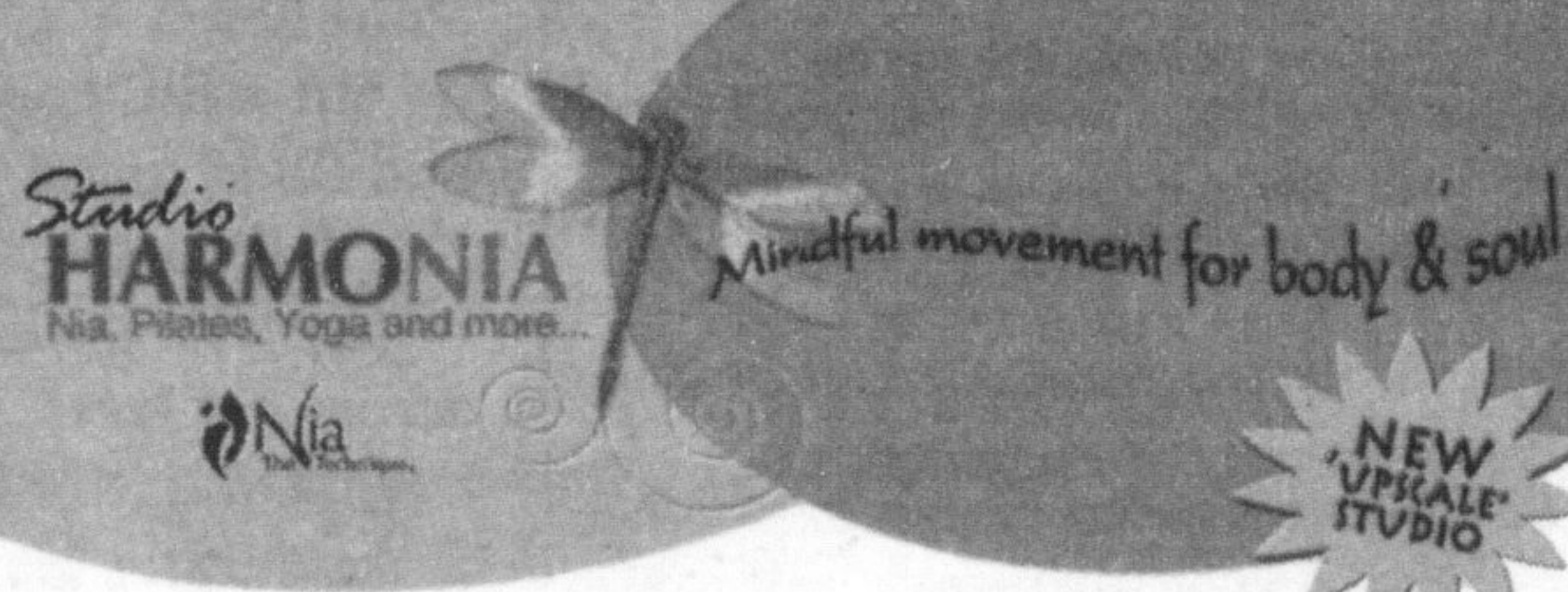


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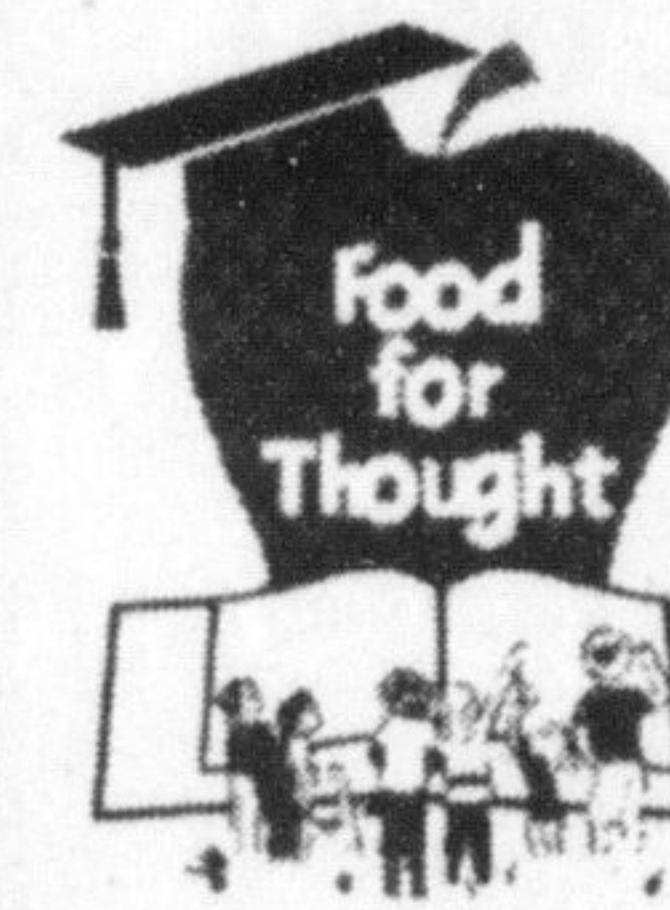
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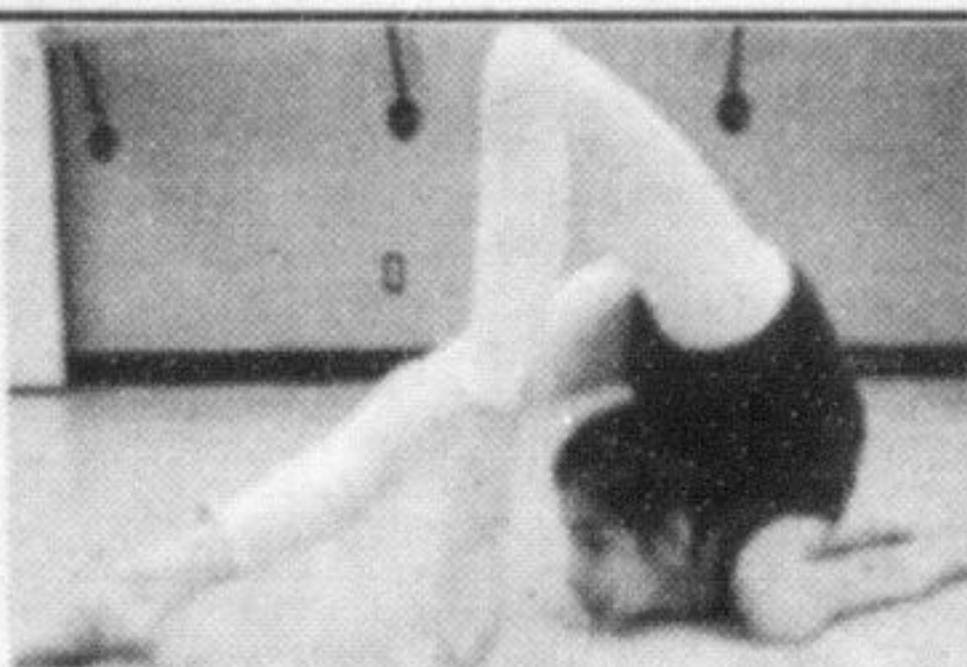
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