

OPINION

Living on 'Edge'

The launch of a new cross-over utility vehicle (CUV) at Ford's Oakville plant is exactly what Halton needed after recent news of significant job losses in neighbouring Burlington.

The unveiling of Ford Motor Company's new Edge CUV — and the more expensive Lincoln MKX model — is critical for two reasons. It assures local Ford jobs are safe for the time being and it gives the parent company reason to believe it can turn around a 2006 that began with first-half losses of \$1.4 billion (U.S.).

Meanwhile, Burlington's employment picture got a whole lot bleaker with news that a plant employing 300 would be closed by year end. Colorado-based Ball Packaging announced that, as a cost-cutting measure, it

would shut down its Walker's Line facility where food can bodies and ends are produced.

A union spokesperson said the news came as a shock to the workers — many of whom have toiled at the plant for 20 years or more.

Milton knows how that feels. At the end of July, Mueller Canada closed down its Lawson Road operation, putting about 102 area residents out of work.

After 18 years in town, the manufacturing facility that made products for the water and gas industries shut its doors due to restructuring by its parent company, Walter Industries Inc.

Even today, many of the laid off employees are feeling the effects as they continue to look for work.



ReadersWrite

Send your letters to miltone@haltonsearch.com or drop them off at 875 Main St. E.

Proposed power plant would destroy our beautiful town

(The following letter was addressed to Barbara Ellard, manager of procurement for the Ontario Power Authority, and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

DEAR EDITOR:

I'm writing to address the proposed plan of Pristine Power to build a hydro plant in Milton.

I was born and raised in Milton, and I have seen many changes over the years in town. Some of these changes were good, while others were not.

Now I believe that the worst change of all could be the building of this power plant on our doorstep.

The plant would have a diverse effect on our town and the nearby Niagara Escarpment. What about the wildlife that calls this natural wild refuge on the escarpment home? How about the smog that would be released into the air that would surely settle over our town, caus-

ing asthma and lung disease in many innocent people?

I wonder if Pristine Power would provide ear plugs to nearby residents so they wouldn't be able to hear the incessant noise emanating from the plant.

This is an agricultural community and we don't need nor want this type of industry in our backyard.

Perhaps you should visit our town and ask a few residents how they feel about this proposal.

How about, if you allow this plant to be built, you relocate your family here to Milton so that you can reap the benefits of such a wondrous operation in the community?

I hope that more people from the town will express their disapproval of this plant's construction.

**KEITH TIMBERS
MILTON**

Let's stop power plant from coming here

DEAR EDITOR:

There have been many things I've considered writing about in the past, but have not done so. This is one subject I feel I couldn't just stand by and not voice my concerns.

I'm sure — and hope — I'm not the only citizen in Milton concerned about possibly having a power plant in our backyard. No matter where we live in Milton, it will affect us all.

I'm hoping that the people of Milton will finally stand up and say enough is

enough. I thank the Willis family for bringing this to my attention.

I moved back to Milton because of the wonderful community it was. The escarpment surrounding us will be affected, as will our children, seniors and people with asthma if a power plant is allowed to be built in Milton.

Please Milton, stand up and be heard. Let's stop this plant from coming to Milton.

**MELODIE HAWKINS
MILTON**

Conservatives' fiscal responsibility doesn't deserve our criticism

DEAR EDITOR:

This letter is in response to The Champion's October 3 editorial entitled 'Give us a break'.

You're absolutely right; it does take a lot of nerve for a government to NOT kowtow to special interests and to cut unnecessary spending in the face of a huge budget surplus.

Thank goodness the Conservatives have that nerve.

If anything, it shows their integrity and commitment to fiscal responsibility. Had Paul Martin and the Liberals been in power, we would no doubt have a dramatic press conference where Martin would magnanimously announce his intention to use our money to improve health care and education — two money pits Liberals can always throw our cash at to score political points.

As for the statement that the government's approach is analogous to borrowing money from a relative to pay the rent or utilities but then applying all of the cash to a credit card bill, The Champion fails to mention the fact that it would be the relative's credit card bill that was being paid down — not the borrower's.

The national debt belongs to every Canadian. It's not the Harper government paying their personal debts with this surplus, as is implied in the misleading analogy, but the Harper government paying down all our debts.

This will reduce future interest expense, making more money available in the future to your beloved — and so often repeated to the point of meaninglessness — health care and education.

**MARK JENSEN
MCNIVEN ROAD**

The Canadian Champion
Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860

875 Main St. E.,
Milton, Ont. L9T 3Z3

905-878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943
Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364

Classified: 905-875-3300

Circulation: 905-878-5947

www.miltoncanadianchampion.com

Publisher
Neil Oliver

Advertising Director
Wendy McNab

Managing Editor
Karen Miceli

Production Manager
Tim Coles

Circulation Manager
Charlene Hall

Office Manager
Teri Casas

The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 875 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 3Z3, is a division of Metroland Media Group West — Group Publisher Ian Oliver

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB Audited

Recognized for excellence by

OCNA Ontario Community Newspapers Association

CNA Canadian Community Newspapers Association

SNM Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

Halton Healthcare **Child Find** ONTARIO

WELCOME WAGON LTD. SINCE 1940 **THE SHIRTED APPY** **MILTON CANADA DAY**

UNITED WAY OF MILTON **Help For Life** **TV AUCTION** **MILTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE**

ATHENA Awards **The Oakville, Milton and District Best Literary Book** **YMCA** OF ONTARIO

Showcase Milton more than a Home and Leisure Show! **FAO** POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

GALA Awards **FAO** POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

GALA Awards **FAO** POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product