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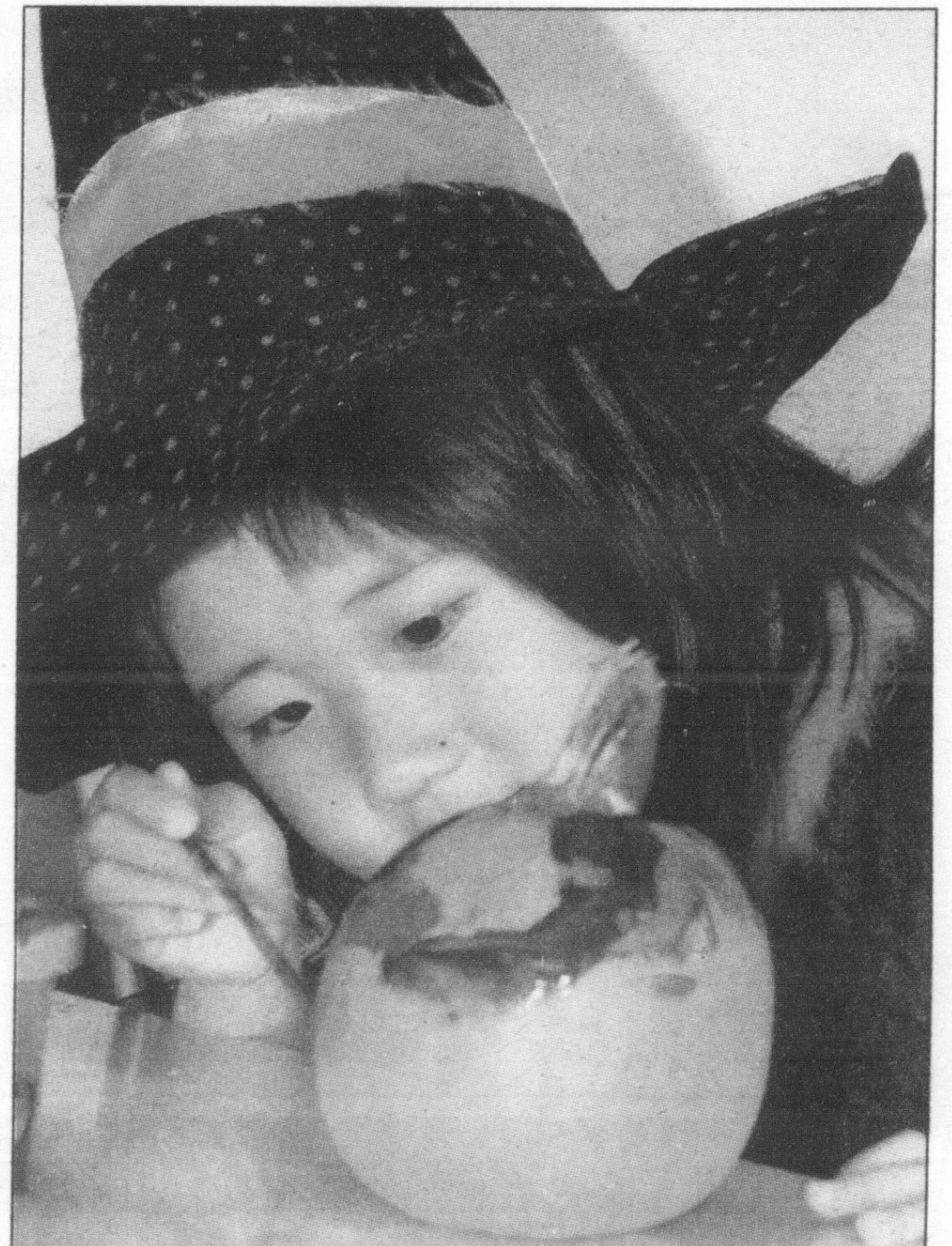
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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

**TRICK OR TREAT:** At left, two-year-old Amelia Crowe shows her kitty cat costume alongside mom Jennie at Sunday's Halloween Party and Spooky Grand Opening at the Milton Community Resource Centre on Bronte Street South. At right, seven-year-old Pamela Prasetya, decked out as a good witch, works on painting her pumpkin, one of the day's activities for ghouls and ghosts of all ages.

## Hall packed for all-candidates meeting

By **Melanie Hennessey**  
 CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

It was standing room only at a Wards 2 and 4 all-candidates meeting last Tuesday evening when those running for council were questioned on everything from transit to the town's rapid development.

The session, held at Hugh Foster Hall, drew more than 100 concerned residents who wanted to hear what the contenders had to say.

The candidates in attendance were: Ward 2 — Mark Curtis, Peter Haight and Jim Timbers, Ward 4 — Wendy Schau, John Daly and Paul Scherer and Wards 2 and 4 (local/regional) — Rick Malboeuf, Ron Furik and Nicki Ward.

Ward 2 incumbent Mike Boughton was absent due to an MRI appointment (he had a brain tumour removed earlier this year), while

Wards 2 and 4 candidate Colin Best had a scheduling conflict and Ward 4 Councillor John Challinor said he's just starting a new job and had a meeting with his boss.

Growth, as always, was a hot topic of the night, with one man asking the candidates to explain how the speedy development and resulting traffic chaos were allowed to happen.

Scherer said he doesn't understand how it "got away" from the Town like it did.

"If elected, I'll sure as hell make sure we're doing a better job managing growth," he said.

For Malboeuf, the developers are controlling the growth, not council. And Daly said while he hears the Town has a plan dealing with the growth, he doesn't think it has a vision.

Schau explained the Town's 1997 Official Plan said Milton will grow, and now the Province's Places to Grow plan has designated

the town as a priority urban growth area.

"There are places where we can and cannot stop growth," she said.

She also noted that if the Town were to turn down a developer who has a good plan, then the municipality would end up before the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for a costly hearing.

Haight said he's tired of hearing, "The Region won't let us, the Province won't let us."

"It doesn't have to be (that way)," he said. Timbers concurred that "council has to take a stand somewhere and take control back."

And when it comes to the traffic problems, Furik explained the Town doesn't receive development charges to help pay for infrastructure until residents have moved into their new homes.

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