

Dateline

Sunday Dec. 31

The Town of Milton holds its New Year's Eve bell ringing tradition at Victoria Park in front of Town Hall at 11:45 p.m. with refreshments at Hugh Foster Hall afterwards. Everyone's welcome.

Country Heritage Park holds its New Year's Eve Gala from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. with a live band, silent auction, party favours, a buffet dinner, late night snack and more. Tickets cost \$65 each or \$125 for a couple. For more information, call (905) 878-8151 or visit www.countryheritagepark.com.

Monday Jan. 1

The Mayor and Council New Year's Day Levee takes place from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Milton Town Hall for a meet and greet with Mayor Gord Krantz, members of town council and the Milton Historical Society.

Tuesday Jan. 2

Calling New Parents, a free drop-in program for parents and babies aged 6 months and younger, meets with a public health nurse to discuss parenting and infant care. The group meets at the new Ontario Early Years Centre at 410 Bronte St. from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call (905) 825-6000, ext. 7299.

Registration begins for a workshop for expectant parents called 'That new Baby!', which offers information on how to help your older child with the transition to being a big brother or sister. The workshop is free and takes place January 27 at the Ontario Early Years Centre/Milton Community Resource Centre, 410 Bronte St. S., from 10 to 11:30 a.m. For

more information, call (905) 876-1244, ext. 22.

The Halton Women's Centre, suite 229 in Hopedale Mall, 1515 Rebecca St. in Oakville, holds its free Employment Network from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. for unemployed women to learn skills including resumé-writing and interview skills. For more information, call (905) 847-5520 or visit www.haltonwomenscentre.org.

Help for Parents, a Halton parent support group, meets in the evening in the basement of the church at 5720 New St. in Burlington. This non-denominational self-support group helps parents of children who are in trouble at home, at school or with the law or who are abusive or taking drugs. The group is a member of the Association of Parent Support Groups in Ontario. For more information, call 1-800-488-5666 or visit www.apsgo.ca.

The Milton Al-Anon group meets at 8 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. E., for family and friends of alcoholics.

Wednesday Jan. 3

The Halton Women's Centre, suite 229 in Hopedale Mall,

1515 Rebecca St. in Oakville, holds its Abuse Support Group from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, call (905) 847-5520 or visit www.haltonwomenscentre.org.

Adult drop-in volleyball takes place at the Milton Leisure Centre from 2 to 3 p.m. The cost is \$3.50 for the hour.

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 Jill Hicks at (905) 878-2383, ext. 7610.

Thursday Jan. 4

The Halton Women's Centre, 1515 Rebecca St., suite 229 in Oakville, holds its free Caring and Sharing Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. Its Grief Clinic (in Spanish) runs from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (905) 847-5520.

The Ontario Early Years Centre hosts a parent group for parents of children with special needs, offering an opportunity to network and build knowledge and resources. It takes place at the Milton Community Resource Centre, 410 Bronte St. S., from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call (905) 876-1244, ext. 22.



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ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT NIAGARA TO GTA CORRIDOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY

PHASE 1

THE STUDY

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is initiating Phase 1 of the Planning and Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the Niagara to GTA corridor, following approval of the EA Terms of Reference by the Minister of the Environment. The planning and EA study will support the transportation objectives of the provincial *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* by providing for the efficient movement of people and goods within the corridor.

The purpose of the Niagara to GTA Corridor Planning and EA study is to examine existing and future anticipated transportation capacity deficiencies (problems and opportunities) within the Niagara to GTA corridor and to provide additional capacity for a 30-year planning horizon and beyond.

PROCESS

The Niagara to GTA Corridor Planning and EA will be undertaken in accordance with the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* (OEAA), the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), and the *Niagara to GTA Corridor Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference* (ToR), which was approved by the Minister of the Environment in June 2006.

The ToR outlines a two-phased approach that will be utilized to conduct this study. Phase 1 includes the following key steps:

1. Develop a Study Plan
2. Identify transportation problems and opportunities and verify the need for transportation improvements
3. Identify and assess transportation planning alternatives (i.e. fundamentally different ways of addressing the problems and opportunities)
4. Select preferred transportation planning alternative(s) and recommend a Transportation Development Strategy
5. Make recommendations for future study in the Niagara to GTA corridor.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Consultation activities during Phase 1 of the study will focus on informing stakeholders of the EA process, developing a Study Plan and providing stakeholders with opportunities to review and provide input on transportation needs, transportation planning alternatives, criteria for assessing planning alternatives, the selection of preferred planning alternative(s), and recommendations for subsequent studies.

Four rounds of Public Information Centres (PICs) will be held for Phase 1 of this study. Each round of PICs will include individual events held in Niagara, Hamilton, and Halton and will be supplemented by follow-up activities (such as workshops) where appropriate. Notices advising of the time and location for each PIC will be published in local newspapers, sent to persons on the project mailing list, and posted on the project website: www.niagara-gta.com

COMMENTS

Comments and information regarding this project will be collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the OEAA. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Access to Information Act*. With the exception of personal information (e.g., name and address), all comments will become part of the public record.

For further information, or to be added to the mailing list for this study, please visit the project website or contact:

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