

# OPINION

## No gas, so what?

While Ontario Energy Minister Dwight Duncan may not be losing any sleep over the province's temporary gasoline shortage, a cavalier remark he made during a recent television interview likely did little to satisfy consumers on the verge of panic.

During a national news report, Duncan responded to a question about the seriousness of the gas shortage by saying: "So? So? Did everyone get gas? So what?"

So what? If the energy minister can't get his head around how the image of closed gas stations might raise concern among consumers, perhaps the premier needs to ask himself if Duncan offers the right approach for the job.

If the Province's energy minister feels it's no big deal for consumers to live with the uncertainty of the availability of gasoline, he needs to get his head out of the oil sands.

So what? Until alternate 'green' fuel sources become more universally viable or governments commit funding for a seamless GTA public transit system, gasoline remains the lifeblood of our economy. Without it people can't get to work and consumer products can't get to market.

While Duncan offers a so what?, we would respectfully offer a question back to him — What is he and the Liberal government doing to lessen Ontario's dependency on gasoline?



## ReadersWrite

Send your letters to [miltone@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltone@haltonsearch.com).

### Let's deal with the facts surrounding power plant

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to correct some of the comments made by Robin Buck in his February 9 letter concerning the electrical generating station to be built in Halton Hills.

Buck states that building the power plant will "decrease our ever dwindling farmland." The fact is that the power plant site is part of the Highway 401-407 industrial corridor, which is already zoned for industrial use.

Prior to the power plant, the proposed use of this site was for a distribution/warehouse facility, not farming.

Buck further states that the power plant will "diminish the natural beauty of the area and serve as an oxymoron to the label 'World Biosphere'." In reality, the power plant is planned to be a well-landscaped and screened facility in amongst numerous other large industrial buildings as part of the industrial corridor. The label 'World Biosphere' never has been applied to this industri-

al corridor.

The letter goes on to ask "What about the Clean Air Act of Canada?" With respect to Canada's Clean Air Act, it references the Canadian Environmental Protection Act as the legislation covering emission standards. The power plant's environmental report uses the standards contained in the Canadian Environmental Protection Act and the Ministry of Environment air quality standards, plus other standards contained in Ontario provincial legislation as the criteria for evaluating the anticipated plant emissions. The report concludes that emissions will meet all of the numerous federal and provincial standards.

I understand that not everyone likes the idea of an electrical generating station anywhere near him or her, but, please, let the debate be based on the facts.

**KEN LAWDAY, PENG.  
STEELES AVENUE**

### Turner loses my support due to switch

DEAR EDITOR:

I have to agree with Jonathan Mitrovich and some of the *Champion's* other readers regarding Halton MP Garth Turner.

I also voted in favour of the Conservatives. Stephen Harper was and still is my choice for leader. I continue to strongly support the Conservatives.

Mr. Turner, now that you have joined the Liberals, please take me off your mailing list. You have made the decision to join the Liberals, but this doesn't mean that I will continue to support you.

**ANNICK FITKIN  
MILTON**

### Pedestrian crossing device is in town's best interest

DEAR EDITOR:

Currently we have more than 1,000 families using our services at the Milton Community Resource Centre. It's hard to believe that we have been in our new building for over five months now.

The number of families in our programs has certainly grown over this period of time along with the concern of no sidewalk or no pedestrian crossing device.

Many families walk to our location. The children in the Bronte Street School and Cherish Nursery School also walk on field trips around our neighbourhood. We also have a family resource program called 'Stroller Fit'. This involves parents with young children leaving our location to go on a one-hour walk within the community.

As there's no sidewalk on the west side of Bronte, the parents and children must cross Bronte Street. This could involve up to 25 parents with strollers crossing the busy street.

As you may be aware, June 2, 2007 is our annual Fun Fair. The Fun Fair is our largest fundraising event of the year and we see more than 1,000 families.

We're looking to add a new event to our Fun Fair this year — the Bronte Street School childcare children will parade from 410 Bronte St. S. to Victoria Park. This will mean children, staff and parents will be required to cross a busy road without any form of pedestrian crossing device.

I feel that a pedestrian crossing device is in the town's best interest.

Please take into consideration the concerns from a significant amount of local families in this area as shown through a petition currently still in process.

**LAURA MAYES, SUPERVISOR  
MILTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE  
BRONTE STREET SCHOOL**

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](http://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 Ltd. — 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

**SNVA** Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:



The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product