

Pesticide bylaw could be brought back to the table

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cide legislation in place.

"Our message to you is a simple one — if you don't absolutely have to expose people to pesticides then you should not do so," she said. "Do the right thing; do the safe thing — protect our children from harm."

Dr. Susan Rhodes of Oakville pointed out that the 'cide' in pesticide means "to kill."

"Pesticides and herbicides are poisonous by definition," she said. "In large doses, they kill people. In small doses, they kill so-called pests."

Meanwhile, Keith Solomon from the University of Guelph's Centre for Toxicology said he thinks Integrated Pest Management — a system that allows for pesticide application if necessary — is "an ideal way to go."

"It allows you to keep all the tools in the toolbox," he said.

Local resident Jessica Garrod-Martin took a slightly different approach to the topic.

"To me, common sense says that until pesticides are safe enough to pour into a glass with ice cubes and a lemon wedge and drink them, we should not be putting them anywhere near animals or humans," she said.

And while area citizen William Walker said he thinks some pesticides are detrimental, he staunchly defended 2,4-D, a common herbicide.

He pointed out that 2,4-D was actually created to increase crop production during the Second World War.

"That's what it's been used for over the past 50 years," he said. "2,4-D is a good pesticide."

Liz Benneian of the Healthy Halton Coalition deemed

cosmetic pesticides to be unnecessary and particularly harmful to children.

"We need to put our children's health before corporate profits," she argued.

Local farmer Peter Lambrick then brought an agricultural perspective to the table. He asked council not to bring forward a pesticide bylaw, expressing his worry that the regulation could ultimately be expanded to include farmers' rural lands.

"I'm concerned there is an agenda here," he said. "This is the thin edge of the wedge."

Wrapping up the evening was Milton landscaper Philip Walker, who contended that all of the pesticide products homeowners will come into contact with are safe and overly tested and regulated.

Motion gets minimal support

After hearing from everyone, Schau put her motion on the floor to bring a cosmetic pesticide bylaw with exemptions forward to council in May for approval.

"I do believe in the precautionary principle," she said. "Risking in any way the health of anyone to have a weed-free lawn is not a good thing to do."

Last June, Schau made a similar motion but the community services committee voted it down.

This time around, it garnered little support again, with most members of council speaking out against the motion for various reasons.

Ward 3 Councillor Jan Mowbray cited several items she'd researched, such as a piece she'd found that says injury is the leading killer of children, not pesticides.

She also said she'd read there are more incidents of peo-

ple being harmed or killed by misprescribed drugs than pesticides.

"We must base the bylaw on quantifiable, scientific information," she said. "I do feel that there is an agenda here."

Ward 2 Councillor Mike Boughton said he doesn't think the Town should create a bylaw that it can't control or enforce. "It should be a law that is done by the provincial or federal government. They should step up to the plate and do it."

Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day said he'd prefer to give staff a chance to report back on the results of the public meeting, while Ward 4 Councillor Paul Scherer said he would support a hybrid bylaw, meaning pesticides would be restricted in certain months and a notification process would be in place for the remainder of the year.

When the vote was called, Schau and Wards 2 and 4 Councillor Colin Best supported the motion while Mowbray, Boughton, Day, Scherer, Ward 1 Councillor Brian Penman and Mayor Gord Krantz voted against it.

Day then put forward a motion asking staff to report back on the implications and financial impacts of implementing any style of pesticide bylaw. The motion carried, and staff is now going to bring the information back to council as soon as possible.

Ultimately, Schau's motion being voted down doesn't mean council won't consider a cosmetic pesticide bylaw again. It simply means it won't be brought forward for approval in May. With staff bringing a report back on all the different types of regulations, the ban-with-exemptions bylaw could be put back on the table in the future.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@milton-canadianchampion.com.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1 GTA West Corridor - Environmental Assessment (EA) Terms of Reference

THE STUDY

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation is working to provide for the efficient movement of people and goods within the context of the province's *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*. To support the policy directions in the *Growth Plan*, MTO has commenced the formal environmental assessment (EA) process for the GTA West Corridor. The purpose of this study is to examine long-term transportation problems and opportunities and consider alternative solutions to provide better linkages between *Urban Growth Centres* within the GTA West Corridor.

THE PROCESS

This study is being undertaken as an Individual EA in accordance with the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*. The first step of the process requires that a Terms of Reference (ToR) be prepared and submitted to the Minister of the Environment for approval. The ToR outlines how the EA study will be undertaken. A **draft Terms of Reference is now available for review on the GTA West website (www.gta-west.com) and at local libraries**. Interested persons are encouraged to review and comment on the draft ToR by **May 18, 2007**.

Once comments are received, the ToR will be revised and submitted to the Minister of the Environment for an approval decision. As part of the legislated approval process, the Minister of the Environment will initiate a formal public review of the ToR to assist in making an approval decision. During this formal review process, there will be a second opportunity to comment on the ToR.

Review Locations of the Draft Terms of Reference:

**Vaughan Public Library
Kleinburg Branch**
10341 Islington Avenue N.

**Vaughan Public Library
Pierre Berton Resource Branch**
4921 Rutherford Rd.

**King Township Public Library
King City Branch**
1970 King Rd.

**King Township Public Library
Nobleton Branch**
8 Sheardown Dr.

**Caledon Public Library
Caledon East Branch**
6500 Old Church Rd.

**Brampton Public Library
Chinguacousy Branch**
150 Central Park Dr.

**Brampton Public Library
Cyril Clark Branch**
20 Loafers Lake Lane

**Mississauga Public Library
Meadowvale Branch**
6677 Meadowvale Circle

**Halton Hills Public Library
Georgetown Branch**
9 Church St.

**Halton Hills Public Library
Action Branch**
17 River St.

Milton Public Library
45 Bruce St.

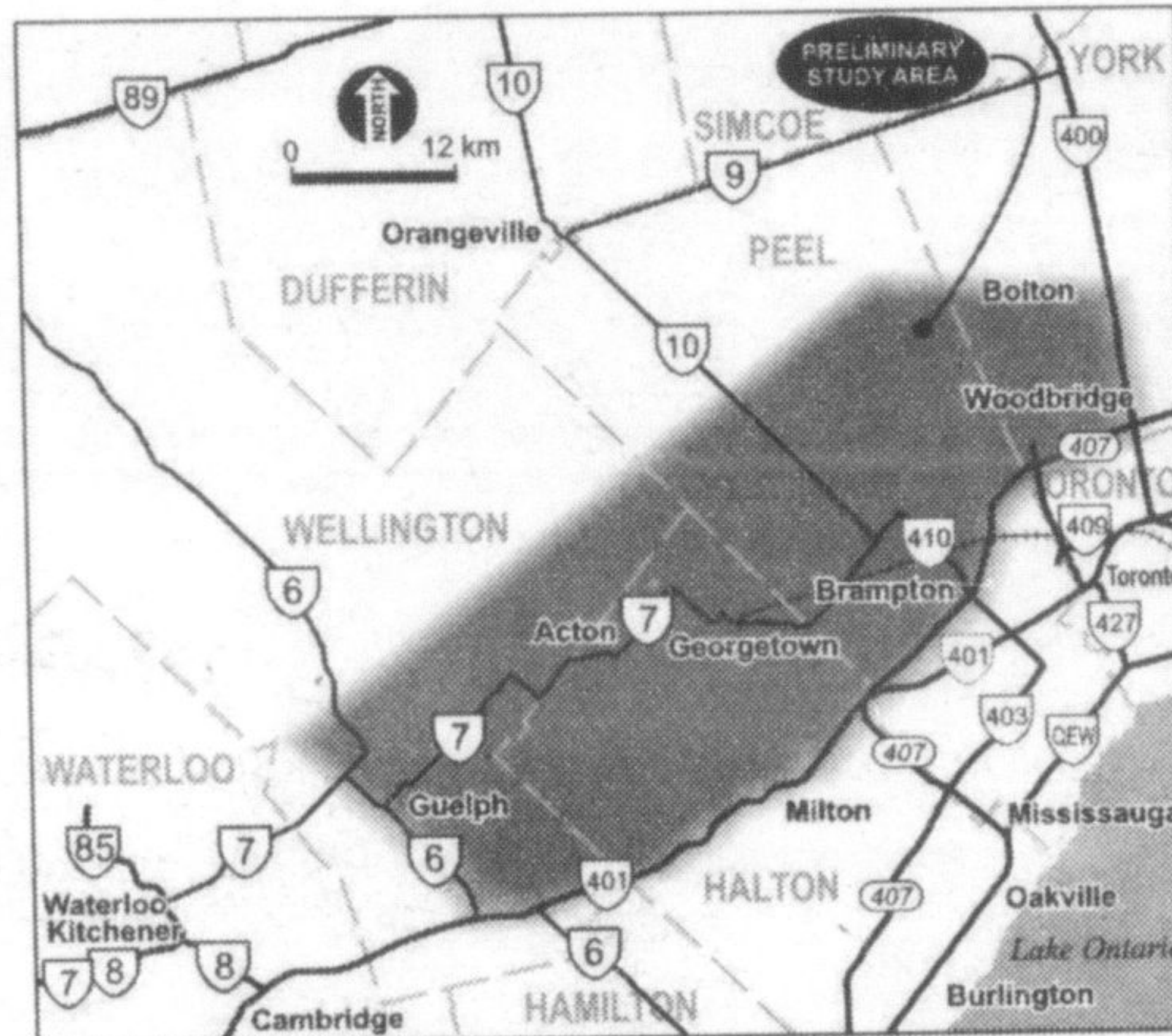
**Wellington County Public Library
Puslinch Branch**
29 Wellington Rd.

**Wellington County Public Library
Marden Branch**
7368 Wellington Rd.

**Wellington County Public Library
Rockwood Branch**
85 Christie St.

**Wellington County Public Library
Erin Branch**
14 Boland Dr.

**Guelph Public Library
Main Branch**
100 Norfolk St.



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The first round of Public Information Centres (PICs) has been arranged to allow the public an opportunity to review and comment on the draft ToR. The PICs will be conducted as a drop-in format with members of the Project Team available to discuss the study and to respond to questions.

Monday, April 16, 2007
Holiday Inn Select Brampton
Caledon Room
30 Peel Centre Drive
Brampton, ON
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 18, 2007
Le Jardin Special Events Centre
Venetian Room
8440 Highway 27
Woodbridge, ON
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Monday, April 23, 2007
River Run Centre
Canada Company Hall
35 Woolwich Street
Guelph, ON
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 24, 2007
Cultural Centre
Gallery
9 Church Street
Georgetown, ON
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

COMMENTS

Comments and information regarding this project will be collected to assist the Project Team. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Comment forms and study information are available on the project website: www.gta-west.com. 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, all comments will become part of the public record. For further information, or to be added to the mailing list, please visit the project website or contact:

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Please visit our website at: www.gta-west.com

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TERRA Trends GREENHOUSES

Spring into the Garden

It is about that time of year when gardeners start to get the gardening itch and no matter how many indoor plant projects they have on the go the true gardener can't wait to get outside. One of the first signs that spring is on the way is when the crocus start to poke their heads up through the cold soil. Gardeners know that when this happens it won't be long before they get to go out to the garden and start their spring cleanup.

Whether it is raking the lawn, cleaning up the flower beds or adding fresh compost to the soil. The gardener in all of us feels a certain sense of relief that we are back in our gardens. It is also the time of year when the garden center starts to come back to life bringing in the first load of plant material. We the garden adventure's are out early looking for new treasures to add to our sleeping beds.

Garden cleanup, early lawn care or the prospects of new plants are all exciting things to look forward to but the most important thing is that spring is on its way after such a cold end to winter!

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