

Not the right time for EFW: regional chair

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Oakville Councillor Allan Elgar ultimately made the aforementioned motion, noting he believes the EFW technology will change down the road.

"In five years time we'll know a lot more," he said.

Fellow Oakville Councillor Tom Adams said he also thinks an EFW facility is premature at this time.

He asked for the committee to include a part of the original staff rec-

ommendation in the motion that asks for environmental studies to acquire baseline data about the Halton Waste Management Site. The amendment was supported.

Regional Chair Gary Carr once again reiterated his campaign position that the Greencart and enhanced recycling should be used to extend the life of the landfill out to 2030, not EFW.

"This is not the time to do it," he said, noting as 2030 approaches the EFW technology will be different.

And Halton Hills Mayor Rick

Bonnette pointed out there hasn't been one delegation saying "let's get an EFW."

"There's a time to be a trailblazer, and this isn't one of them," he said.

Burlington Councillor John Taylor asked staff to report back on how the Region can be better prepared to deal with the EFW five years from now.

The matter will go before regional council for consideration Wednesday.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Is your office or workplace healthy?

The Halton Region Health Department will host a free workplace health networking meeting next Friday, June 22.

The event — which will run from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville — has been designed for human resource professionals, occupational health nurses, health and safety representatives and wellness committee members.

The meeting will focus on the predicted changes to Canada's population, the unique needs and skills of an aging workforce and its important role in helping organizations remain profitable and productive.

Participants will receive a copy of the 'Experience Works' resource kit developed by keynote speaker Jeny Wallace, director of workforce development at the London Economic Development Corporation.

Those in attendance will also have an opportunity to network with other professionals, discuss workplace health issues and share success stories and suggestions for implementing workplace health programs.

"Today's job force is changing. Work environments can be stressful, which affects the health of employees, families, communities and the health-care system," said Regional Chairman Gary Carr. "A commitment to workplace health from organizational leaders will allow organizations to attract and retain top performers, allowing them to remain competitive and to be recognized as an employer of choice."

According to the health department, a commitment to workplace health from organizational leaders can help companies reduce absenteeism, turnover and health benefit costs.

In addition, employees working in organizations that place a high value on workplace health can experience improved health, increased job satisfaction, decreased risk of injury and/or illness and an increased ability to balance work and family responsibilities.

"With over 200,000 employees in Halton, it is important for organizations to make a commitment to workplace health," said Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Bob Nosal. "The physical environment, individual health practices such as healthy food choices and physical activity programs, and organizational culture including flexible work arrangements and family-friendly workplaces all contribute to a healthy workplace."

The workplace health networking meetings are held two to three times each year, with the next one being held in the fall.

For more information, to register for the networking meeting or to be added to the mailing list for future meetings contact the Region at (905) 825-6000 or visit www.halton.ca.



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