

BUSINESS

New Milton Loblaw Superstore to be plastic bagless



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

THINKING GREEN: Loblaw Superstore manager Chris Shewchyk (right) and produce manager Wayne Dickie show canvas bags as the grocery chain gets set to open its first store without plastic bags. The store will sell much more than food, including home decor and baby items.

By Stephanie Hounsell
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

The new Loblaw Superstore was a hub of bustling activity Monday morning as staff prepared for tomorrow's long-anticipated opening.

Store shelves were stocked with food and 15 checkouts were ready to accept customers.

But nowhere to be found were plastic bags. That's because the new store is to be bagless.

"With Milton being the fastest growing population in Canada, it's just the right thing to do," said store manager Chris Shewchyk.

Instead of plastic bags, customers will have a few options: to bring their own bags, or purchase Superstore canvas bags or large tote containers.

The Milton store is located at Main Street and Thompson Road. In a marketing move, the store's name is slightly different from the others, which are called Real Canadian Superstores.

Although the store will open tomorrow, its grand opening will be held Saturday, Sept. 15.

It truly is a one-stop shop. At the front of the 135,000-square-foot facility are a wine shop, portrait studio, optical, medical centre, President's Choice Financial and dry cleaner.

Upstairs are a GoodLife Fitness for Women and a community room.

The check-outs themselves have a clean, uncluttered look and — unlike virtually every

other grocery store — don't have those 'quick grab' items like magazines and candy at the front, ensuring a speedier check-out said Loblaw spokesman David Primorac.

The actual conveyors at the check-outs are 110 per cent longer than usual, which again will help speed up the check-out process.

The store is divided into sections: food, health and home.

In the food section are ready-to-go hot and cold food selections including a soup bar, pizzeria and sandwich shop. A seating area is provided upstairs.

The health area includes a section designed to look like a beauty boutique; it's equipped with a cosmetician.

The store will sell the popular Joe Fresh clothing line, which is designed by Joe Mimran, formerly of Club Monaco. Newly launched is the Joe kids' line.

A baby department features everything new parents could need in one convenient section of the store, while the housewares area displays everything from toasters and bowls to elegant vases and other home décor items.

And for shutterbugs, the store features a photo and electronics department complete with four kiosks for do-it-yourself digital processing.

"A lot of people in the community are excited for (this) to open," Shewchyk said.

Stephanie Hounsell can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

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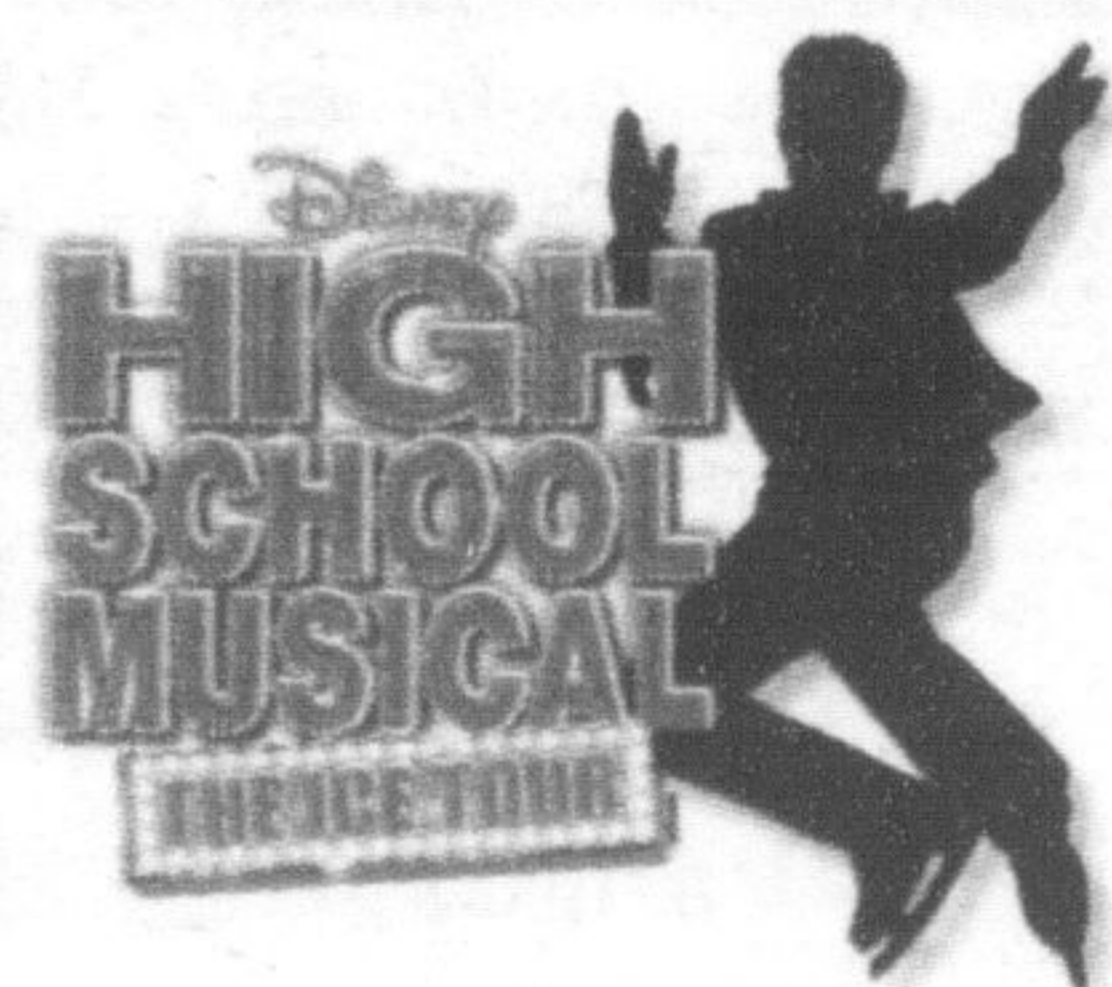
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2 Help us collect school supplies for students in need at Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf. Drop off your donation at the Courtesy Desk and receive a Combo Code Card as our way of saying thanks.

Finalists must be able to attend event on Sept. 8 at 1 pm.



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