

Woman Abuse Prevention Month has been launched

By **Melanie Hennessey**
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Last year, Halton Regional Police laid more than 600 domestic violence-related criminal charges. Of those charges, 84 per cent resulted from situations where a male assaulted a female.

With this kind of startling statistic in mind, the Halton Violence Prevention Council marked the beginning of Woman Abuse Prevention Month Monday by raising its banner at the Halton Regional Centre in Oakville.

"Our goal is to raise awareness of the fact that domestic violence does take place," said Det. Brett Wilkinson, who's also the police service's domestic violence co-ordinator and a member of the Halton Violence Prevention Council.

"We want the community as a whole to be comfortable with coming forward (to report domestic violence)."

The council was formed in 1991 by Halton's police chief in response to community distress over the violent deaths of two young women.

Its members include the Region, Halton Regional Police, Halton Women's Place, Nina's Place (Joseph Brant Memorial

Hospital), Burlington Counselling and Family Services and more. The group's mission is to work toward ending violence to achieve an inclusive and healthy Halton community.

Regional Chair Gary Carr said that Woman Abuse Prevention Month heightens community awareness and helps let victims know about the kinds of supports and programs there are locally that can help them.

"We want to highlight the issue and begin the process of eradicating violence against women," he said.

Last year, police received 2,686 calls that involved situations between partners, said Wilkinson. Out of those calls, 636 criminal charges were laid for everything from assault to threatening to harassment.

Ten per cent of the charges were laid in Milton, 13 per cent in Halton Hills, 35 per cent in Burlington and 42 per cent in Oakville.

Wilkinson noted that by the time police are intervening in situations like these, there's often a history of violence that has gone unreported.

"The goal is to have women come forward before it gets to

that point," he said.

Information regarding abuse issues will be available at tomorrow's Police Day at Sheridan College in Oakville, with Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services of Halton and Halton Regional Police's diversity officer on hand with brochures and handouts on the issue.

Burlington Counselling and Family Services, which can be reached at (905) 637-5256, provides counselling for women in abusive relationships and their children, along with its Partner Abuse Response Program and Caring Dads Program.

Halton Family Services offers counselling for female victims of violence and their children. Their number is (905) 845-3811.

Halton Women's Place, which provides shelter for women and children, can be reached at (905) 332-1200.

To learn more about reducing domestic violence in the community visit www.neighbours-friendsandfamily.ca.

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



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2

Proposed Flamborough Quarry Haul Route Study

St Marys Cement is conducting a Haul Route Study for the proposed Flamborough quarry located on 11th Concession Road East at Milborough Line.

The purpose of the study is to evaluate alternative haul routes for the proposed quarry, and to identify preferred route(s). This study is being carried out in accordance with the Terms of Reference approved by the City of Hamilton, April 2006.

Members of the public are invited to attend the second Public Information Centre. Topics to be discussed will include alternative haul routes and preliminary criteria for the evaluation of the alternative haul routes. The Public Information Centre will be held on:

Date: Thursday, November 29, 2007
Open House: 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Presentation: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Carlisle Golf and Country Club
523 Carlisle Road, Carlisle, ON L0R 1H1

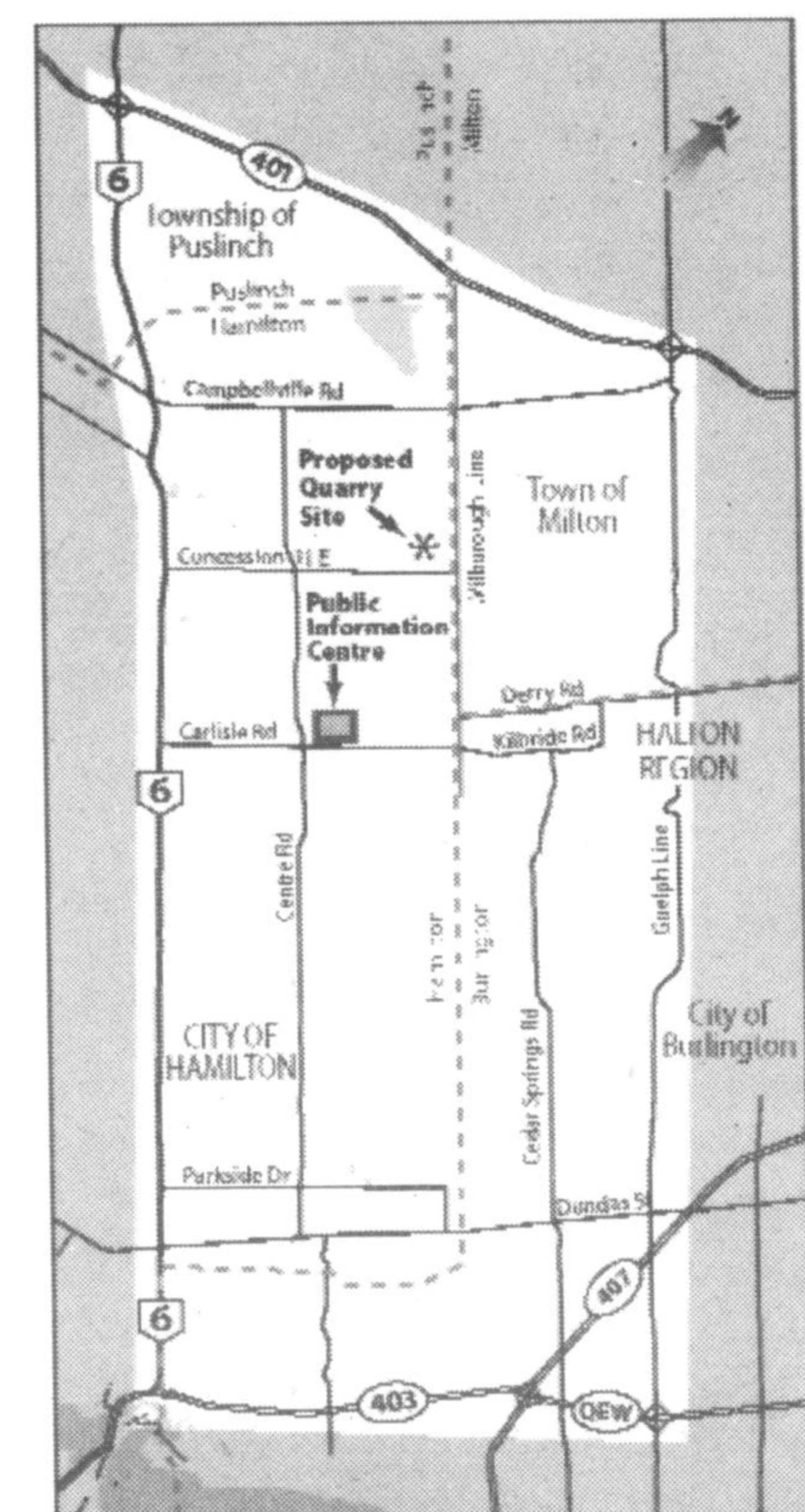
Public consultation is vital to the Haul Route Study. We want to ensure that anyone with an interest in this study has the opportunity to get involved and provide input on alternative haul routes and the evaluation criteria. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to provide us with your comments or be added to our mailing list, please contact us through our community info line or e-mail address provided below.

All information collected will be maintained on file for use during the study. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Haul Route Terms of Reference

PIC	Requirements	Date
#1	To introduce the project, to identify how the public would like to be involved and to identify initial public concerns and issues	Held on June 21, 2007
#2	To present the draft alternative routes and the evaluation approach	Nov. 29, 2007
#3	A public workshop that allows the opportunity to provide input on the evaluation criteria, the relative importance of the criteria and the evaluation approach	Dec. 2007
#4	To present the draft results of the comparative evaluation/effects assessment.	Early 2008

Map of Haul Route Study Area and Location of Public Information Centre #2 (Carlisle Golf and Country Club)



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