

# Quarry opposition well represented, says Flint

• from McCARTHY on page A2

Stressing that FORCE is "by no means trying to orchestrate a boycott" of the January meeting, Flint said the group simply wants to assure those families for whom "this has become a burden and hardship" that, if they choose not to attend, they will be represented by members of the anti-quarry group.

"Margaret (McCarthy) and we are on the same page," he

## Learn all about French Immersion

In preparation for its 2008-09 school year, the Halton District School Board is set to host a series of information sessions on its French Immersion programs.

Meetings at its three Milton French Immersion schools — E.W. Foster (320 Coxe Blvd.), Martin Street (184 Martin St.) and Robert Baldwin (180 Wilson Dr.) — will be held Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m.

Beginning in Grades 1 and 7, Halton's French Immersion programs offer half of their instruction in English and the other half in French.

Registration forms for the program are available at any school across the region and should be returned to the student's home school by January 21.

For more information on French Immersion, call Marcelle Faulds at the school board at (905) 335-3663.

## Development charge complaint deferred

A public hearing to deal with a development charge complaint against the Town has been deferred to February.

Council agreed at its last meeting to postpone the hearing to February 19 at the request of the complainant, Trinity Development Group Inc.

The complaint is in respect to charges Trinity paid for eight building permits, which totaled \$102,757.

According to a staff report, Trinity is alleging the amount of the charge was incorrectly determined.

The amount being disputed is \$15,832.

In the report, staff recommends that council dismiss the complaint, saying there were no incorrect calculations.

said. "It's important for the community to continue to participate, but we also feel that the community should be able to take a break from this."

Noting that it's difficult to stay engaged in a process that is both "one-sided and unbalanced," Flint said residents have shown their opposition time and time again by turning out in large numbers to protest the quarry proposal. "We don't feel it's necessary to bring out big numbers every single time."

McCarthy, however, insists that only sustained active, local opposition will succeed in defeating the quarry plan. She thanked local residents for their support in fighting the application but urged them to continue to show their opposition by attending future public meetings.

Even if residents attend the January meeting just to tell St. Marys officials that they don't think there was sufficient time between the meetings for community comments to be fully

considered, it's worth taking the time to attend, McCarthy said. "I've never seen success through the process of absence."

The format of the upcoming meeting may end up being the determining factor in terms of opportunities for mass participation. The session is being held at a smaller venue, the Carlisle Arena, and the public notice warns, "the facility has a limited capacity."

It will take the form of an interactive workshop designed to allow the public to provide input on the alternative haul routes and the evaluation criteria. Participants are being asked to pre-register by this Friday to ensure that adequate space and workbooks are available.

Those wanting to participate can contact the aggregate company by e-mail at [communityinfo@stmmaryscbm.com](mailto:communityinfo@stmmaryscbm.com) or through the St. Marys community phone line at 1-866-602-0080. The January 9 workshop will run from 7 to 9:30 p.m.



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