

# Bail hearing today for man charged in child porn sweep

By **Stephanie Hounsell**  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A local man charged in a province-wide child porn sweep is scheduled to appear in court today for a bail hearing.

Collis Court resident Michael Edward Shipley, 32, has been charged with one count each of making available child pornography, possession of child pornography and accessing child pornography, and is to appear at Ontario Court of Justice in Milton this morning.

He was arrested February 11 after Halton Regional Police conducted a search warrant and seized a quantity of computer

equipment found to contain images of child pornography.

Last week, Shipley made court appearances Wednesday and Thursday, but both times the date was remanded, so he hasn't yet had a bail hearing.

It's not known if the hearing will happen today or if it will once again be put over.

Shipley was one of 22 people arrested across Ontario in what's being called the largest co-ordinated child pornography crack-down in the province's history.

A heavyset man, Shipley had a goatee and was wearing a black winter parka and baggy khaki pants at his appearance Wednesday.

He did nothing to draw attention to himself at the court appearances, where he stood handcuffed in the prisoner's box until he was led from the room by a police officer.

Shipley didn't have any friends or family members in the courtroom for the Wednesday or Thursday appearance.

Due to a publication ban, the *Champion* will be able to report on whether Shipley was released on bail and the conditions, but not on the reasons behind the decision.

Stephanie Hounsell can be reached at [sthiesse@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:sthiesse@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

# EMS shows support for troops

Halton's emergency medical service (EMS) will soon be showing its support for Canada's troops by displaying yellow ribbon stickers on its vehicles.

Regional council approved the initiative at its recent meeting. A report from Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Bob Nosal noted that Halton EMS has a personal reason to support the yellow ribbon campaign as Halton primary care paramedic Jonah Hirshberg is a medical technician with the 25 Toronto Field Ambulance of the Canadian Armed Forces reserve.

Hirshberg recently reported to the Canadian Armed Forces base in Petawawa for field training

and will ultimately be serving in active duty as a medic for the Canadian military in Afghanistan.

The 'Support Our Troops' yellow ribbon campaign is a national program established by the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency.

"By displaying the yellow ribbons we are acknowledging the personal sacrifices made by our front-line military personnel and their families and their dedication and professionalism in serving Canada," said Dr. Nosal in his report.

The yellow ribbon stickers will be purchased for all EMS vehicles for about \$250, which will be absorbed into the health department's 2008 budget.

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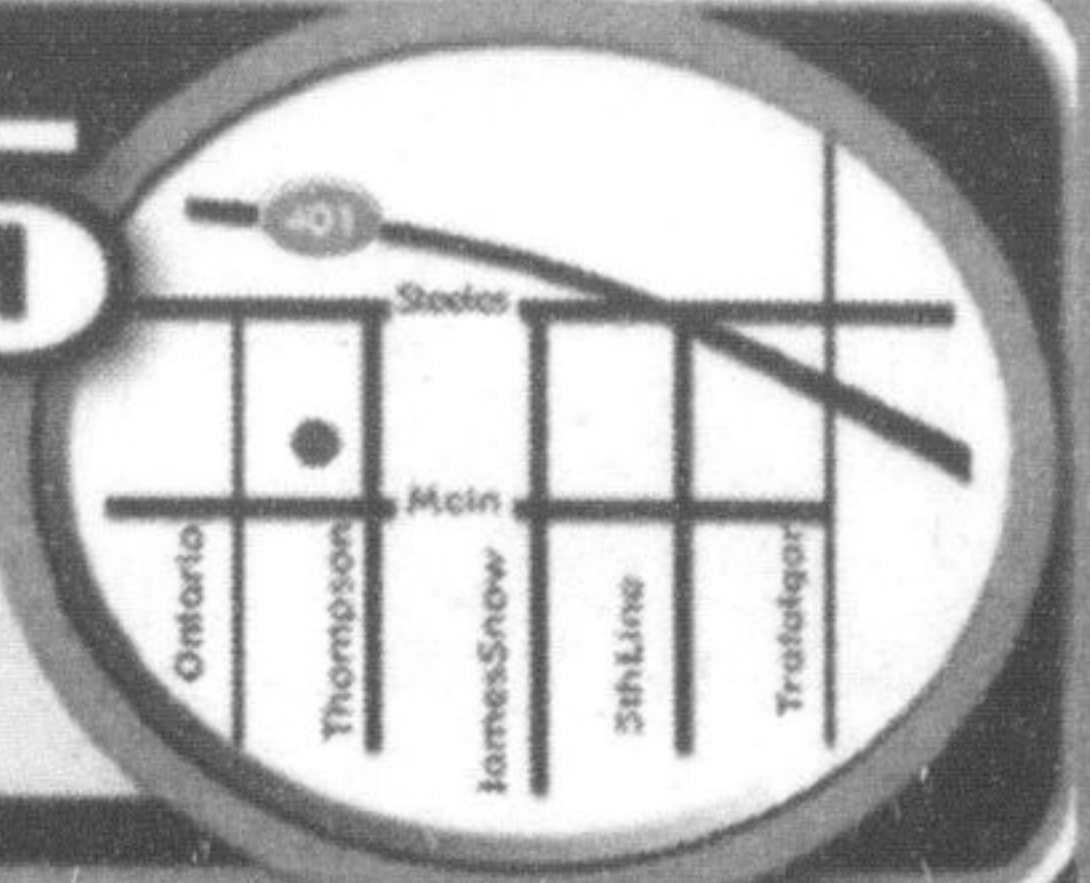
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