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**ILLUMINATING EXPERIENCE:** Above, the Milton Choristers sing during a special candlelight choir performance to celebrate the second annual Earth Hour Challenge Saturday night at Grace Anglican Church. At left, Lindsay Rhynold entertains patrons at the Royal Canadian Legion during the 60-minute event — from 8 to 9 p.m. — in which residents and businesses across the globe were encouraged to turn off their lights. A number of businesses held their own Earth Hour events, while most of the Town's facilities went lights out as well.

ROBERT TETERUCK / SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

## Major education facility planned

*Town looks to attract university in land swap deal*

By Melanie Hennessey  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Major plans are in the works to turn the Town's dream of being home to a university campus into a reality.

At press time last night, town council was to consider a proposal for the 'Milton Education Village' neighbourhood — a concept that would see 150 acres of land in southwest Milton offered for free to a university interested in setting up shop locally.

The land, located on Tremaine Road between Derry and Britannia roads, would be made available to the Town through a land swap with Mattamy Homes.

A staff report to council explained that an agreement has been signed with Mattamy that gives the Town the right to acquire the 150 acres in exchange for five acres of Town-owned property on Main Street, adjacent to the Milton GO station.

"The Town is pleased that Mattamy Homes has become a partner by dedicating such a large site for this very important community project," said Mayor Gord Krantz.

The staff proposal calls for the university campus to be the heart of a larger neighbourhood that could also include on-site student housing, a business/research park, supporting services and a comprehensively planned adjacent residential neighbourhood.

"Once again, Milton is proving to be an innovator in community planning," said Krantz. "We have a unique oppor-

tunity to realize a greater vision for Milton's future that will build on the relationship between education and economy."

Regional Chair Gary Carr also voiced the Region's support for the initiative.

"Higher education means more opportunities for local residents and contributes to a stronger, more vibrant community overall," he said. "We look forward to working with the Town of Milton to help this vision become a reality."

The Town has been trying to attract a post-secondary institution for years. Last year, town council approved making the five-acre site on Main Street available for free to entice a college or university.

A marketing campaign was then  
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