

# More children being helped by Big Brothers, Big Sisters

*Just a couple hours a week can make huge difference: director*

The number of local children being helped by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton (BBBSH) has almost doubled over the past year.

According to the agency, funding from the United Way of Milton and the Milton Community Fund has helped bring the number of children it helps with mentoring services up to 92.

The increase can also be attributed to the

new BBBSH office located on Bronte Street.

"Having an office location in Milton has resulted in the agency experiencing tremendous growth in requests for service from families in Milton," said Elaine Collins, BBBSH executive director. "The programs that are run in Milton are solely for children who are residents in Milton and utilize Milton volunteers."

Funding from both grants has allowed

placement of four staff providing the following mentoring programs: one-to-one mentoring, The Club after-school tutoring, Go Girls! and First Mentors.

Recently BBBSH launched a campaign to find 100 men this year to be matched with a boy aged five to 14 for as little as one hour a week.


In Milton, the agency has produced a poster with local businessman Mark Burger of Spokes 'n' Slopes who recently volunteered to be an in-school mentor to a boy

who needs a buddy.

"You don't have to change your life to change his' is the essence of our campaign," said Wendy Somerville, north Halton volunteer co-ordinator.

"We want to get across the message to men that being a Big Brother is really about just being a buddy to a boy."

For more information about the agency and volunteering call (905) 878-8840 or visit [www.bbbshalton.ca](http://www.bbbshalton.ca).



## The Regional Municipality of Halton

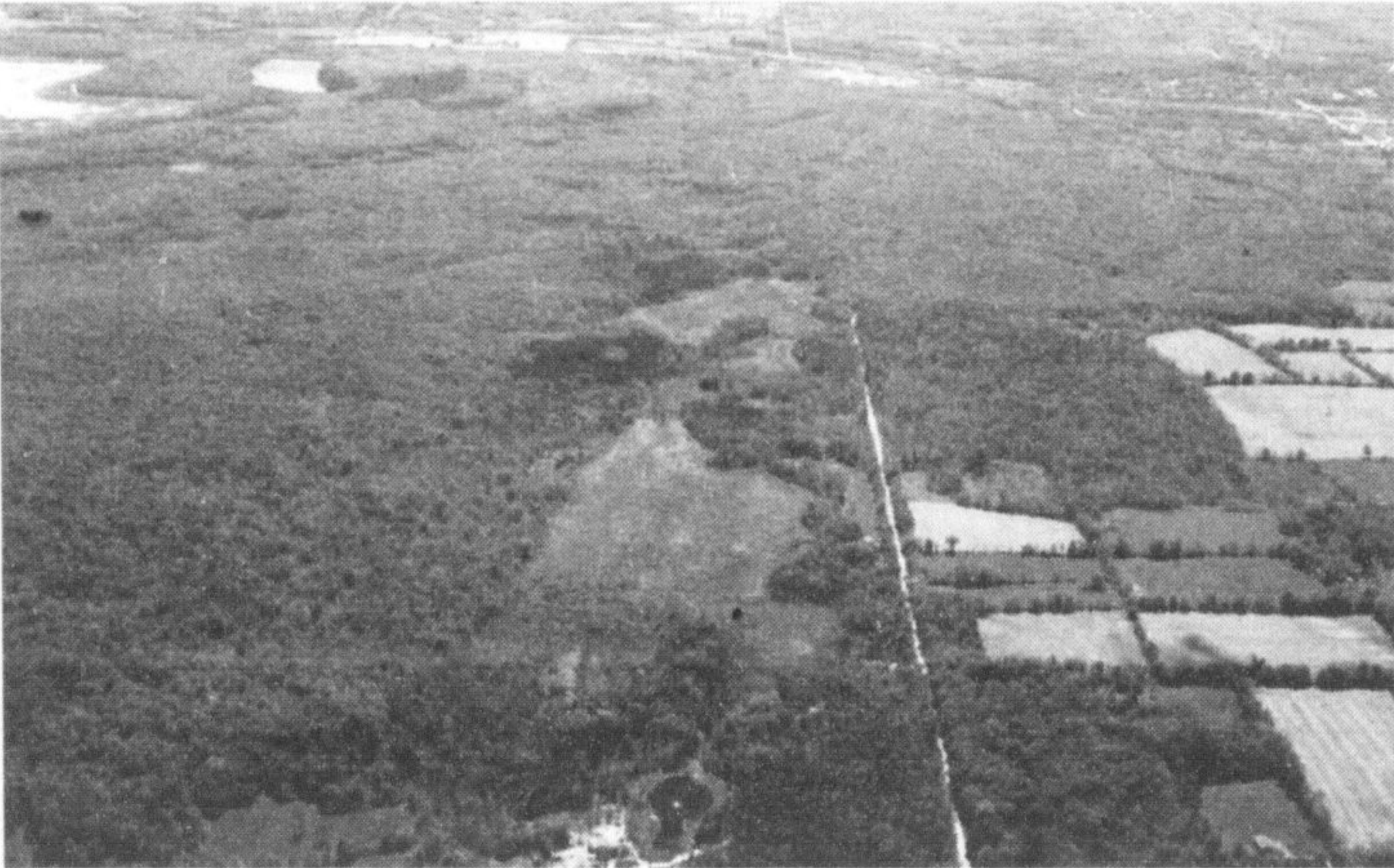
[www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca)

### Open House and Information Session

## Halton Region Greenlands Securement Strategy (GSS)

**What is the Halton Region GSS?**

The Halton Region Greenlands Securement Strategy (GSS) is a proposal outlining the Region's plan for protecting valuable greenspace in Halton. The GSS aims to help protect the Region's significant natural areas such as forests, streams and valleys now and for future generations through the long-term securement of ecologically significant land. Halton Region intends to reach this goal through partnerships with conservation groups working to protect land identified in the Regional Greenlands System.



**How can I find out more about the GSS?**


Come to the Open House to obtain a copy of the GSS, participate in discussions and share your comments. This Open House will give you the opportunity to provide input to Halton Region on the key recommendations for the GSS. You can also visit [www.halton.ca/greenlands](http://www.halton.ca/greenlands) to download a copy of the GSS.

**Why is Halton Region hosting an Open House on the GSS?**

To encourage public participation, discussion and to collect comments from residents and interested stakeholders. The Open House will provide you with the opportunity to talk to staff about the GSS. The formal presentation at 7:30 pm will provide an overview of the recommendations for the update. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

**What are the recommendations of the GSS?**

- Implement and adopt a Greenlands Securement Program in Halton Region;
- Continue to strengthen and foster partnerships with Regional Partners who share complementary greenlands securement goals and objectives;
- Assist securement Partners through leveraged funding opportunities for land securement projects;
- Ensure resources are available to implement the strategy; and,
- Report annually on the successes of this Greenlands Securement Program.



**Date:** Thursday, June 26, 2008

**Program:** 9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Open House (drop in at any time)  
7:30 – 9 p.m. Presentation and Q&A

**Location:** Halton Region Museum  
(Hearth Room – 1st Floor)  
Kelso Conservation Area  
5181 Kelso Road 28, Milton  
905-875-2200 or 1-866-422-5866 ext. 7935  
[www.halton.ca/museum](http://www.halton.ca/museum)

Refreshments will be served.

Parking: Entry and Parking is free to Kelso Conservation Area for visitors attending events at the Halton Region Museum. Stop at the gatehouse if an attendant is present and advise them of your destination.

**Questions about the Open House?**


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## Children's Water Festival grows in 2008

Halton Region is proud to partner with Conservation Halton in presenting the third annual Halton Children's Water Festival this year from September 23 to 26.

The festival educates our children about one of our most precious resources, water. Once again the festival will be held outdoors at the picturesque Kelso Conservation Area in Milton.

The Festival is growing in 2008, with a fourth day and 600 more spots being added. Now over 3,600 Halton students (900 a day) from grades two to five can participate. Halton school principals and teachers can register their classes now by visiting [www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com](http://www.haltonchildrenswaterfestival.com). Students at the Festival have a unique opportunity to learn about water in a fun and interactive way at over 50 Ontario curriculum-based and hands-on activity centres.



*Gary Carr*  
Gary Carr  
Regional Chair

**Halton Regional Meeting Schedule**      June 18 Regional Council 9:30 a.m.

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