

OPINION

Please shop local

You can't get away from it. Despite the fact the holiday season is now upon us, we're constantly being fed stories of doom and gloom. It's enough to send us all running for cover or, at the very least, running to pull the covers over our collective heads.

Yes, we're in a 'technical recession' (an interesting description) and, yes, the stock markets are making nerves raw for the folks who have something invested in the market.

But when all is said and done, Milton residents are pretty darn fortunate to be able to call this town home.

That's why we, as the local community voice, are encouraging those residents who are spending money this Christmas to

make sure their dollars stay close to home.

Now more than ever, local retailers, car dealers, services and restaurants, to name but a few, need consumers to open their wallets in Milton.

While shopping in town, you can pause awhile at the many cafes or restaurants. You can take in old-fashioned Christmas displays and appreciate store owners who are proud of the goods they sell and spend the necessary time answering customers' questions.

By spending your hard-earned dollars in Milton you're helping to keep the community running smoothly.

The spin-off effects are tremendous.

HOW THE CHRËTCH COULD STEAL POWER



ReadersWrite

E-mail your letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

MYSC letter was very insulting

DEAR EDITOR:

This letter is in response to Mike Miller's letter entitled 'Important motion will be debated at meeting,' published November 26.

Mr. Miller, how dare you submit a letter that seems to insinuate that the entire Milton Youth Soccer Club (MYSC) team of directors or any single director has ever or will ever act inappropriately with respect to their responsibilities.

Those reading this letter might form false conclusions. Furthermore, those who are on this board certainly know what it takes to volunteer and what it

means to the community — we don't need you to remind any of its members.

What you fail to mention is that any motion ever carried out has been debated in direct accordance with established Ontario Soccer Association guidelines. As well, final voting on any matter has and continues to fall under the same guidelines. It's what in the end is called democracy.

If you don't like the outcome of a motion or a vote, you certainly have every opportunity to speak with any director or executive of MYSC for clarification.

Let me remind you that

all executives and directors on MYSC put in long hours out of their personal time to ensure a fun, safe and professional soccer experience for all of our youth.

There are members who volunteer a substantial amount of extra time due to the positions they hold. MYSC does a phenomenal job of promoting soccer in this town and offering the best game out there.

Personally, I volunteer to give back to the community and to see the joy in children when they play this fantastic sport.

**CHRIS SCHIRM
MILTON**

Region is missing a glorious opportunity

DEAR EDITOR:

Recent problems with the infrastructure costs cited by Halton Region can in part be attributed to what can only be described as the low density suburban sprawl that dominates the region.

By far, the predominant cost component of development charges is for roads, followed by water and wastewater costs.

Clearly, if there are fewer residents and businesses per metre of road or utility conduit, per capita costs go up, not only for initial construction but for ongoing maintenance for years to come.

The Region has an opportunity to reduce some cost pressures by ensuring that future growth is contained on as little land as possible.

Infill and intensification will certainly contribute to efficiencies, but greenfield development will continue to be a problem if the Region plans to keep urban densities for new communities on rural lands at or near provincial minimum standards.

The Region seems to be missing a glorious opportunity to create very pleasant and efficient urban, rather than suburban, communities over the next 25 years.

Unfortunately, the end result will be increased costs for households, and a great deal of environmental damage as well.

**JOHN STILLICH, GENERAL MANAGER
SUSTAINABLE URBAN
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
MISSISSAUGA**

Pushy people spoil enjoyment of parade

DEAR EDITOR:

My husband and I took our daughter to the Milton Santa Claus Parade on November 23.

To get a good spot, we arrived well enough in advance to get a spot on the curb in the area of Main and Ontario streets. We set up our chairs to watch the parade and were there for about an hour before the parade arrived at this area.

While the parade itself was good, what spoiled it for us was when a man pushing a stroller, accompanied by his wife and mother-in-law, decided that they would come late to the parade and stand directly in front of us. Then a lady with three kids decided to do the same.

I didn't think we were invisible.

I have spent many cold, wintry days with my older kids at the Toronto Santa Claus Parade, and we would get there hours ahead of time to ensure a seat on the curb.

In all those years, I never had anybody be so rude as to come and stand right in front of us, so that we couldn't see.

I never thought I would experience that type of rudeness here in Milton — in Toronto, maybe, but not here.

While we all want to see the parade and see Santa, I don't think it was fair to my family that we made the effort to go early only to then have to struggle to see the parade.

I don't have an issue with letting children in front so they can see, but I do have an issue when parents think they can stand there as well.

So here's some advice to those wishing to attend next year's parade — go early and get a good spot. If you can't manage to do that, then be respectful to those who do go early.

**PAULA HARTNETT
MILTON**

The Canadian Champion

Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860

555 Industrial Dr.,
Milton, Ont. L9T 5E1

905-878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943
Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364
Classified: 905-875-3300
Circulation: 905-878-5947

www.miltoncanadianchampion.com

V.P. — Group Publisher

Neil Oliver

General Manager

David Harvey

Editor in Chief

Jill Davis

Managing Editor

Karen Miceli

Advertising Director

Debbi Koppejan

Production Manager

Tim Coles

Circulation Manager

Charlene Hall

Office Manager

Sandy Pare

The Canadian Champion, published every Wednesday and Friday, is a division of Metroland Media Group Ltd. — President Ian Oliver

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB Audited

Recognized for excellence by

ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association

CNA Canadian Community Newspapers Association

SN Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

Halton Healthcare

Child Find
ONTARIO

WELCOME WAGON
SINCE 1930

THE SHERIFF
SINCE 1852

MILTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Jingle Bell Fund

UNITED WAY OF MILTON

Red Cross
MILTON BRANCH

MILTON CANADA DAY

WATERLOO POLICE

MCR

YMCA
OF CANADA

ATHENA Awards

The Oakville, Milton
POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Police Association of Ontario

WATERLOO POLICE

MCR

YMCA

GALA Awards

FAO
POLICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product