

# Work of Davis impresses SNA judges

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Journalist of the Year and Editor of the Year award winners at its Spring Publishers' Conference in Tampa, Fla. from February 4 to 6.

Davis, 48, has been at the *Post* since 1992, coming over from the *Brampton Guardian* to be Burlington's managing editor. In 2002, she was promoted to editor-in-chief of Metroland Media Group Ltd.'s Halton Division newspapers in Milton, Burlington, Oakville and Flamborough.

In nominating her for the SNA award, peers and Halton community members forwarded letters of recommendation praising her contribution to community journalism.

Her efforts didn't go unnoticed, said Al Cupo, SNA's vice-president of operations, referring to a remark made by one SNA judge about Davis: "It is clear that Jill Davis has touched many in her community from the readers to even her mom, and isn't that what a great editor should do."

Davis said the SNA award is a result of teamwork.

"I would be remiss if I didn't say that the editor is only as good as the people he or she works with. We have great groups of editors, reporters and photographers working for the Halton Division and I wouldn't be receiving this award without them. I would like to thank my bosses, President Ian Oliver and Vice-President Neil Oliver and General Manager of Halton Division David Harvey for their ongoing support and commitment to community journalism."

One of Metroland's senior executives worked with Davis in Burlington for many years.

"One of Jill's greatest strengths is surrounding herself with a great team that is as committed to excellence and to the community as she is. I am thrilled that Jill is getting this recognition not only for what she brings to the paper but also by what she brings to the community," said Neil Oliver, Metroland vice-president and group publisher.

Halton Police Chief Gary Crowell also heaped praise upon Davis' work in the community.

"Under Ms Davis' exceptional leadership, the Metroland group of papers in Halton have established a strong, positive reputation for providing fair, balanced and factual news to the people of this community," Crowell said.

"She truly is a leading example of someone who consistently demonstrates editorial excellence, and an innate ability to connect with her readership by providing news they can use."

The man who has worked alongside Davis for the past eight years in ensuring the *Post's* editorial pages are completed three times a week marvels at her abilities.

"She is by far the strongest advocate for preserving the integrity of community journalism that I have encountered in my 21 years as a journalist," said Don Ford, managing editor of the *Post*.

"Jill has always exhibited a keen eye for what makes a good news story and has an uncanny ability to



**TEAM WORK:** Champion Editor in Chief Jill Davis (front centre) says the Metroland West Media Group's Halton Division community newspaper editors contributed to her Editor of the Year award win. Here, with Davis are (clockwise from left) Canadian Champion Managing Editor Karen Miceli, Chief Photographer Reg Vertolli, Burlington Post Managing Editor Don Ford, Oakville Beaver Managing Editor Rod Jerred and Flamborough Review Managing Editor Brenda Jefferies.

predict how her community will react to what we report and how we report it. That is Jill's greatest strength as a journalist — she fully understands how essential it is to know your community from its leaders to the downtrodden, from its heroes to its villains."

Awards aren't new for Davis.

She has been recognized in the past for her editorial page opinions. She also has overseen the direction of the four Halton Division newspapers, which have won numerous provincial, national and North American honours for writing and photography in her years at the helm.

## The Halton Youth Justice Steering Committee is accepting applications from Community Agencies interested in managing the administration of The Youth Justice Committee Program

The Youth Justice Committee Program involves trained community members who meet with victims, young people accused of minor non-violent, first-time offences, and their parents, and determine the appropriate way for the young person to make amends for his or her conduct. The successful Agency will oversee the Youth Justice Committees and report as directed to the Steering Committee.

Applications should address the following:

- Reasons for interest in the program
- Proposed organizational structure for administering delivery of the program
- Experience in delivering justice-related programs, or Alternative Measures Programs
- Experience with youth
- Experience with volunteers
- Experience with victims
- Experience in co-ordinating and delivering training
- Experience and/or expertise in dispute resolution
- The facilities to accommodate the administration of the program within Region.

Applications are due by February 2, 2009, and should be directed to:

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