

# ReadersWrite

Email your letters to [editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

## Federal election indeed needed

DEAR EDITOR:

I'm writing in response to your recent editorial entitled 'Back at the polls,' in which you question whether there's a need for a federal election at this time.

The election is necessary because the Harper government has been found in contempt of Parliament and lost the confidence of the majority of the elected members in the House.

The Harper government was found to be in contempt over failing to release information related to the costs of crime legislation and the purchase of stealth fighter jets.

No elected representative can make good, responsible decisions on such important matters if he or she doesn't have the information needed to make those decisions. The only way to defend the rights of MPs and the integrity of our parliamen-

tary democracy was to bring forward a motion of non-confidence and bring down the government.

Mr. Harper seems to be pretending that his government being found in contempt of Parliament is a minor matter that Canadians shouldn't really care about. It's a very serious matter — so serious and unusual that no other Canadian government in our entire history has ever been found in contempt of Parliament.

People have fought and died and are still fighting and dying for the right to have a democratic system of government like ours.

I fervently hope that Canadians do care enough to put aside any cynicism and apathy, ignore the attack ads and really pay attention to the essential issues in this campaign.

WENDY SCHAU  
MILTON

## Traffic flow needs major overhaul

DEAR EDITOR:

Living north of Milton, I'm using Regional Road 25 a lot driving into town and to get through Milton.

Once I reach the intersection with No. 5 Sideroad I find the 'red wave' starts and it's virtually impossible to catch a green traffic light all the way through town, until you hit Derry Road.

At more than \$1.20/litre for gas, this amounts to an enormous waste of money and creates a large number of very frustrated drivers.

It doesn't end there. Somehow our elected officials felt that we deserve a very busy set of train tracks to pass through our main roads in town:

Main Street and Ontario Street; and Steeles Avenue and Tremaine Road.

The lights on Main Street should be set to switch to four-way yellow anytime a train is blocking this road for some 10 minutes, which would at least allow the traffic on Ontario street to flow.

I suggest the Town issue a cheque for \$50 to me and any other resident who has to use the roads in and around Milton, to compensate for what I believe is totally senseless programming of traffic computers.

MICHAEL PETER  
MILTON

## My apartment search ended up just fine

• from ONLINE on page A6

I emailed these types of rentals, and twice I received the same reply. The owner of the apartment is a pastor who's currently on a mission in west Africa. He's not concerned about making money. Rather, he wants to find a good tenant who will take good care of his property. Oh, and he'll need a hefty 'security deposit' wired to him before any discussions proceed.

Lesson number four: There's a serious need for affordable housing in Halton. I don't have any kids, or pets for that matter, work full-time, have

a relatively small amount of student debt, and finding a rental that leaves me with enough money for food at the end of the month has been challenging. I can't even fathom how a senior on a fixed income, a student making their way through college, or a single parent with youngsters can afford the cost of rent.

But alas, my hunt for housing hasn't been a complete bust. I found a great place, in a beautiful neighbourhood that's, dare I say, affordable.

The icing on the cake — it's pet friendly.

## Misplaced live bomb leads to fatal accident at Westinghouse Barracks

*'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of the Champion and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.*

January 1917

Yesterday at the Westinghouse Barracks, Hamilton there was a shocking accident in the club house on the rifle range, near the barracks. Captain Evel was lecturing to men of the 164th and 205th Batts. on the construction of bombs. A loaded one of a large size had got mixed with the unloaded which were used for instruction. It exploded in the hands of Pte. Wm. O'Reilly, of Shelburne, killing him instantly and perhaps fatally wounding Pte. R.J. Small of Fergus. Other men wounded were Ptes. Chas. Nelson, Milton, Albert Greenwood, Harold Lush, Oakville, Roy Laking, Evertett, of the 164th and Ptes. Thos. Argent, Fred. Woolridge, Thos. Edge and Geo. Dyson, 205th. Most of the wounds are in the men's legs.

Robt. Joyce, Deputy Sheriff, and W.A. Chapman, constable, escorted Leo Manning to Kingston penitentiary last Friday to put in his sentence. In the jail after he got his sentence Manning wept and said he would die before he would put it in. Later he attempted or pretended to attempt suicide. He broke a tin plate on which food had been given to him and with its ragged edge made a rather deep cut across the middle of one of his forearms. It bled a good deal, but no important blood vessel was severed and he was little the worse when he started on his journey, during which he gave no trouble.

Letter to editor (tongue in cheek):  
Re delaying homecoming receptions to end of war... I would like to sug-

Milton  
Time  
Capsules



gest a further war-time economy. In the past it has been customary to hold individual funerals for each person who died, at great expense and trouble and at a great loss of time on the part of those who attended the funerals. I would suggest that the council pass a motion that in future, when anybody dies in the town or vicinity, instead of going to the expense of individual funerals, their bodies should be salted and stacked up in a corner of the basement of the town hall until after the war when one large funeral could be held.

On Saturday W.J. McClenahan went to Toronto to say goodbye to his son, Corp. W.S. McClenahan, B.A., who left for an eastern point on Sunday evening with a draft of four troops of 30 men each, total 120, for the Divisional Cyclist Corps, now in France. The draft will go overseas very soon. Nearly all its members are college men, from Toronto University and Queen's Kingston.

Another family that has done well in sending its sons to the front is that of the late George and Mrs. Lavery. George Lavery will be remembered by many Milton people as having owned the bus service here for many years. His widow, with her family of five sons and two girls, moved to Toronto on his death, some fifteen years ago. All the children have grown up now, of course, and four out of the five boys are overseas, serving their King and Country.

*This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.*

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