

OPINION

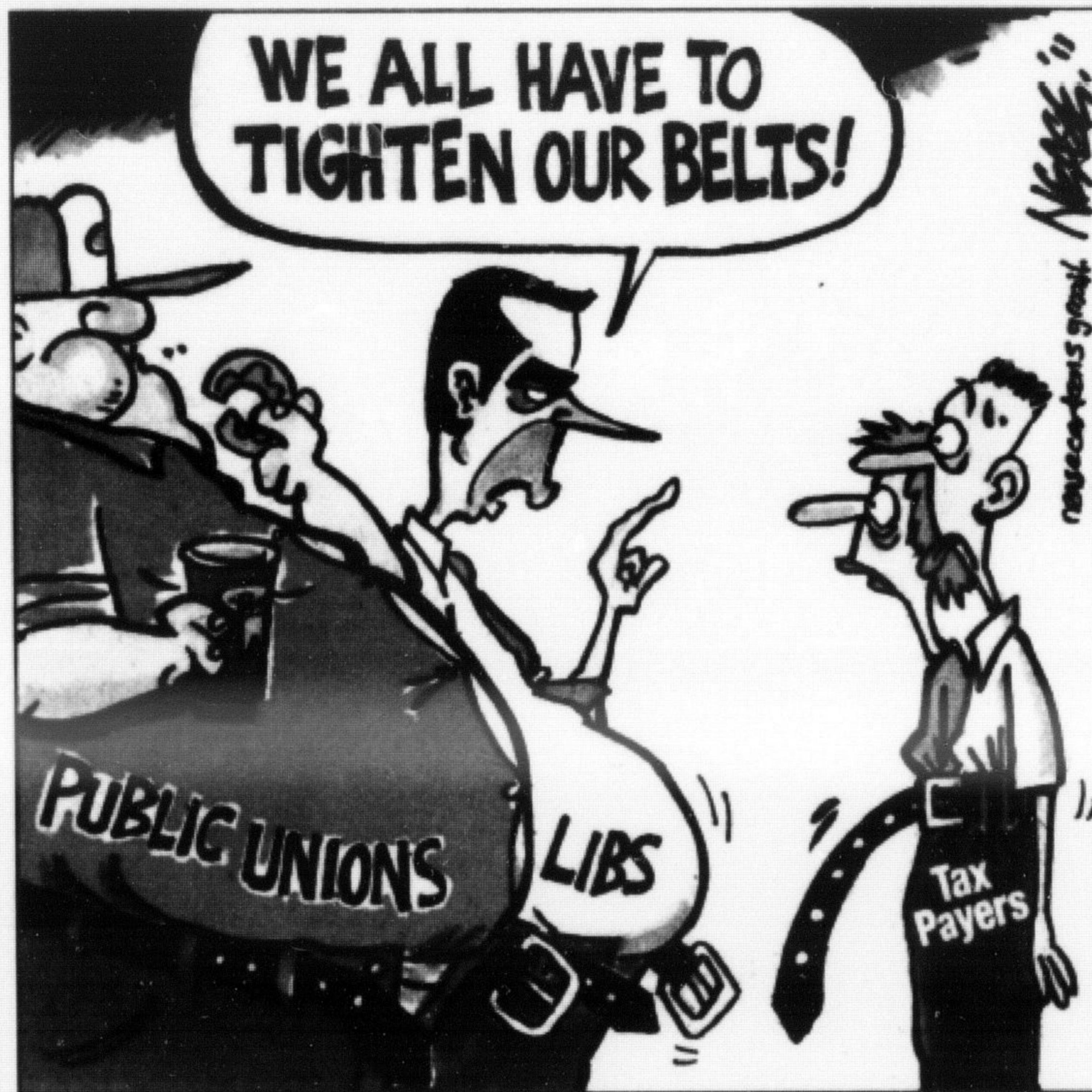
Vehicles left idling invite to thieves

The primary cause of vehicle thefts at this time of year is vehicles left idling and unattended, according to Halton Regional Police.

While there are no guarantees against becoming a victim of vehicle theft or having your vehicle broken into, police advise vehicle owners take the following precautionary measures:

- Park in a well-lit and attended area if possible for your own safety as well as your vehicle's
- Never leave your vehicle unattended with the engine running, even for a few seconds; turn off the ignition and take the keys with you
- Always lock all of your vehicle's doors and windows after entering and exiting it
- Never leave personal identification or valuables in your vehicle; lock all valuables in the trunk
- Remove GPS navigation and cellphone devices from view when out of your vehicle
- Mount CD and MP3 players inconspicuously
- If you have a garage, use it and lock your car
- Never hide a spare key in your car; thieves know where to look.

For more crime prevention ideas, visit www.haltonpolice.ca and follow the link to 'Community Policing.'



ReadersWrite

Velodrome excellent opportunity for town

DEAR EDITOR:

Re: 'Milton pursuing velodrome' in the November 24 *Champion*.

What encouraging words. I think it would be a fantastic opportunity that the town council should seriously consider in its future discussions. If the Town had decided to build a velodrome just for the heck of it, then, yes, consider the frivolity of it in this time of fiscal restraint and prioritizing other important projects like the hospital expansion. Instead, the Town has an opportunity to host part of an important and historical sporting event and to build a top-notch facility that would be enjoyed for years to come.

Milton — and may I remind everyone that the escarpment is a world-recognized biosphere — has been a magnet for cyclists around Halton and beyond for years. The landscape in this area is ideal for cyclists who want a challenging route and with the added bonus of beautiful scenery.

Milton has some wonderful sports and recreational facilities, indoors and out, all within the backdrop of

an area that can't help but encourage healthy and active living. Milton could be known for a lifestyle envied by many. The velodrome could attract future Olympians looking for a training facility. If they weren't inside training, the escarpment and surrounding area would provide four seasons of outside activity.

Of course, safety of the roads both urban and rural has to be part of the master plan, but is that such a hard task or even a bad thing to weave into the bigger picture? The Town has Laurier university offering money to fund this velodrome to be built in the Milton Education Village. Is it ironic that a respected educational institution is eager to offer to lend its support to this project? I think not. It knows that sports and learning go hand-in-hand to encourage a healthy mind.

Town council needs to have a clearer vision of where this town is going and how its precious resources are to be used. The velodrome would be a good start.

M. C. DUNPHY
MILTON

Velodrome ridiculous idea

DEAR EDITOR:

Once again, town council is considering another bad idea, that being trying to bring a velodrome to Milton.

Just like the arts centre, the velodrome would be subsidized by taxpayers.

Thank goodness it didn't succeed in obtaining the Sky Dome or the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Before the expansion of Milton's new homes, we were promised that no extra taxes would come from the existing taxpayers in Milton.

Remember how long the Thompson Road underpass took to complete? How long will it take to finish the proposed underpasses on Main Street and Derry Road?

Rush hour traffic is still a nightmare. Town buses are still running around empty most of the time.

We don't need a velodrome. Taxpayers shouldn't have to subsidize ridiculous projects of town council.

AGOSTINO GALIOTO
MILTON

Letters welcome

The *Canadian Champion* welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters.

Letters must be signed with first and last name, and the address and the telephone number of the writer included for verification purposes.

Email your letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com or send by mail to 555 Industrial Dr., Milton, Ont., L9T 5E1, or leave them at our office. Our office hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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