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NEWS
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A & E
Band to release third recording

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All aboard!

The Halton County Radial Railway, a full-size operating electric railway and museum, is open for another season, offering streetcar and rail buffs a chance to travel back in time and ride their favourite rail car. Here, conductor Lionel Jordan punches the transfer ticket for passengers of car No. 327, a restored wooden, open bench streetcar that was built in 1933 and operated until being retired in 1968 by the Toronto Transit Commission. Inset, three-year-old Katelyn Johnson enjoys some ice cream during a stop on the rails. Tomorrow night, the Guelph Line museum will hold the popular Ice Cream & Starlight event from 7 to 10 p.m. Visitors will be romanced under the stars and lights while riding the rails and enjoying hand-scooped ice cream. See more museum images in a slideshow featuring the photos of Champion photographer Graham Paine on the newspaper's website, www.miltoncanadianchampion.com. Click on PHOTO SLIDESHOWS.

GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION



'Save my job,' say protesters

DC recommendation loses; regional council to make final decision

By Tim Foran
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

They came from across the GTA in droves — pulled from construction sites where they had spent the morning working and piled on to seven buses — and arrived at Halton Region's headquarters at 1 p.m., all wearing signs saying, 'Save My Job.'

In total, about 350 construction workers, contractors and builders, many associated with the large homebuilder Mattamy Corporation, packed the Region's council chambers Wednesday to protest a Regional staff recommendation to add an extra \$8,000 per unit charge to residential developers in north Oakville and Milton.

Not that all of them knew that though. Many of the workers didn't understand the details of what was on the table, with some thinking incorrectly a land transfer tax was being proposed, except that they'd been told it could slow down an already sluggish building industry resulting in job losses.

"Certainly a lot of them don't know why they're here but I do, and so do their employers," said former Halton regional chair Peter Pomeroy, who now works on behalf of Mattamy Corporation.

• see DEBATE on page A4

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