Two companies planning to set up shop in Milton

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effects on the economy."

Town Senior Manager of Economic Development Andrew Siltala told the Champion he expects this year's numbers will be similar to last, with 500,000 to 700,000 square feet of ICI development anticipated.

Another side effect of the recession that Siltala and MEDAC have been dealing with is the closure of SKD Automotive and impending shut down of Meritor Suspension Systems, which was expected last year but has been extended to this June.

The report from MEDAC said after the SKD property went up for sale last year, the Town's Economic Development office responded by immediately including the listing in its online real estate database of available properties to market the site to investors.

The Town plans to follow a similar process with the Meritor property.

"As a regular course of activity the Economic Development office will aggressively pursue opportunities to find new occupants for any facilities left vacant by unfortunate closures," the report stated.

On a more positive note, Siltala said the Town is already working with two companies that are planning to set up shop in Milton soon.

One is a manufacturing business that's looking to build a 200,000-square-foot facility on the former Consumers Glass property on Chisholm Drive.

The development is expected to be approved early this year and would create about 100 local jobs.

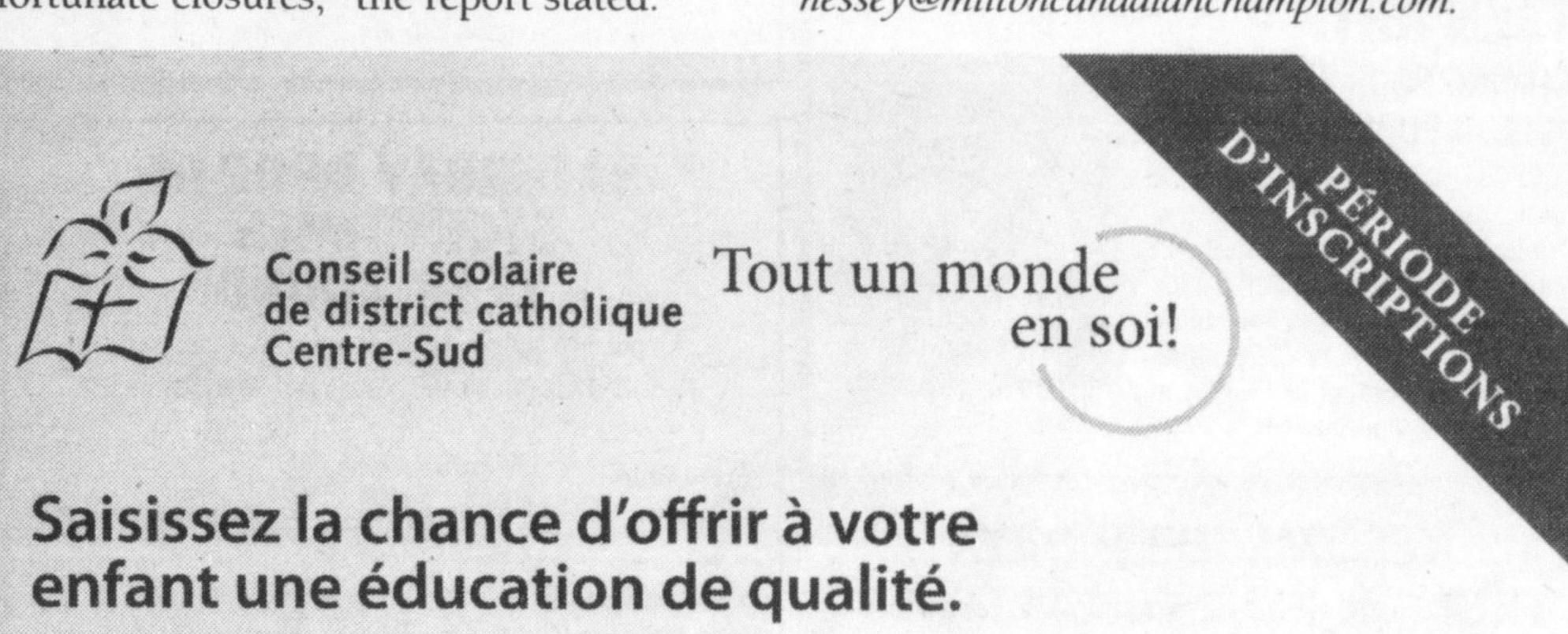
The other project entails construction of a 30,000-square-foot office/manufacturing building in the 401 Industrial Park. Potential employment numbers for the facility aren't yet available.

"We're optimistic about those projects," said Siltala.

And with a number of business inquiries rolling in to the Economic Development office, Siltala said he expects to see an increase in development action at the end of the year as well.

For more information on economic development in Milton visit www.milton.ca.

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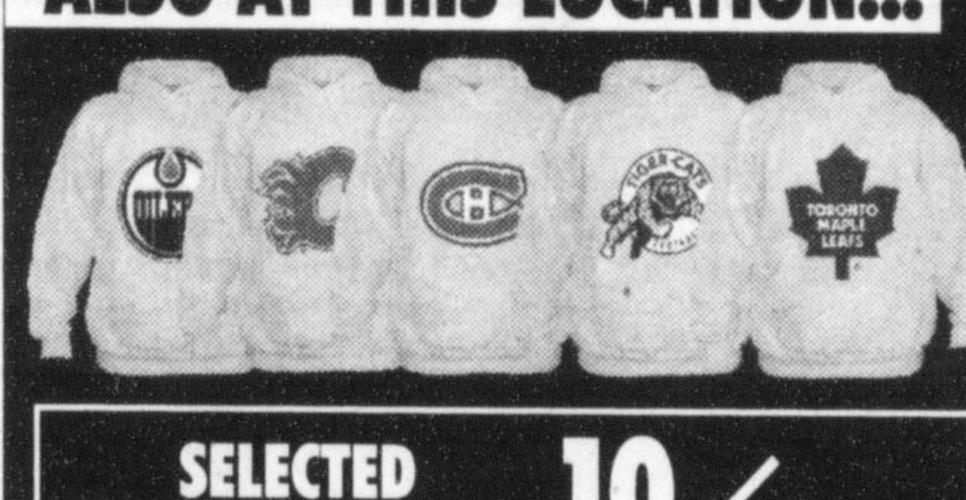








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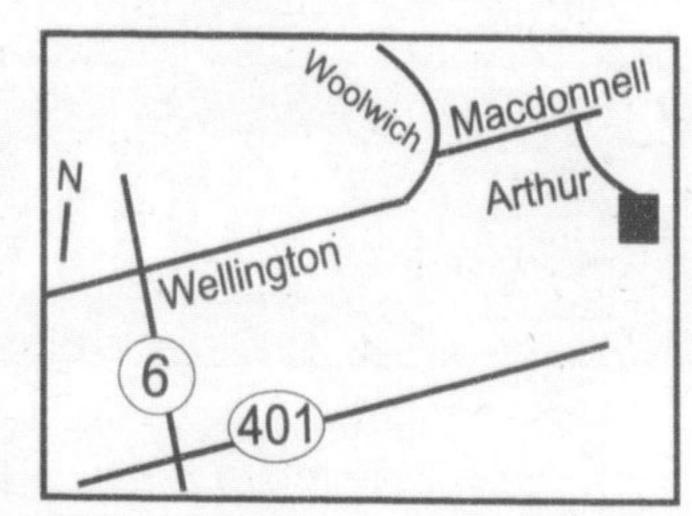


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