

# Children's Aid Society moving to bigger quarters

After years of struggling to resolve stressful cases in sardine-like offices plagued with high noise pollution levels, Halton CAS staff are eagerly anticipating a move to spanking new headquarters.

The move from the crowded second-floor of 467 Speers Rd., Oakville, to the spacious, state-of-the-art glass and brick office complex at nearby 465 Morden Road (corner of Speers and Dorval), is scheduled to occur Jan. 5-7.

Halton CAS manager of Family Services Mark Creedon, who has been co-ordinating work with the builder, Inducon Ltd. for the past

several months, is optimistic the new agency Headquarters will boost both staff morale and productivity.

"The offices," Mr. Creedon notes, "have been engineered to encourage even better team work. There will be no more sharing offices, no more working in areas akin to rabbit's warrens. Everything has been custom designed to suit our needs."

Oakville architect Don Kerr says the new interior resembled "pods with a central angora — like a town square in ancient Greece."

This, Mr Kerr explains, was done to help CAS teams operate as a unit clustered around a secretary. "To

get to your pod or your neighbourhood, you must go through the village square. Not only does this arrangement provide private individual work areas, it also encourages staff interaction."

Another aspect of the design with which Mr. Kerr, a former Halton CAS board member, is especially pleased involves a layout which allows every employee to see the sky.

"The secretaries got the large, outer windows because they have to sit in the same spot for several hours a day — unlike the workers who come and go frequently throughout

the work day. But every single office has a window through the pod area that enables them to see what the weather is like outdoors."

The new building also featured skylights and some large meeting areas, which the agency expects will soon reverberate with the enthusiastic sounds of volunteers, foster parents and community members.

Mr Kerr notes he did not design the entire Morden Road building. That was done by the owner, Inducon.

"Basically, we inherited a grid of columns, ceilings and outer walls.

They (Inducon) provided us with the shell and made suggestions regarding how we might clad it," says Mr. Kerr. "In Europe, that's called 'interior agriculture'."

Canada Brick Company, a division of Jannock Ltd., got the building started by donating the first 10,000 bricks.

Interior design work on the new CAS headquarters was co-ordinated by Mr. Kerr's wife, Christine, former display director for IKEA. Mrs. Kerr left the store chain a year ago to launch her own interior design business.

Working closely with public relations associate Heather Smith, Mrs. Kerr chose contemporary golden oak desks and metal office furniture with pewter grey carpeting and vertical blinds. Offices have white walls and are decorated in soft shades of blue while the centre section of the new complex will be accented in dusty rose.

Much of the furniture from the CAS's former home has been recycled to save money. Recycling efforts involved such things as painting black filing cabinets light grey to present a more unified look overall. "Really, what we've done is to bring Halton CAS out of the '60s and into the '80s," adds Mrs. Kerr.

Space for Halton CAS staff will nearly double in the new building — from 12,000 to 21,635 sq. ft. — and another 8,795 sq. ft. will be leased to other tenants, including the region's public health department.

Mr. Creedon said the agency has a 10-year lease on the new facility, which includes an option to buy. "On the surface this move may appear extravagant, but in the long term, it is actually a cost-saving measure.

Much of the credit of arranging the creative financing which enabled the agency to lease the new head office goes to Executive Director Ron Coupland and former CAS Human Resources Manager Ron Chyczyj. Mr. Coupland has worked zealously with the agency's board and with staff members to ensure the best possible end product for all concerned.

For further information, contact Mr. Creedon at 844-8211.



**Our 24 hr. Emergency Service is available over Christmas**

Emergency & Towing Service Now Available

Happy New Year!

We will be closed Dec. 31, Jan. 1

**BRIAN'S AUTO REPAIRS**  
432 Steeles Ave. Milton, Ontario  
Mon-Fri. 7-7  
Saturday 9-1  
875-1522



"Expressing our best for the holiday season"  
"Please don't drink & drive"

**MILTON RADIATOR & HEATER CORE SERVICE**

REPAIRS • RECORE • NEW  
2 YEAR WARRANTY

390 Ontario St.  
878-9646

# WE GOT IT!

LUBE OIL AND OIL FILTER PLUS  
COMPLIMENTARY 10 POINT INSPECTION

Here's What We Do:

- Install New G.M. Oil Filter
- Install up to 4 1/2 litres Quaker State Motor Oil (5 w30)
- Chassis Lubrication

- Top Up Washer Fluid
- Check All Fluid Levels
- Test Anti Freeze Strength
- Check All Belts and Hoses
- Check Radiator
- Check Brakes
- Check Exhaust System

- Check All Lights
- Check Wiper Blades
- Adj. Tire Pressures.

**Only \$18.95**  
Most GM Cars



**Offer Good until Dec. 31/88**

**Murray Wilson**  
PONTIAC BUICK CADILLAC LTD.  
409 MAIN STREET EAST, MILTON 878-2355



**GUARANTEED SERVICE  
GUARANTEED GM PARTS  
GUARANTEED PRICE**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR '89**

**CALL US FOR YOUR NEW YEAR'S PARTY SUPPLY**

Hats, Horns, Noisemakers

**WE'VE GOT IT ALL!!!**

WATCH FOR OUR DOLLAR DAYS SPECIALS STARTING JAN 4!

878-2339

**The Paper Factory**  
255 Main St., Milton  
(Parking and Entrance off Court Street)

