

Grant gives more independence to handicapped residents

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By KAREN SMITH

People with developmental disabilities will benefit from more than \$300,000 in funding recently granted to a local non-profit organization by the provincial government.

The North Halton Association for the Developmentally Handicapped (NHADH) has received \$328,042 from the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The funding will be used to expand the organization's residential and day programs, according to John Ellis, NHADH executive director.

"We're very excited about the funding the ministry has provided," said Mr. Ellis. "The money will help us meet our objectives."

About \$77,000 of the grant will accommodate NHADH's day programs in Milton, upgrade its Georgetown residential program as well as pay for additional furnishings.

Annual funding of \$251,042 will increase staff and cover operating costs associated with expansion of the programs.

The upgrading will include renovations to make the organization's Georgetown residence completely wheelchair accessible, accommodate new residents with multiple disabilities and enable NHADH to serve more people.

The new residents are expected to move from a nursing home to the Georgetown facility sometime this fall.

Walt Elliot, Halton North MPP, announced the funding last week on behalf of Charles Beer, Ontario minister of Community and Social Services.

"It means a move toward greater

self-sufficiency for a number of these individuals," he said. "The agency's residential and day programs give

people with developmental disabilities an opportunity to acquire life skills along with a chance for

more independence."

The funding was granted in conjunction with the ministry's multi-

year plan for community living geared to provide services and support for people with developmental disabilities.

The plan is to ensure services and support are in place at the community level to help the developmentally handicapped live independently.

Johnson angry with parking woes

A recommendation at the Sept. 25 town council meeting to erect a "No Stopping Anytime" sign on Commercial Street near Main drew Councillor Bill Johnson into the fray.

John Matthews, director of public works, said the village constable, Larry Masson, brought the problem of parking there to his attention.

Mr. Johnson angrily said signs in the northern commercial strip are routinely ignored by cars and trucks.

"They're parking there with impunity," he said.

He suggested a weekly or monthly police crackdown on parking violations in Milton. "I might be the first one to get a ticket," he said, "but so be it."

Mr. Matthews said the village constable has done an excellent job in the downtown core and Mr. Johnson roared, saying that was his point exactly — only the core was being looked at.

The Commercial Street designation was approved. The problem cropped up when a by-law was not amended after street construction.



Photo by STEPHEN UHRANEY

Walk for Life

Several Miltonians joined Halton Pro-Life's "Walk for Life" on Saturday which took them from E. C. Drury to Holy Rosary Church and back. Proceeds from the event are to go toward educational material promoting the pro-life anti-abortion stance.

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