## Developers shouldn't get clear sailing on pipeline

Dear Editor:

With regard to the editorial of Sept. 12, I'm confused - whose "hopes are dashed"? I can only speak for myself but I'll tell you what I think the hopes are of the majority of people in Milton. I think it's high time the people of Milton got their chance to say whether they want The Big Expensive Pipe.

Our little town and our pure, clean drinking water is being eyed by the monied people from congested, polluted and crime-filled cities and I think that's whose "hopes are dashed." I also know that unless we as a group (a community) don't send them a clear message and rally around our good town, it will only be a matter of time before their hopes will be realized.

Through a telephone poll referendum we could register a yes or no vote on this very important matter. This wouldn't cost anywhere close to the \$4.3-million study that is proposed.

Also, in the same paper, a story on the same subject has town administrator Roy Mr. Main warning of the possibility of being sued by developers.

That turns my stomach - I don't remember anyone making a deal or signing anything that guaranteed developers that this project was finalized and complete. We all take risks in this crazy life. It's just that some people take bigger ones than others.

Lawrence E. Brunner, Milton

#### Planned golf course may take our water

This letter was written to Ian Keith, director of planning for Halton Hills. A copy was filed with The Champion for publication. Dear Mr. Keith:

This letter reiterates concerns I presented to Halton Hills council at the Sept. 4 meeting, regarding a golf course development application.

Many residents in the area of the proposed development, including me, have had, or now have, very serious groundwater shortages. Perhaps my own situation is as good as any to illustrate how careful you must be in making decisions on large water-use development proposals, such as this golf course.

Our half acre lot on the north side of No. 10 Sideroad, immediately adjacent to the development proposal, has four groundwater wells on it. Three wells are six-inch diameter drilled wells and are unproductive - dry. The fourth is a 36-inch diameter well, bored to 75 feet in depth at great expense. This fourth well is a good one, however, my family follows strict water conservation practices so as not to put any unnecessary strain on the water supply.

can provide you with many similar examples from the area and, in due course, will endeavour to document these cases, but for the time being I am satisfied that council is now aware of the problem and has, thankfully, voted to defer your recommendation, "that the Niagara Escarpment Commission be advised that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills recommends that application H/C/89-90/49 in the name Eagle Equity, be approved"...

Frankly, Mr. Keith, I am dismayed that you and your staff would make such a recommendation, prior to the implementation of groundwater studies by the proponent and in view of the fact the golf course will be a big user of water. Even more remarkable is that you make these recommendations with the full knowledge that the groundwater supply in this area is critically low.

Futhermore, to my knowledge there has been no notification by the Town of Halton Hills or the Niagara Escarpment Commission to the local residents that this development application was even being considered, let alone voted upon by council. Some dismay about the timing of a vote on your recommendations and your apparent lack of procedural protocol in this matter was also evident on the faces of some councillors.

This "in through the back door" approach to the planning process is completely unacceptable. Is this meant to be a common sense process or a puppet show? Or should I simply ask who's pulling the strings here?

As a resident who could be greatly affected by this proposal I must insist on being made aware of any future developments and/or information regarding this proposal.

I also feel any groundwater study of the area would be incomplete without full documentation as to the current status of existing wells in the area. This data would provide comparison data should a disruption of groundwater supply occur within a predetermined period following the start of golf course operations.

Mr. G. Vandevalk, Milton

### Rural residents getting \$275,000 free ride

Dear Editor:

Re: "Politicians cost more than transfer stations" (Champion, Sept. 12).

Letter writer Barb McKnight, a relative newcomer to Milton, (she has been here 20 years) should be aware of certain facts. People in urban Milton pay a separate levy to have home garbage collection. Those in rural Milton pay a private hauler or dispose of their garbage themselves. Those people who do not pay the urban Milton levy or who do not pay a private hauler and simply take their garbage to the transfer station are having a free ride.

It is not simply a matter of one or two bags of garbage. The Milton transfer station recorded 54,000 cars and pick-up trucks last year, depositing garbage and (thank goodness) recyclables. That transfer station received and shipped out 3,000 tonnes of garbage at \$116 per tonne. The operating costs of the facility are \$275,000 per year.

Regarding my salary, I was the only councillor in Milton to sign a statement refusing the raise in pay that council voted itself this year.

am exceedingly proud of my political record. I have served the people of my two wards uncontested for 12 years, and it certainly has not been for the remuneration.

William A. Johnson Councillor, Wards 1&3

#### Incinerator affects everyone in Halton

The following letter was addressed to Halton Region Chairman Peter Pomeroy. A copy was filed with The Champion for publication. Dear Mr. Pomeroy:

Your reception of our neighbourhood group's appeal on Sept. 5 (Champion, Sept. 7) was disappointing and disheartening. You accused us of operating under the NIMBY syndrome (Not In My Back Yard). But our concern encompasses everyone in Halton. A garbage incinerator may possibly be sited near our homes, but another community will receive the toxic ash it will definitely produce. And the emissions won't be selective. They will affect all of you.

Our garbage crisis should not be seen as a profitable opportunity for a large corporation. There are alternatives to burning up our resources. With good leadership and effective education, the garbage volume can be reduced. But we need strong leadership, not the defeatist attitude you and your fellow regional council members displayed on Sept. 5.

We as citizens look to you for leadership and guidance. You were given the power and resources to take community action. Halton's successful recycling initiatives have proven people's willingness to co-operate, but more can and must be done to solve our garbage crisis in a more environmentally responsible manner.

We ask to be informed of any developments as they apply to further study of the energy from waste option in Halton Region.

Carte Biasutti, Secretary Incineration Counteracts the Environment (I.C.E.)

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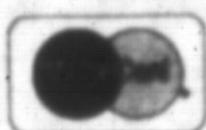
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