

OUR READERS WRITE

The Canadian Champion

7—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, March 4, 1992

Keep the 'Good News' coming

Dear Editor:

The 'Good News' section in the February 26 issue of *The Champion* was like a breath of fresh air in a smokey room.

It's going to be a smoother and faster trip back to economic prosperity if we build on the successes and positive aspects of our situation instead of continually running ourselves down.

Thanks for brightening my day, and I sincerely hope you decide to make this a regular part of the paper. I was beginning to wonder if the media was so obsessed with selling papers by spreading bad news and looking for people to blame, that the public would throw in the towel and quit trying.

The Champion should be congratulated for showing that there is more than just a light at the end of the tunnel, there is an inferno of confidence, optimism and enthusiasm out there that deserves to be given its fair share of attention. I am sure there are many more success stories and good things happening in Milton that can be shared with your readers. Let's see them, please.

Gary R. Leon
Milton

More swim and skate opportunities are needed

The following was sent to Jennifer Reynolds, director, Department of Leisure Services, and a copy was filed with *The Champion* for publication:

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Department of Leisure Services and the Town of Milton for the splendid facilities now available in our new leisure centre.

As a resident of Milton with a growing family eager to make use of both skating and swimming facilities, I wish to draw your attention to and express my concerns regarding the hours of public access to these facilities.

In connection with both skating arenas, public skate times are restricted to less than four hours throughout a seven-day period.

The leisure centre limits 'all age swims' to exactly six hours and the 'leisure only swims' to two hours per week. Both leisure swim hours are unacceptable to school age children.

My concern is, that unless our children are enrolled in either a hockey club, figure skating or swimming lessons, their access to these facilities is extremely limited. As these complexes are supported largely through our tax dollars, should not more general admission times be made available?

The crowds awaiting admittance to the 'all age swims' are an indication to me that not enough hours are made available throughout the week to accommodate everyone and this could be alleviated with more after-school and weekend access.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding these concerns as I feel the excellent public facilities we possess in Milton should be truly for the public and available to them on a more regular basis.

Lorie Fowler
Randall Crescent, Milton

Tax holiday would create jobs

Dear Editor:

Re: The Halton (non-colour bias) white paper on tax and social reform.

Any gathering of individuals today could produce a more stimulating and intelligent way of getting our economy moving, without necessarily increasing the government debt.

1. Take all federal and provincial taxes off of building materials, including lot levies for schools and land transfer taxes. These are estimated to run at about 20 per cent, so on a new \$200,000 house, the price could be reduced by at least \$40,000. These taxes would be recovered by taking the current construction and manufacturing workers now unemployed off UIC, welfare and compensation, which would result in them having an income to tax and eliminating them from the government alphabet agency payrolls.

2. Similarly the taxes on home furnishings and home repair material such as paint and wallpaper could be eliminated since the new homes have to be furnished and older homes repaired resulting in more trickle down job effects with the same results as in (1).

3. At our local municipal level we could be innovative by eliminating increased property taxes on home

improvements such as finished basements, decks, pools etc. which I have always considered to be punitive taxes and totally unjust as these people are taxed forever on these items as well as the services everyone else pays for. These home improvements result in putting local people to work supplying products or providing labour, so why are we punishing people who improve all our property values. I'd rather see people taxed more who don't repair their fences or paint their homes and bring down property values.

Now I don't think I have knocked anyone's pet special interests, because any of these jobs can be done in French or English.

I've improved multiculturalism as these various groups can get together socially after their neighbourhood project or day on the job, and maybe even meet someone from another cultural background.

We won't have time for separatism because we will be too busy working and spending our paycheques.

It really doesn't help to reduce racism — but maybe we won't have time for that either.

Patrick Kelly
Coulson Avenue, Milton

Sensitive hospital staff ease loss

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter to express our appreciation for the work done by Milton District Hospital Staff.

We recently have experienced the loss of our father due to terminal cancer. This loss was made much more bearable in the last few hours by the kindness shown both to him and the other family members from the hospital staff in general and by the staff of the second-floor medical facility in particular.

The patient, having experienced considerable trauma during the course of his illness, was treated at a large metropolitan hospital over a lengthy period of time and naturally we were grateful for any medical

care that could be provided.

Large hospitals, however, have large clienteles and time is spread thinly over the patient load. When our father was reaching the end of his life, he was adamant that he would not return to hospital. However he did agree because of what we had discussed in the past regarding what we felt was a fine district hospital that he would come to Milton District Hospital for treatment.

From the moment he arrived to the moment he passed away some hours later, both he and the family were treated with dignity, respect, and sensitivity to the situation at hand.

Milton, we have a fine hospital. We have people who care and are proud of their hospital.

The Card Family
Mary Street, Milton

The fence co-operation built

Dear Editor:

I am writing to thank you for your coverage of E.C. Drury artwork that now adorns the construction fence at Halton Centennial Manor.

We want to mention the generous people who helped get this project underway. First of all we would like to thank Betty Wright of Colour Your World in Milton for the donation of paint and supplies. Secondly, we owe thanks to Mr. Mercurio of Lumberville Company on Bronte Street, Milton for the donation of wood panelling on which the designs were painted and of course we would like to thank Mr. Weresch and all of the contributing art students for their creative designs —

they look great.

Diane Dawe, Volunteer
Co-ordinator and Chairperson
of Relocation/Promotional
Committee

Breakfast Club boosters

Dear Editor:

Thank you for printing an article on E.C. Drury's 'Breakfast Club'. It is important that the community be informed of unique programs in our schools.

We would especially like to thank Dave Robbins and the Optimist Club of Milton for the hard work in orchestrating community support. We are extremely grateful for the generous donations of Frank Wetselaar from Quik Convenience; Scott Schotzhauer from M & M Meat Shops; Franco Moretti from 'Dempster's'; Ross O'Leary from 'Neilson Dairy'; and Ontario Tree Fruit Ltd.

It is thanks to these local business people that our 'Breakfast Club' program has expanded beyond the original two days per week, and now involves more students.

This has been a special education department project, supervised by our members, and thanks to the community, it is a great success!

Special Education Department
E.C. Drury High School

Letters welcomed

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. Writers will be contacted in regard to revisions or rejections. Letters must be signed and the address and the telephone number of the writer included. Mail letters to The Canadian Champion, Box 248, Milton, Ont. L9T 4N9 or our office, 191 Main St.

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