

A long wait for Big Brothers

There are more than 15 boys waiting for a big brother in Milton, and most of them will probably wait about two years, says Evelyn Gransauil, the executive director of Big Brothers of Halton.

And when the Milton boys do find

Big Brothers, they will likely be role models from Oakville, not Milton, she added, "which is sad."

The matter was a topic of discussion at the annual general meeting of the Big Brothers group in Milton Monday night. The group is trying to

find more effective ways of reaching potential Big Brothers in Milton.

Men aged 18 and older who pledge to devote at least a year to the program, and spend three to four hours a week with a boy aged six or older, are the men Ms Gransauil hopes will call in greater numbers.

The group is also looking for volunteer board members, willing to attend at least one meeting a month. Meetings usually last about two hours. "It's not a large time allotment," Ms Gransauil said.

Big Brothers is an organization that strives to provide men who will assist boys who don't have fathers at home. Ideally, they'll do father-son activities with the boys and provide some extra guidance.

But the organization is "weak in the north (of Halton)," Ms Gransauil said. "We don't know what to do."

Men interested in volunteering to be Big Brothers should call 876-4756 or 847-7267.

The board elected a new slate of officers Monday night. Fraser McClellan is the incoming president, Jim Hynes the vice-president and Dale Williams the treasurer.

THE UNITED WAY OF MILTON

P.O. Box 212,
Milton L9T 4N9
(416)-875-2550



You are cordially invited to the 9th Annual General Meeting of the United Way of Milton.

The meeting will be held at:
Hugh Foster Hall
Monday June 15, 1992,
7:00 pm

Voting Membership is extended to anyone having made a donation of \$5 or more in 1991.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Patriotic faces

Denise Waples (left), a face-painting clown paints a maple leaf on the cheek of Lisa Murray, the 1991-1992 Halton Dairy Princess. The princess is a Nassagaweya resident and was a guest at the Brookville Fair held at Brookville School on Guelph Line Saturday morning. There was a flag raising ceremony at 2 p.m. and a picnic to celebrate Canada's 125th birthday. The day kicked off with a foot race.

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*Based on latest published information. Ontario FMDA, P.O. Box 2008, Oshawa, ON L6H 5E4

Like money in the bank

By ROB KELLY
The Champion

For Halton regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo, it's like money in the bank.

Last Wednesday Mr. Rinaldo proudly revealed that Halton Region has maintained its triple A credit rating with Moody's Investors, a New York based firm considered one of the most prominent investment analysis companies in North America.

The rating, basically a re-affirmation of the triple A status Moody's dubbed to Halton for the first time in 1989, means the region could save anywhere between \$50,000 and \$100,000 worth of interest charges annually on the debt it assumes to finance municipal projects.

"To be perfectly frank, we're pleasantly surprised," Mr. Rinaldo said. "We're extremely pleased."

Halton usually issues about \$50 million in debt per year, although that figure may climb to \$70 million in 1992 due to financing required for the new landfill site in Milton.

Regional government acts as an umbrella organization for the area municipalities and school boards, moving into the bond markets to issue debentures for those bodies as well as to fill Halton's needs.

The other main benefit of the triple A rating, Mr. Rinaldo said, is that since some investors will only purchase triple A bonds, Halton's debentures are marketable to the widest spectrum of buyers.

The Moody's briefing on Halton speaks highly of regional financial management. The company also notes Halton's "prime credit quality" due to "long-term economic growth potential and a fundamentally strong and diverse base."

Halton's large-scale capital works, such as sewage plants, roads and buildings, benefit from a "pay-as-you-go" program that emphasizes developer funding and financing from current taxes, rather than long-term debt, the report states.

Mr. Rinaldo, who sees an unsettled economic road ahead in Ontario for the next few years, hopes to hold onto Halton's triple A rating despite ongoing uncertainties. However, "I think we're going to have to work at it a little harder." Maintaining the rating less than half a dozen Canadian municipal governments own "is certainly not going to be as easy as it was in the 1980s."