

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Meeting outcome misrepresented

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my thanks to all those concerned residents that came out to the council meeting to oppose the Sib-Jel non-profit housing proposal on Robert Street. In addition, a special thanks to the many neighbours that assisted in the planning of the presentation.

It was comforting to know that we as taxpayers of this community still have a voice in the political system.

I am extremely disappointed with the comments and assumptions made by the media in their analysis and interpretation of this hearing.

For *The Champion* to come forth in the headlines of *The Champion* and report, "Non-profit housing expected to proceed", is completely out of line and is clearly unacceptable.

Since when does the media decide a case before it has gone to trial?

The idea that the residents "cheers will ring hollow in the long run," and that we landed "a lucky punch against a more formidable opponent," is clearly an indication of the type of media manipulation we all have become accustomed to in cases like this.

I would suggest that the media take a close look at the facts before making a carte blanche judgement on the ability of the residents to fight this issue with the OMB.

Firstly, we are taxpayers, and our voice will be heard at this hearing backed by factual and well-justified arguments, and if necessary legal council.

Secondly, I think you will agree that a seven-to-one council vote does carry some weight on the decision-making process. Unless the media honestly believes that council

should be dissolved and run by the OMB that I think the implication of the defeat of the residents completely unjustified.

The final aspect you have neglected to consider is our ability as residents to fight this issue at a higher level. Let me assure both the media and the developer that we are highly organized professional people and are fully prepared for a fight that may even take us to a higher court.

For far too long, taxpayers have not stood up and opposed projects such as this, which have been proven to be extremely wasteful and unsustainable given the current provincial debt crisis.

If the media thinks they can attempt to beat down the taxpayers by conveying to the public that our opinion is voiceless against the government, they better take a closer look at who is footing the bill.

Wally Hunter
Milton

to the facts and let the developer give his own sales pitch?)

Thank you town councillors for your vote seven-to-one against this proposal.

C. Herring
Milton

Lowest bid is best

Dear Editor:

My blood pressure elevated when I read Rob Kelly's article on the local contractor who was not awarded a contract although he was \$259,000 lower than the next bid.

It seems Mr. Lindsay forgot to return some documents (work instructions) with his bid.

On this technicality, Milton taxpayers will pay an additional \$259,000!

Surely this document is easily obtainable from Mr. Lindsay.

Would any of these bureaucrats or politicians come to the same conclusion had this been their own free enterprise business awarding the contract? Would they, in fact hold fast to the rules and eliminate \$259,000 from the bottom line?

Come on you bureaucrats and politicians, give your collective heads a shake and get into the real world. You were elected and appointed to serve in the best interest of the citizens of Milton.

Brian Boyle
Fay Court, Milton

No respect from youths

Dear Editor:

I am writing in support of a letter

to the Editor that appeared in the Wednesday, June 24 edition of *The Champion* regarding youth's lack of respect for others.

I too have been greatly disturbed by the growing incidents within Milton. While I, for the most part, feel safe walking the Milton streets at night, by no means do I feel comfortable approaching a band of loitering youths. Certainly by no means would I feel comfortable having my wife with our two young children walk the streets in the evening. These youths are well on their way to taking control of the streets.

The following are some of my family's experiences over the last year:

My wife asked a 3-4 year-old girl "not to pick up the newly laid sod." This girl called my wife a "bitch".

• see OUR READERS on page 9

Where's the objectivity?

Dear Editor:

After reading the headlines of the June 23 issue of *The Champion*: "Non-profit housing expected to proceed", I will have great difficulty believing what is "reported" in this paper.

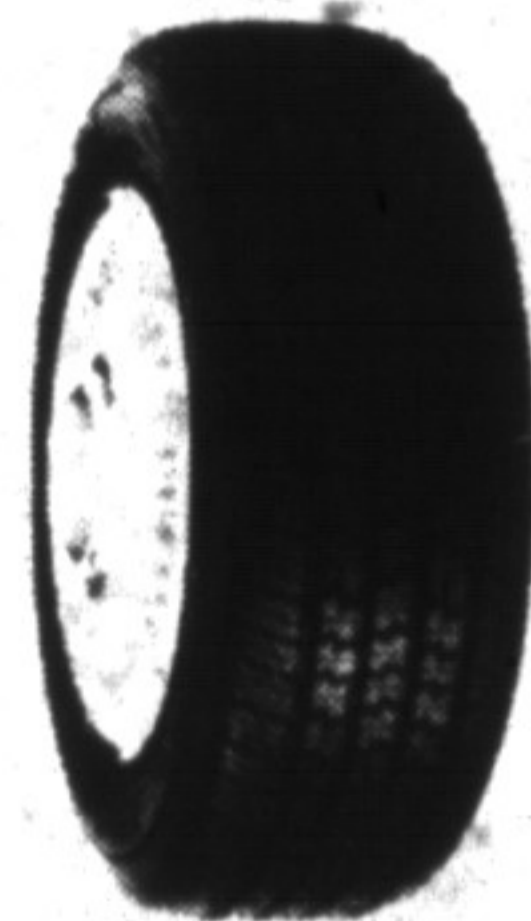
I was at the Town Council meeting and I looked forward to reading about it in your paper. However, I was expecting to read an objective factual report, not the reporter's opinion. A reporter is certainly entitled to his opinion, but aren't opinions usually reserved for special columns where everybody reading knows they are opinions?

Reading the totally biased report was almost as bad as listening to our so-called planners give a two-hour sales pitch (shouldn't they also stick

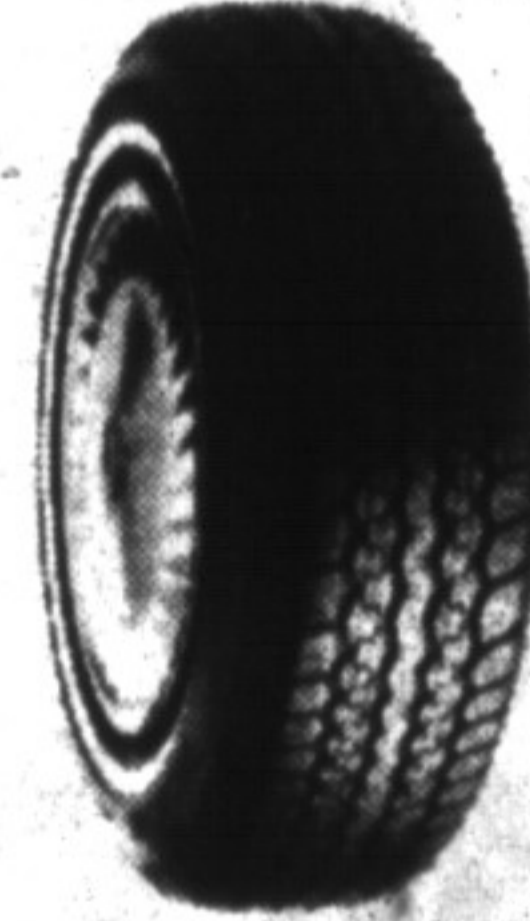
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JULY 15,16 17 Midnight Special
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