

# School board puts development charges on hold

By ANGELA BLACKBURN  
Special to The Champion

The Halton Board of Education is delaying a move toward educational development charges until the matter gets settled in the courts.

On May 29, an Ontario divisional court struck down York Region school board educational development charges bylaws as unconstitutional.

The by-laws would see residents in new developments paying additional charges to support infrastructure funding — specifically new schools.

The charges would be passed to residents and commercial properties through developers.

The Halton board drafted a by-law

and took it to the public June 3.

However, development industry representatives made it clear they'd challenge the board, in light of the York ruling.

The York boards plan to appeal the decision to the Ontario Supreme Court and were granted a stay which means they can continue to collect the charges, for now.

However developers stressed to the Halton board that the stay doesn't apply to Halton while court ruling which states such charges are unconstitutional, does.

The proposed Halton board educational development charges by-law was supposed to be debated and voted on at Thursday's board meeting. Two delegations were also

scheduled on the board agenda.

At the start of the meeting, chairman Dave Coons announced the delegations — and the item — were being withdrawn.

"It was withdrawn because of the fact that it's being challenged in York. Until such time as it's settled in the courts, it would not be prudent for us to proceed at this time," said Mr. Coons.

The Halton board's proposed by-law calls for charges to include a flat fee of \$1,590 per home for education funding from residential builders, and a 61 cents per sq. ft. average charge for commercial projects.

George Vegh, the lawyer for the Greater Toronto Home Builders' Association (GTHBA) told the board at its June 3 public meeting that should the board proceed, the association would take immediate legal action.

Mr. Vegh said the association would ask the court for an order that

the board pay its legal fees and damages.

The idea behind educational development charges is to replace the older system of lot levies so new growth would pay for new services it needs.

Developers pass the additional costs onto their customers, new home buyers and new commercial projects.

The proposed by-law would provide for exemptions, including boards and municipalities, hospitals and places of worship as well as community colleges and municipal hydro-electric commissions.

Educational development charges date back to December 1988 when the provincial government issued a discussion paper entitled "Financing Growth Related Needs."

Significant proposals in it included an immediate reduction in provincial grant levels on capital projects approved costs from an average 75 to

60 per cent.

The intent was to spread available capital over more projects and provide boards with another funding source. Capital funding requirements in the province continue to escalate into the billions of dollars, with provincial funding for them remaining around the \$300 million mark annually.

In February 1989, the Halton board approved, in principle, the concept of development charges.

In November 1989, legislation passed enabling school boards to impose "education development charges" (EDC). Accompanying regulations were issued in January 1990 and in May 1990, guidelines and detailed calculation forms were issued.

On April 16, 1991 the board approved conditions for exemptions and in March 1992, approved proposed charges for submission to the Ministry of Education.

## New match-making service available here

Singles searching for companionship now have a new meeting service that is as easy to use as a touch tone telephone.

Sincerely Yours is being introduced to *Champion* readers after a free trial offer that saw more than 1,000 people respond to the service. It's being offered through *The Champion's* sister newspaper the *Oakville Beaver*.

Using the service is simple. Just call 1-800-387-8009 and speak with one of the service's customer service representatives and place a free 25-word (or less) ad that will run for two weeks in *The Champion*. You will be issued a telephone mail box number and a confidential four digit pass code needed to retrieve personal messages left for you in your mailbox.

After receiving your mail box number and four digit confidential pass code, using your touch tone phone, call 1-416-976-4321 to open mail boxes, pick up messages and browse through greetings left by others. Respond to your favourite greeting by leaving a response in a specific mail box or mail boxes.

A charge of \$1.99 per minute will appear on your telephone bill for using the service. And if you need help, call one of the Sincerely Yours representatives from noon to 11 p.m.

Once you have received your mail box number and code, Sincerely Yours service is available 24 hours per day using a touch tone telephone.

If a caller hears a message he likes, he can leave a message in that person's voice mail box with a contact number and the two can arrange to swap numbers later.

The person advertising doesn't have to leave a telephone number but both can leave messages for each other on their box numbers then exchange numbers when they feel comfortable.

Full details on the system are on page 20.

## DATELINE

### Thursday July 1

The **United Way Mini-Golf Tournament** takes place at Executive Fairways Golf Centre on Highway 25, south of Derry Road, from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration costs \$5 per player. Anyone can play. Call 878-5355 or 875-2550 for information.

### Thursday July 1-4

The residents of Allendale will benefit from proceeds of the **Strawberry Festival Pioneer Days** at Andrews Scenic Acres. The family fun includes a petting zoo, free hay rides, farm animals, hay stack jumping, demonstrations, baking, refreshments, pick your own and ready picked strawberries. Admission is free. Proceeds go to the United Way.

### Saturday July 3-4

The **Springridge Strawberry Festival** takes place at the Bell School Line farm from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event includes a large craft show and sale, entertainment, wagon rides, farm animals, hay stack jumping, demonstrations, baking, refreshments, pick your own and ready picked strawberries. Admission is free. Proceeds go to the United Way.

### Monday July 5

The **Milton Children and Youth Centre** offers one-week programs for 6 to 16 year olds starting today. The programs, which run until Aug. 16, help participants improve their self-esteem and social skills. Call 876-1244 for details.

### Tuesday July 6

The Victorian Order of Nurses

holds a **foot care clinic** at the Bruce Street apartments, 40 Ontario St., from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$15. For further information or an appointment, call 827-8800.

### Wednesday July 7

**Parents of Children with Cancer** meets to share information and offer each other support at the Oakville Cancer Society offices, 635 Fourth Line, Unit 51, at 7 p.m. For information, call Kim Thomas at 878-1206.

### Thursday July 8

The Victorian Order of Nurses holds a **foot care clinic** at Milton Community and Information Services in the Optimist Centre from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$15. For an appointment, call 875-4636.

### Saturday July 10

The **Milton Children and Youth Centre** introduces its new **Dad Drop-In Program** on Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. Bring your pre-school child and learn about water life, beach fun, fishing and more. The cost is \$3 per family. Call 876-1244 for details.

The **Coronation Group** at Knox Presbyterian Church holds its **fifth annual yard sale** on Main Street from 8 a.m. to noon.

### Wednesday July 14

Adult and Continuing Education of the Halton Board of Education starts its **English as a Second Language classes** at Summer School for secondary school students and adults. Register at the first class.

## SPA-TACULAR SALE!!

### 4 DAYS ONLY!

#### THURSDAY - SUNDAY

## PARTRIDGE LANDSCAPING & SPAS

<b>INDOOR SPAS</b> <b>CONDO</b> Model 740 76x76x33, 4 jets, 1 hp, 1.5 kw, 110V. Perfect for the small family or intimate get togethers. Regular \$4095 <b>\$3,495</b> or \$70 per month	<b>INDOOR SPAS</b> <b>PENTHOUSE</b> Model 640 87x62x33, 4 jets, 1 hp, 1.5 kw, 110V. A compact unit for those with a deep lounge and bucket seats. Regular \$4295 <b>\$3,695</b> or \$69 per month	<b>INDOOR/OUTDOOR SPAS</b> <b>CLUBHOUSE</b> Model 820 82x62x37, 6 jets, 5 hp, 2.2kw. The ideal size for the family, yet large enough to entertain. Regular \$4995 <b>\$3,995</b> or \$79 per month	<b>DOORCRASHER</b> <b>BARACUDA</b> Automatic Pool Cleaner No matter what the shape of your pool, Baracuda will clean it faster - better than any other pool cleaner you can buy. Regular \$599 <b>\$399</b> Expires July 4, 1993
<b>OUTDOOR SPAS</b> <b>GREAT SCOTT</b> Model 900 96x96x37, 7 jets, 1.5 hp, 5.5 kw, 220V. Designed to accommodate six people in spacious comfort. Regular \$5,995 <b>\$4,995</b> or \$100 per month	<b>OUTDOOR SPAS</b> <b>STERLING</b> Model 920 96x96x37, 7 jets, 1.5 hp, 5.5 kw, 220V. Accommodates six people in spacious elegance, yet allows for intimacy. Regular \$6,995 <b>\$5,295</b> or \$100 per month	<b>OUTDOOR SPAS</b> <b>LAYFIELD</b> Model 920 96x96x37, 7 jets, 1.5 hp, 5.5 kw, 220V. Accommodating eight to ten people in comfort, a great choice for entertaining. Regular \$6,995 <b>\$5,295</b> or \$110 per month	
<b>HARD TOP COVER</b> Insulated Cover Lightweight, simple to put on, easy to remove. Reg. \$550 <b>Now! \$450</b> SAVE \$100	<b>OZONE</b> Ultra Pure Ozone Generator 10 Year Guarantee Reg. \$399 <b>\$299</b> SAVE \$100	<b>BLOWER</b> Increases the massaging action in your spa. Reg. \$499 <b>Now! \$349</b> SAVE \$150	<b>LIGHTS</b> Makes your spa inviting by day and night. Reg. \$199 <b>\$149<sup>95</sup></b> SAVE \$50
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<b>Hours:</b> Thurs, Fri. 10:00 am - 8:00 pm Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday Noon - 5 p.m. <b>Over 30 Years Self-Brand</b>		<b>LANDSCAPING &amp; SPAS</b> 8477 MISSISSAUGA RD. S. North of Steeles Ave. Just South of Lionshead Golf Course BRAMPTON (416) 455-9041	

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