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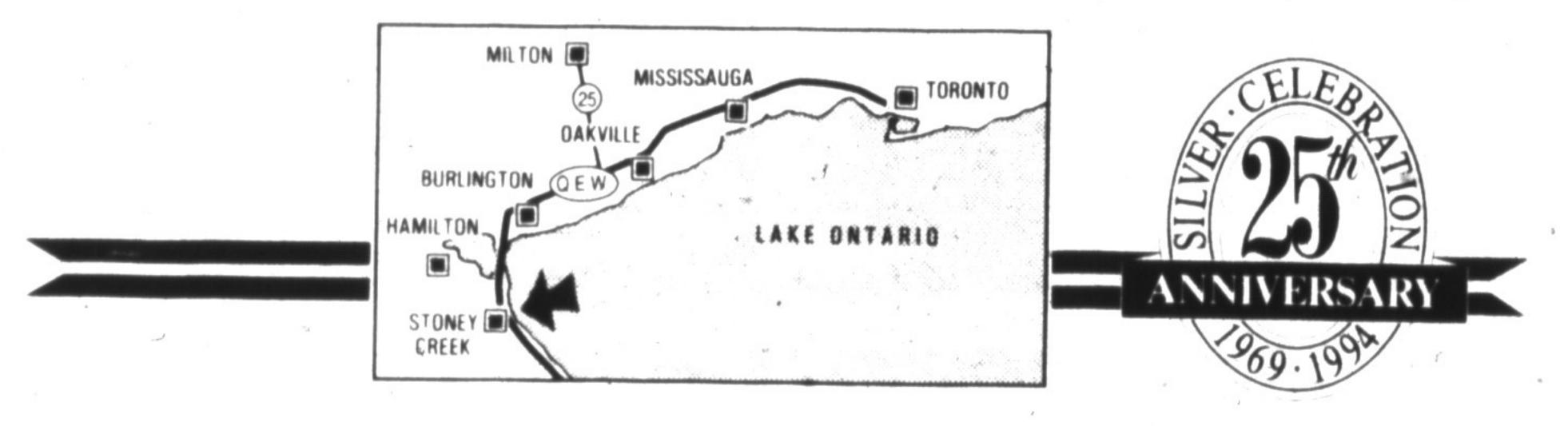
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Chance to comment on composting

By LISA TALLYN

Special to The Champion

The public will have an opportunity to voice their concerns about the compost facility proposed for Hornby at a Halton Hills site plan meeting slated for the later this month.

The meeting will be held at the Halton Hills Civic Centre in the council chambers on Tuesday, March 22 at 7 p.m.

The catalyst for the meeting was a delegation to Halton Hills council by Hornby area residents requesting the chance to comment on the proposed \$10 million enclosed facility.

The Equity Compost/Research Facility is to be built on about 20 acres of land on the south side of Steeles Ave., east of Trafalgar Rd. and west of the Eighth Line.

While the site is far closer to Milton than urban Halton Hills, technically it is within the Halton Hills municipal boundary, and thus is a matter for its council.

In a report to Halton Hills council, town planner Arvin Prasad said the Ministry of Environment and Energy, which has to provide Equity Waste Management with a certificate of approval before it can begin operating, has no problems with the Town going ahead with process.

"It (MOEE) has no objections provided that a condition is included not to allow for release of building permits until the certificate of approval application has been approved," said Mr. Prasad.

Mr. Prasad said the site plan process looks at the development in terms of landscaping, stormwater management, parking and other site issues. The MOEE will examine impacts on the environment, including noise and odor pollution, and source and type of material being composted.

Mr. Prasad said Halton Hills council can request a hearing under the Environmental Protection Act. The MOEE will circulate the Equity application to all relevant agencies.

Mr. Prasad also provided council with a list of 17 facilities which are using a composting system similar to the one proposed for Hornby.

Fero hearing is postponed to June 1

The ongoing preliminary hearing for three former Fero Waste Disposal officials and an employee facing fraud charges will now continue in June.

The inquiry was put over in Milton provincial court Friday for continuation June 1.

Held to determine if enough evidence exists to proceed to trial, the hearing originally began Oct. 26 and ran for three days before being put over to February, and then to March.

It continued Thursday, but more testimony is expected.

Three men and a woman are each charged with six counts of fraud in connection with overcharging customers of the former Milton waste disposal company.

Following a five-month investigation. Halton Regional Police allege that altered billings defrauded six clients of a total of \$75,000.

Charged are Albino Pischiutta, 45, of Freelton, Ray Venerus, 41, of No. 5 Sideroad, Doriano Poloni, 43, of Fourth Line and Deborah Marple, 32, of First Line.