

Rose Harrison bids Milton adieu for warmer B.C. climes

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the Milton District Hospital Board. She spent six years on the finance committee, successfully suggested the board advertise for its members, and was an originating Wellness Fair committee member.

In the late 1970s, Ms Harrison helped organize Milton's Festival of Countries, a highly successful locally based multicultural event.

As festival chair, in 1983 she invested its surplus funds and is now turning more than \$24,000 over to the Allendale Foundation for equipment purchases at the senior citizens' home.

"I wanted the money to go to a useful purpose that would be of benefit to a great many people in the community, and a lasting legacy to our festival," she said.

Ms Harrison was on the Red Cross board, a founding member of the Milton Children and Youth Centre board, was on the Leisure Centre's fundraising committee and worked with the United Way. She worked on the ad hoc committee that found the local Seniors' Centre its new Allendale home.

Currently, Ms Harrison is saying goodbye to seniors she assisted in her Milton CIBC job as a seniors' financial consultant.

"It happened suddenly," said Ms Harrison of her decision to move.

Out west

Her eldest daughter and grandson live in Kelowna, her other daughter in Seattle, Washington and her son is in law school in Winnipeg.

"The hard part is trying to say goodbye to people who are my friends. That's the down side," said Ms Harrison.

"The up side is that everything just seemed to fall in place," she added. While visiting Arizona, and then her children in April, the Harrisons found a home they liked in Kelowna. They'll move in July.

"It's exciting, it's scary. It's a shock to people (in Milton) but it's a new lease on life, a new challenge," said Ms Harrison.

"Milton has afforded me lots of opportunities that I couldn't have had in a bigger place. You can make a difference in your community," said Ms Harrison, although regretting that only 29 per cent of the population votes municipally, that more women don't run for town council and that the public generally doesn't value politicians.

Ms Harrison admitted she thought of running for the mayor's job but

didn't.

She predicts growth, when it comes to Milton, is going to be substantial.

"It's so expensive for developers and for growth, they're not going to come for a few houses," she noted, adding water quality will likely be an issue for Miltonians.

Of her years at council, she remem-

bers Ward 2 Councillor Brad Clements' hard work and Ward 1 Councillor Brian Penman's public speaking ability.

'A friend'

"I remember (Mayor) Gord (Krantz) as always being there and caring, being a friend," she noted:

Mr. Penman said Ms Harrison, was "a very special lady" who had given thousands of hours of service to Milton. "She was one who the community trusted and turned to and she was more than an able spokesperson."

"Milton is going to miss a good, hardworking person and we'll be sorry

to see her go," said Mr. Clements.

"The big issues seem so silly now," she said, recalling arena location and leisure centre funding debates. "You could never do a road widening, no matter what street it was, without opposition," she remembered. "It was always a struggle getting affordable housing here and it still is."

5—The Canadian Champion, Friday, July 1, 1994



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Drop-in for women

Come as you are to a drop-in program for women this summer.

Starting July 8, the Halton Rape Crisis Centre holds an informal drop-in program every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Sessions include a video presentation, information and open discussion.

The first meeting addresses date rape — the affects and how to be supportive.

The centre is located at Hopedale Mall, 1515 Rebecca St., suite 227, in Oakville.

For more information, call 825-3622.