

## Student employment centre is open

The Canada Employment Centre for Students opened its doors for 1996 last Friday (May 3). High school and post-secondary students who are looking for a job this summer are invited to drop by the office located at 310 Main Street, in the Trafalgar Square Building. The Centre is open

Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. The Centre provides free listings of summer jobs, assistance with resume writing, tips on interviews and job searching and information on government programs. Local business and homeowners can post part-time, full-time and odd jobs free at the office.

## Teen centre gets money amid some controversy

Town officials have approved in principle a \$5,000 grant to the church-sponsored Milton Youth Drop-In Centre on Mill Street.

In February the municipal leisure services advisory board recommended that \$5,000 be allocated to one youth centre. According to a report by Jennifer Reynolds, Milton's director of leisure services, an extensive staff report was prepared outlining the two groups which made a funding request for youth centre services.

The Odyssey Teen Centre, sponsored by Milton Children and Youth Centre (MCYC) requested \$5,000 while the Mill Street centre asked for \$7,800. The report included background, goals, program information and funding sources.

"I don't believe property taxes should go to any social services and these centres are close to being social services," said Councillor John Challinor. "I'm not convinced at this time of the need. I want us to be very focussed in where we grant dollars."

Mr. Challinor was concerned that a process is in place to allow council to track the money they give in grants to groups. Community program co-ordinator Bonnie Ward said evaluations of spending are made in the fall.

Councillor Colin Best asked how the two youth programs differed in offerings from the programs at the municipally run leisure centre. Ms Ward said the two programs catered to different groups, with the municipal program attracting youths about 12-14 years of age while the other programs get older teens, those about 16 years of age.

Mr. Best said the Odyssey program was turned down for funding by Halton Region on the grounds that it was a leisure service and should be funded by the local municipality.

Councillor Ron Furik said he saw the grant as seed money to the group to help them build their program to a self-sufficient stage. Responding to questions, Ms Ward told councillors the senior's centre receives \$120,000 in municipal funding each year.

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