Landowners want out of NEC controlled property

Milton-area landowners met with resistance from Halton regional councillors last Wednesday morning, during their latest efforts to remove their property from Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) jurisdiction.

Glen Schnarr, a lawyer representing landowners north of Main Street between Tremaine Road and Bronte Street, addressed Halton's planning and public works committee and requested the region support his clients' push to remove the property from the NEC plan.

The chunk of land, of which Mr. Schnarr's clients own 160 acres, is currently under the protection of the Niagara Escarpment Plan and barred from development. He said his clients' land was recommended for inclusion in the urban expansion area during the Halton Urban Structure Review, and that much of the property is within walking distance of the central business district of Milton.

Mr. Schnarr believes the NEC has been dragging its feet on making a decision about the designated land. Support from the region, he hoped, would help expedite

the process.

While sympathetic to his clients' situation, Halton Chair Joyce Savoline said backing the landowners would open the door to similar applications. "It would make the region vulnerable. We'd have every owner of NEC land asking for our support, and everyone would say their situation is unique and worthy of our help," said Ms Savoline, who questioned the region's role in getting property out of the NEC plan. "We're not the keepers of the

Halton planning director Rash Mohammed said there is no good reason for the land to be under NEC jurisdiction. He added, however, that a special would need to be conducted before the region could lend its support to Mr. Schnarr's clients.

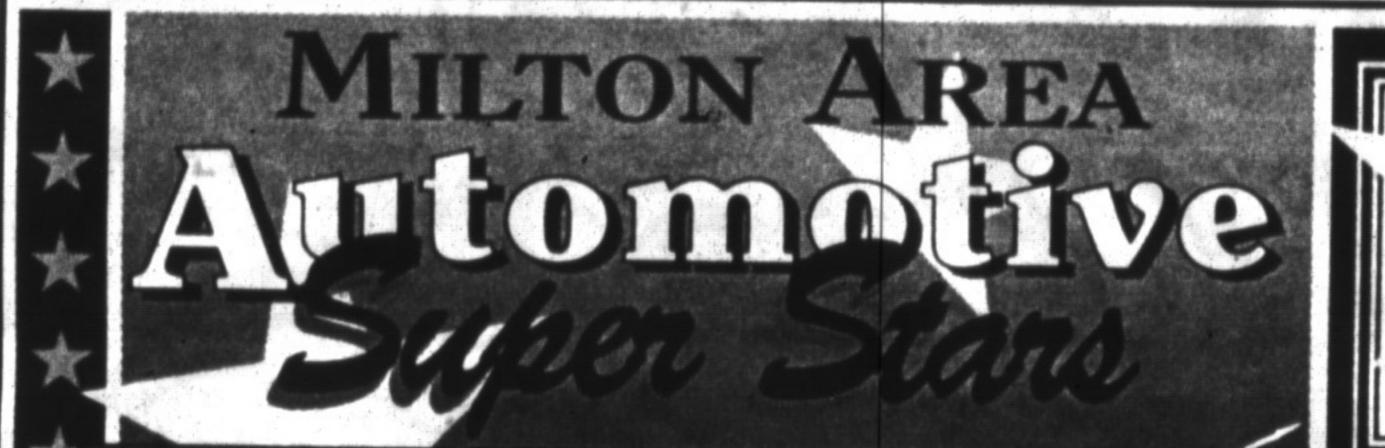
A number of councillors also questioned why the land should be protected by the NEC. The property has been visited by several regional councillors over the past few weeks.

Mr. Schnarr appeared at Milton town council some weeks ago and received unanimous approval of his suggestions.



Choir reunion

This was how the Holy Rosary Church folk choir looked in October of 1972, and listeners will have an opportunity to see what has changed this Saturday (Oct. 12) as the choir holds a reunion to sing at the 5:30 p.m. Mass, in celebration of the group's 25th anniversary.





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