

Lake a breath of fresh air for a change

NATIONAL NON-SMOKING WEEK

HALTON ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD CONSEIL DES ECOLES CATHOLIQUES DE HALTON

FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 1997

Registration for those children who are interested in the French Immersion.

Program in the Catholic schools in Burlington, Oakville, Milton and
Georgetown will be held at all designated schools as listed below, on:

Wednesday, January 29, 1997 ...8:30am to 5:00pm

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- student must be entering grade 5 in September 1997 in a Halton Roman Catholic School:
- in person only parent, guardian or other responsible adultwith a letter indicating they are acting on parents' behalf.
- registration to take place at the designated French Immersion school you wish your child to attend;
- enrollement torobe French Immersion Program is limited;
- · registration is on a first-come; first-serve bases.

LOCATION OF DESIGNATED SCHOOLS

Area

Designated Schools

North Burlington South Burlington Halton Hills Milton St. Gabriel
Ascension
Holy Cross
Holy Rosary

St. Matthew, St Bernadette, St. Joseph

D W. Schrenk Chair of the Board

Oakville



F.W. Sweeney Director of Education



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

The big chill

The weekend's frosty weather didn't have everyone shivering. Many, like jogger Jamie MacKay, went out for a regular run despite the minus 30 degrees Celsius wind chill.

Union worried over ambulance move to municipal umbrella

By KIM ARNOTT

Special to The Champion

Dumping responsibility for ambulance service onto local municipalities is a mistake, according to the head of the union representing ambulance attendants in Halton.

"We don't think this is a very smart move," said Gord Armes, president of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), Local 207.

Several days after the province announced that local government will take over complete responsibility for the critical care service. Mr. Armes was still searching for details on how the plan might work.

"Info is scarce;" he said. "Everybody's got their own opinion on this, but it would be nice if we knew what was going to hap pen to us."

But Ron Liersch, manager of the Halton-Mississauga Ambulance Service, is holding off forming an opinion until he gets more information.

"It would be premature to get all excited or lambaste it or applaud it at this point," said Mr. Liersch.

Mr. Liersch and his two partners, who have operated the privately-owned ambulance service since 1974, will have to sit down with provincial officials to get some idea of how the change will happen, he said.

"I don't know any more than you do," he admitted

It isn't even yet clear whether ambulance service will be a responsibility of regional or local governments.

But Mr. Armes, one of 95 full-time attendants with the Oakville-based service, fears the province's new plan will create an inequitable, patchwork system of service throughout Ontario.

OPSEU members, working with private operators like Mr. Liersch, have struggled to create standardized practices, work environments and collective agreements over the years. Mr. Armes said:

"We could be going back 25 years on this," he noted.

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For Labour Sponsored Funds (LSF), the rules changed with the 1996 federal budget. You may now contribute up to \$3,500 (down from \$5,000.) to a LSF and receive up to a \$1,050. (30% down from 40%) in tax credits from the federal and provincial governments. You also have to repay the tax credits if you sell the fund within eight years (up from 5 years).

THIS IS NOT ABOUT RRSPS!

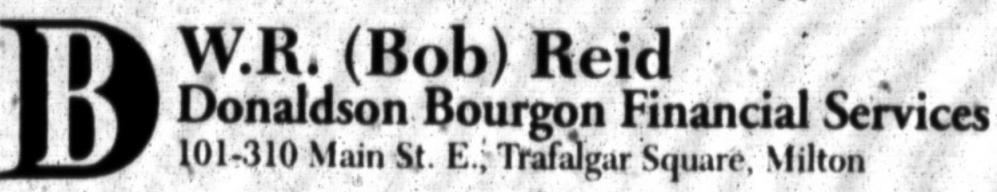
LSFs were created to provide capital to Canadian companies that are too new, too small, or too risky to get capital from normal capital markets. For many people, the combination of the RRSP tax deduction and tax credit provides a fabulous rate of return on their initial investment. This return is somewhat superficial as the RRSP tax deduction would be there no matter what you invest in. So, what you should look at more closely is the nature of the investments that the LSF makes. Are they consistent with your long-term investment goals? I recommend that if you decide to invest in an LSF, reinvest the tax credit in a lower-risk balanced fund to offset the financial risk.

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Please call me at (905) 875-3237 to arrange an appointment.



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