

Residents give council earful on proposed subdivision plans

By BRAD REAUME
The Champion

Milton residents came out in force Monday night to hear proposals for a 21-lot subdivision north of Woodward Avenue and east of Martin Street.

About 75 residents came to Town council for a public meeting on the proposed development slated for lands recently declared surplus by the Halton Board of Education. The plan ignited several areas of controversy. The proposal includes a road angling off Martin Street along former CN rail property. Locals also raised issues of drainage and building height.

"We haven't had new houses built in town for some time," said Councillor Art Melanson. "The main issue is the road and there are some concerns about drainage."

Mary Gervais, who lives on Martin Street just north of the former CN property, was concerned with the potential construction of a road. She told council that a road would have a serious impact on her property because of the narrow space allowed and because of the angle which it cuts to Martin Street.

"I am strongly opposed to any development," she said. "It would render my home worthless if this is allowed to go through."

Ms Gervais said she offered to purchase the CN property almost 10 years ago when she saw the tracks being torn up, but received no response. According to one of the three people behind this development bid, Peter Gorman, the property was offered first to the Town and then auctioned.

"If this goes ahead it will solve many contentious property concerns and it could be a real credit to the neighbourhood," said Mr. Gorman. "It's not high density housing and it should take care of the weed problems in there."

Riverplace Crescent resident Bill McCaw was concerned that the 16 Mile Creek would be covered over and used as a road access to the new development. He

was also concerned because the property on which the homes will be built is about 3 metres higher than land to the east. Council heard a two-storey house would loom more than 30 feet high.

Milton's senior planner Anne Bouck said there is no plan to use the creek as an access from Woodward Avenue. She added that the height of the homes should not be an problem, however the issue could be addressed with proscribed setbacks from existing housing if the project reaches a site plan stage.

Currently the property still includes the 16 Mile Creek, but according to Ms Bouck, if the development proceeds the creek will be ceded to the Halton Region Conservation Authority. Despite the objections, council voted to proceed with a planning and development department technical report on the development.

"We have to proceed to give the application fair consideration on its merits," said Councillor John Challinor. "I look forward to seeing the final report."

Snowmobile riding banned in town

Town council recently prohibited the use of snowmobiles in Milton's urban area.

That urban area is bounded by the CNR tracks and Peru Road in the west, by Derry Road in the south, by Thompson Road in the east, and includes the industrial area north of Highway 401.

The prohibition includes driving snowmobiles on sidewalks and medians, operating them on any public property and at any time in the entire Town between midnight and 7 a.m.

The operation of snowmobiles outside of the urban areas is governed by the Highway Traffic Act.

According to Town enforcement officer Ian McNally, said there have been numerous complaints over the last few years, mostly related to noise.



THE Financial Planning Group

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TAX FILING TIPS

It's that time of year again when Canadians try to keep as much as possible from the tax man. Effective tax planning is really a year round exercise and the tax filing is the report card on how well it is done.

There are, however, a couple of tips that may help. Charitable donations should only be claimed by one spouse, not split between the two. The first \$200 is worth 25% and everything above \$200 saves 50% in tax.

Medical expenses can be pooled by a family and claimed by the lowest income spouse. This is advisable since expenses are reduced by 3% of net income to a maximum reduction of \$1,614. The lower income spouse could therefore be eligible for a higher credit.

Investment income, where possible, should be claimed by the lower income spouse. After all, why not pay 25% versus 50% on a dollar of interest, if you can.

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By William Shutt, Branch Manager of THE Financial Planning Group
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The Salvation Army

March 21st to April 1st



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You can drop your donation off at any Loblaws, Supercentre or local fire hall.

OR if you would like to make a cash donation, ask your cashier for a \$10.00 Donation Coupon.

OR mail your donation to the Salvation Army, 100 Nipissing Rd., Unit 3, Milton, Ontario L9T 5B2.

This will allow local food programs to purchase food at wholesale cost.



Spirit of Sharing

All food received will be donated to the Milton Salvation Army

Suggested Foods to Donate:

"RECIPE FOR SHARING"

Canned Fish (7oz)	Powdered Milk (500g)
Canned Fruit (14oz)	Baby Formula (any type or size)
Macaroni & Cheese (225g)	Beans (14oz)
Canned Vegetables (14oz)	Canned Stew (28oz)
Peanut Butter (500g or 1kg)	Rice (500g)

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