

Regional chair candidate says he has 24-point plan for Halton

By Nathan Howes
SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

Oakville's Syed Ali Naqvi says he has a 24-point plan for Halton if he's elected regional chair. The October 27 municipal election will see Ali Naqvi face off against incumbent Gary Carr of Milton, fellow Oakville resident John Pautic and Greg Woodruff of Burlington. One of the issues on Ali Naqvi's plan is unfettered growth, which isn't "happening in balance with people's aspirations and our needs," he said.

"I've yet to see a futuristic document about where (municipalities) are going to be in 25 years, 50 years, 100 years. There's simply been no planning on that respect," Ali Naqvi believes.

He said there's also a problem with gridlock, adding there are numerous "bottlenecks" across Halton — Hwy. 401 through Milton, Hwy. 403, the QEW and Regional Road 25. "If we can't do it now, we cannot do it 50 years from now. Just imagine what will happen to



Syed Ali Naqvi

us. There has been no united effort to resolve this," said Ali Naqvi. "We need funds from everywhere."

To rectify the problem, he said he wants to "bring people together, get them to talk to each other and plan more efficiently for people." "Everybody has to have a meeting with an agenda and to see what the common goal is. All of these common goals need to be done before these meetings are held. It

has not been done. I have not seen that."

He also wants to improve the connection of public transit across Halton. For example, he said Oakville Transit's Sheridan College route should extend to Milton to bring students to the Trafalgar Campus.

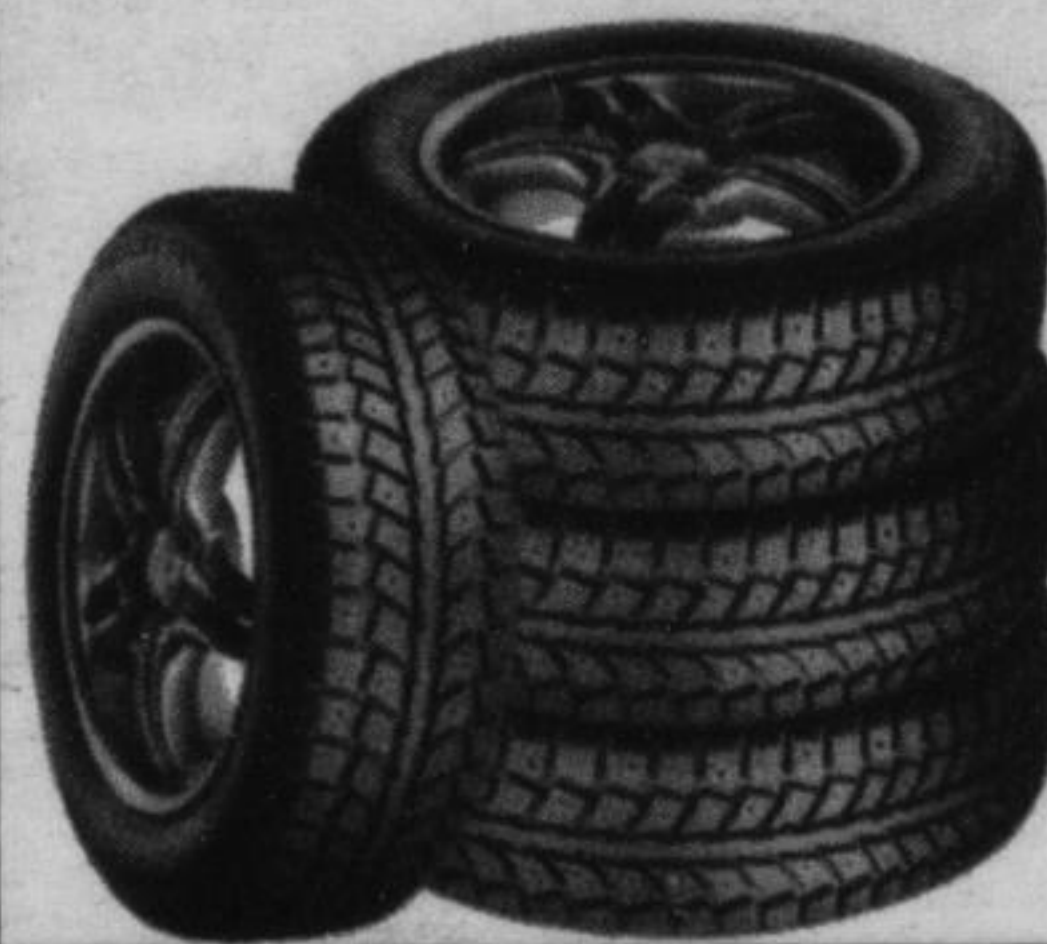
"Burlington (Transit) needs to be linked to ours. The GO Train in Milton needs to be much better, people are complaining about that. They don't have the same services to the GO (station) as we have in Oakville. It's non-uniform across the board, things are not happening," said Ali Naqvi. "If I have to go from Oakville to Acton, I have to go via Union. 22

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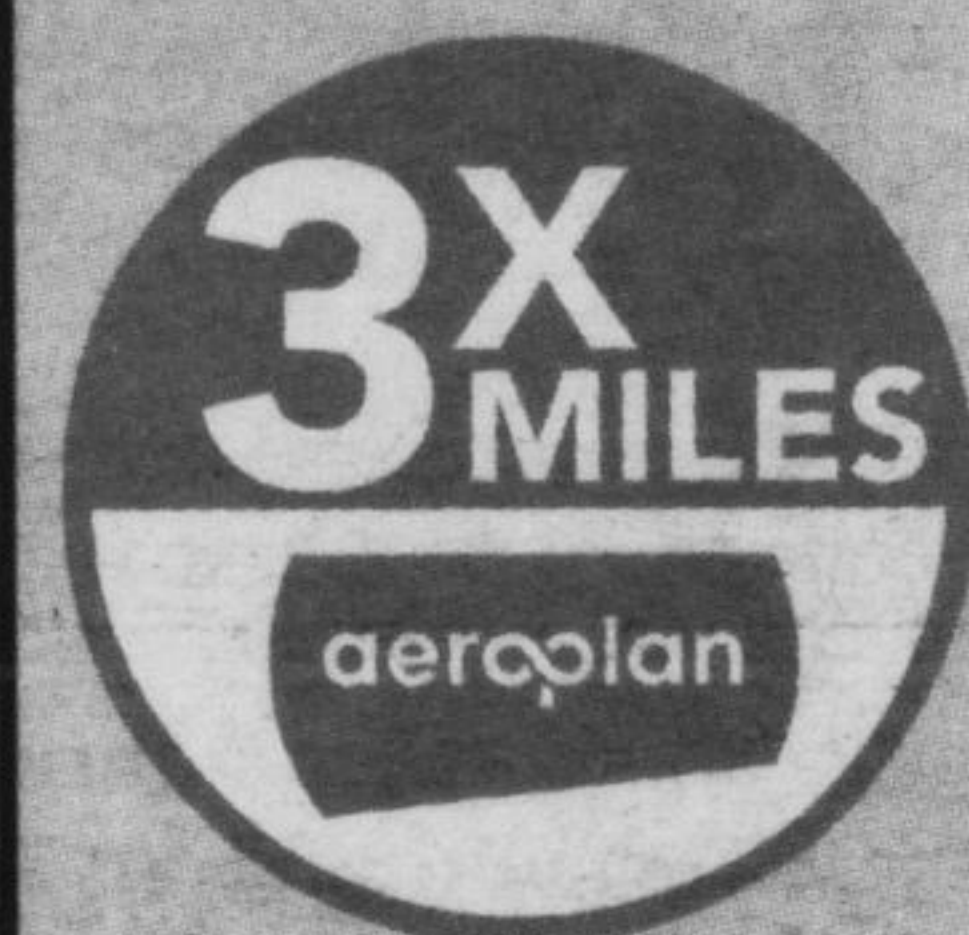
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