

CH reports shows hike in fundraising, number of volunteers

Report shows increase of 30 per cent in the number of volunteers — from 1,633 in 2012 to 2,110 in 2013. There was also 18 per cent increase in funds raised

Conservation Halton has made great strides in attracting volunteers and raising money, bringing in more than \$500,000 in 2013, according to a recent report.

The conservation authority recently released its Public Accountability Report, which tracks a number of key statistics over a three-year period.

Statistics include community involvement, revenues and expenses.

The report for 2011 to 2013 also includes facts and information on how Conservation Halton (CH) protects the environment, including forests, water and land.

"We believe the services Conservation Halton

provides to the community — flood protection, environmental planning, outdoor education, recreation and the protection of the natural environment — are delivered in a cost-effective and innovative way," said CH CAO Ken Phillips.

The report shows an increase of 30 per cent in the number of volunteers — from 1,633 in 2012 to 2,110 in 2013.

The volunteers donated their time at the annual Earth Day Tree Planting event in the spring, Halton Children's Water Festival and Halton Water Festival. They also helped with ecology, the conservation areas and stewardship.

"It's very rewarding to see the number of people volunteering their time to make a contribution to the environmental health of the watershed by planting trees, or just being out at our parks and with our programs," said Phillips.

There was also an 18 per cent increase in funds raised by the Conservation Halton Foundation.

In 2012, total funds raised were \$428,968. This year, the foundation raised \$505,345. The total budget from all sources — governmental and fundraising efforts — was \$24,951,838, up by just over \$90,000 from 2012.

Four watershed municipalities, including Halton, Peel, Hamilton and the Township of Puslinch, contributed \$7,684,265. This money was used to fund programs and operations for environmental planning, flood protection and conservation programs.

Revenue from annual pass sales and park user fees fund the operations and capital infrastructure needs of the various conservation areas, including Glen Eden Ski and Snowboard Centre. No funds are derived from the tax base.

The report also pointed out some areas of decline, including park visitation. The ice storm of 2013, which closed all of the parks for various intervals of time, led to a decline of 40,000 visitors, as trees were damaged and parks lost power. Attendance still reached close to 770,000.

The number of people involved in education programs also declined slightly, with 68,787 attending in 2012 while only 66,021 came out last year.

Conservation Halton is a community-based environmental agency with a mandate to protect, restore and manage natural resources.

The full report can be viewed on Conservation Halton's website at www.conservation-halton.ca/accountability-finances.

Avoid These Mistakes When Selling Your Milton Home In 2015

Milton - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers

make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

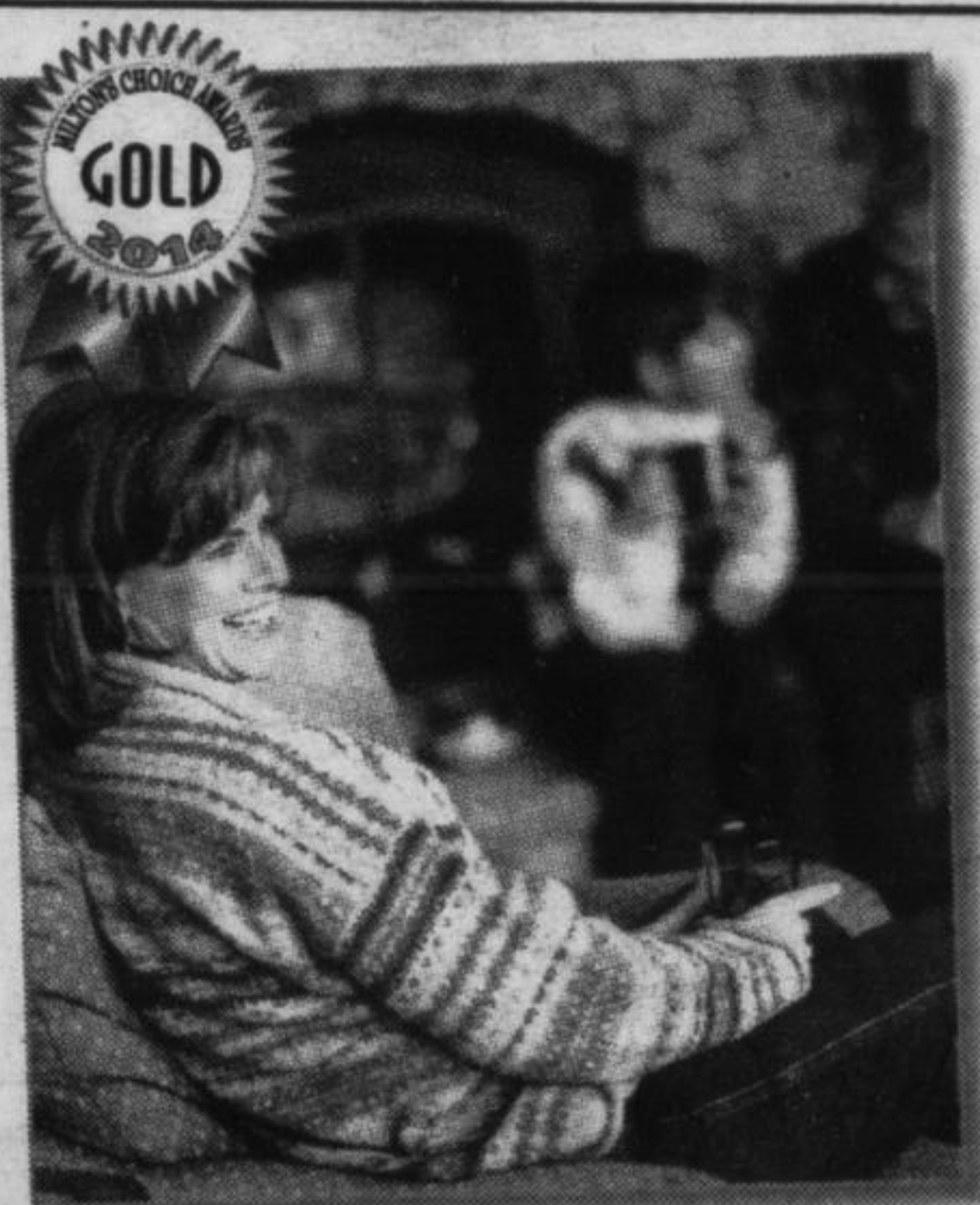
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