

## Letters



Following the April 10 crash that claimed the lives of Milton teens Faruq Anani and Dylan Stephenson, the *Champion* reported on Good Samaritans Murray and Michael Easton, the two men who helped rescue the passenger from the wreck.

Here's what *Champion* Facebook fans had to say about their efforts:

**Judith Handojo:** You did all you could which is more than most would do. Your bravery is a badge you should wear with honour.

**Pamela Fanuzzi:** I'm very grateful and proud to live in a community with heroes like these two men! My deepest condolences to the families of these two teenagers.



Join the online conversation at [www.facebook.com/MiltonCanadianChampion](http://www.facebook.com/MiltonCanadianChampion)

### Letters welcome

The *Canadian Champion* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be no more than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters. Letters must be signed with first and last name for publication, and the address and the telephone number of the writer included for verification purposes only. Email your letters to [editor@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:editor@miltoncanadianchampion.com) or send by mail to 555 Industrial Dr., Milton, Ont., L9T 5E1.

## Park development a missed opportunity?

Dear Editor,

One of my fondest memories of Milton includes the winter scenes at Mill Pond, where, a number of years ago, the Town would clear and maintain a skating area roughly the size of a high school track.

Inside the track oval were three to four individual pads of ice, where toddlers would learn to skate while others enjoyed shinny or practised their figure skating skills.

Recently, Town Council gave the go-ahead to create a business plan for the development of Sherwood Park's eastern portion on the north side of Main Street between Scott and Savoline boulevards.

The proposed facilities include a library, recreation centre, indoor pool and twin pad indoor arena. These are intended to serve the local growing community.

Though the library and recreation centre would serve that community almost exclusively, I believe statistics would show that large indoor sporting facilities are often used by both local residents and out of town participants.

If in fact the west side of town needs these types of amenities to support the growing population, what about the lands adjacent to the newly built velodrome?

These lands are only a few minutes away from the proposed site of Sherwood Park and will have a six-lane, north-south thoroughfare on Tremaine Road that will soon expand to Hwy. 401, offering excellent commuting for both local and out-of-town interests.

A large facility already exists on these lands and the potential for a "mega sports facility," make sense on several levels, including parking, commuting, public transportation, etc. If followed, this would free up the develop-

ment of Sherwood Park for a picturesque outdoor skating track, combined with an outdoor rink with hockey boards. Both would be nestled under a beautiful view of the Niagara Escarpment and should be equipped with artificial ice to extend their seasons and survive winter thaws. Who knows, we might even host the NHL Outdoor Winter Classic one year!

The outdoor pool could be similar to Rotary Pool with more emphasis on wading areas and splash zones for family fun. Again, these pools should be heated to extend their seasons from June 1 to September 30.

This greener approach to Sherwood Park would indeed serve the needs of the local community as well as preserve the view of the escarpment for those that live and travel on the south side of Main Street.

Michael White, Milton

## Facts and figures misleading, claims reader

RE: Federal budget brings real change, Readers' Corner, *Champion*, March 31 issue

Dear Editor,

I would like to point out some concerns I have with former Liberal candidate Azim Rizvee's letter, published in the *Champion*. First of all, Mr. Rizvee has misrepresented himself as a candidate. The election is over; he lost. This makes him the "former" candidate for Milton as he has not been selected by the local party association to run in the next federal election. Additionally, his letter reads very much like a canned press release written by someone in Ottawa and says a lot about Canadians and the Prime Minister, but does little to reflect on the impact of the federal budget on local Miltonians.

The letter also contains a typo reporting an \$11.9-million infrastructure investment over five years. I suspect that he meant to say \$11.9 billion, as \$11.9 million is only about a fifth of the cost of a railway underpass in Milton and would hardly be noticed if spread out across the country.

The official document on this matter titled "Real Change" states that infrastructure spending will be to the order of \$125 billion over 10 years, or \$12.5 billion per year on average. Roughly half of this is "new" spending. So, the new spending is really \$6.25 billion a year.

It is discouraging to see that the Liberals are already up to their old tricks of throwing a bunch of different numbers around so that they cannot be held to account.

Mr. Rizvee's letter concludes by indicating

that here there will be "real change" in our community. Well, let's do the math.

If the \$6.25 billion per year is divided equally across Canada, that would result in roughly \$18 million a year for a community like Milton with a population of 100,000. That's \$18 million in new federal spending, resulting in new jobs.

Whoever the next Liberal candidate is in Milton in four years time, they had better be prepared to account for this "new" money and show how it "restored Canada" and brought about "real change" to Milton without a flood of confusing and misleading numbers and seemingly made up statistics. Real change means doing some real math for once.

Mike Druiven, Milton

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