

## Letters

### Miltonians without a voice on committee: politician

RE: Politician alleges 'co-ordinated effort' kept him off advisory committee, *Champion*, June 16 issue

Dear Editor,

Further to your recent article reporting on council's appointment to the Mattamy National Cycling Centre Advisory Committee, I want to make it clear not all the members who supported Councillor Rick Di Lorenzo were part of the alleged "conspiracy" to keep me off this advisory committee. Those who allegedly were know who they are, as do the other members of council.

There were some important facts that were omitted from the article — facts that I believe many members of council do not want Milton residents to be aware of. In 2012, members of that council claimed, "This velodrome will have no impact on Milton property taxes," and "The velodrome will not cost Milton taxpayers one red cent."

I refuted those comments back then, stating

that this velodrome would in fact have an impact on taxpayers and its operations would have to be subsidized from property taxes. The truth is, by the end of this year, the accumulated operating deficit for the velodrome will be \$3.3 million, with \$2.2 million of that deficit being covered by federal and provincial tax dollars through the Legacy Fund. The balance of \$1.1 million is coming directly from Milton property taxpayers, as I had predicted would occur.

When the consultant for the Pan Am Games presented the velodrome business plan to the previous council, we were told that in its first full year of operation (2016) the velodrome, utilizing Legacy funding, would show a profit of \$134,000.

I challenged that number and stated that this velodrome will never show a profit. Council dismissed my concerns and accepted the consultant's projections.

The latest updated budget for the velodrome projects a \$423,000 operating deficit in 2016. I

predict that this operating deficit will only increase over the years, as the velodrome's novelty wears off and maintenance costs increase. The consultant also stated that building the velodrome would cost \$40 million. Again, I challenged that number. And again my warning was dismissed by council. The final total cost for the velodrome was \$63 million.

My point is every prediction I have made to date surrounding this velodrome has been correct, yet the majority of council determined that I wasn't the best suited to represent Milton taxpayers on the cycling centre advisory committee.

I believe I speak for the majority of Miltonians when it comes to the velodrome. Unfortunately, due to council's decision, that majority will not have a voice on the committee overseeing its operation.

Rick Malboeuf,  
Ward 4 Councillor

### Proposed legislative changes could impact Halton

Dear Editor,

I want to inform your readers of an important meeting being held Thursday, July 7 from 5 until 8 p.m. at Oakville Town Hall.

This is the meeting that the Region of Halton unanimously approved at my request, after the Ministry of Municipal Affairs chose not to have a meeting in Halton, one of the most impacted regions as it relates to proposed changes to the Places to Grow Act, Greenbelt Act and Niagara Escarpment Act review. Comments are due by September 30.

I encourage everyone who is concerned about the future of Milton and Halton to

attend, hear the proposals and make their opinions known.

I have three main concerns. The first is the proposed acceleration of growth for Milton and Halton, with the Province proposing that, between 2013 and 2041, Halton grow by 220,000 more people than it grew over the last 25 years (1986-2011). That's more than double Milton's current growth rate.

Secondly, there is no long-term funding plan in this growth plan, even though the Province is stating that it wants compact, complete communities.

Unfortunately, communities need provincial facilities such as schools, hospitals and trans-

portation networks, none of which are mentioned in these reports.

Finally, the Province requires municipalities to have 10-year capital plans and financing for future growth. Provincial ministries do not. I request that its requirements for municipalities be the same for all its ministries so Milton and Halton can plan and have the provincial facilities we need to handle future growth.

For more about the meeting or the proposals, please contact me at colin.best@milton.ca.

Colin Best,  
Local and Regional Councillor



A heartwarming story about a Campbellville man who surprised his family with his \$1-million lottery win on the same day he received a clean bill of health had a lot of people talking. Here's what some of the *Champion's* Facebook fans had to say about the story, which you'll find on page 14.

**Ellie Inman MacPhee:** Very blessed, in more ways than one! Congratulations!

**Bill 'Stokes' Wilkinson:** Congrats Uncle Rick! Could not happen to a better person.

**Nancy Demetrious:** That is so awesome. You deserve every loonie. Congratulations.

**Pamela Wilson:** You did good Rick Bicchieri. Congrats. I pray something like that happens to me someday soon; sure could use it.



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

**Letters welcome:** *The 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 yours to [editor@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:editor@miltoncanadianchampion.com) or send by mail to 555 Industrial Dr., Milton, Ont., L9T 5E1.

★★★★★  
**5-STAR SAFETY**  
BECAUSE YOUR MOST IMPORTANT CARGO IS YOUR CREW.

**F-SERIES 50**  
BEST-SELLING IN CANADA FOR 50 YRS

**Gallinger Ford**  
MILTON est. 1967 LINCOLN

655 MAIN STREET EAST, MILTON  
[www.gallingerford.com](http://www.gallingerford.com)  
905-875-FORD(3673)