

Be a Big Brother it's kids stuff.

1-905-727-1251

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Terra Sifton leans in to take a hit, while Tom Offen thunders up beside her.



It's an equal opportunity sport

Some ladies do lunch. Others power shop or unwind with a workout at the gym.

But for women like Elizabeth Hearn and Annabel Begg, there's nothing like pulling on riding boots, picking up a mallet and whacking around a ball from the back of a horse.

Polo is one of the few equal opportunity sports where men and women play side-by-side.

For members of the Toronto Polo Club, it's not just a game: it's a chance to socialize with friends and family. About 15 of the club's 50 members are female, including Ms Hearn.

Ms Hearn has ridden most of her life, but didn't discover polo until university, when she made the intercollegiate team at Cornell University in 1983. She has been an avid player ever since.

"The one thing that makes polo special and different from the other riding disciplines is the team aspect."

"The camaraderie is excellent and if you make a mistake, you just keep going," Ms Hearn says.

"The one thing that makes polo special and different from the other riding disciplines is the team aspect."

"I try to ride every day and it keeps me fit and healthy. It's less painful than going to the gym and it's great stress relief. If I've had a bad day, I can cry on my horse's shoulder."

While growing up in Toronto, Ms Begg longed for riding lessons but didn't get in to the saddle until she was studying to be an animal health technician.

About the same time, she met her husband, Jeffrey, then a show jumping rider and occasional polo player who owned a farm. Now the couple raises thoroughbred racehorses.

Ms Begg went to polo camp in 1991 while pregnant and started playing the following summer after her son's birth.

"I enjoy playing hockey and it's a team sport. I like polo for the team aspect and the similarities between the two sports," she says.

"I play more indoor polo than outdoor."

Ms Begg, who owns two thoroughbred polo ponies, says the indoor game suits her busy schedule.

In summer, with four active children and a cottage, it's hard to attend outdoor games or keep her horses fit.

But, she admits, there's a certain allure to galloping across an open field.

"Outdoor polo certainly has the glamour."

"At a major event like Polo for Heart, you have the top players, the picnics, the grass, sun and spectators. It's just beautiful."

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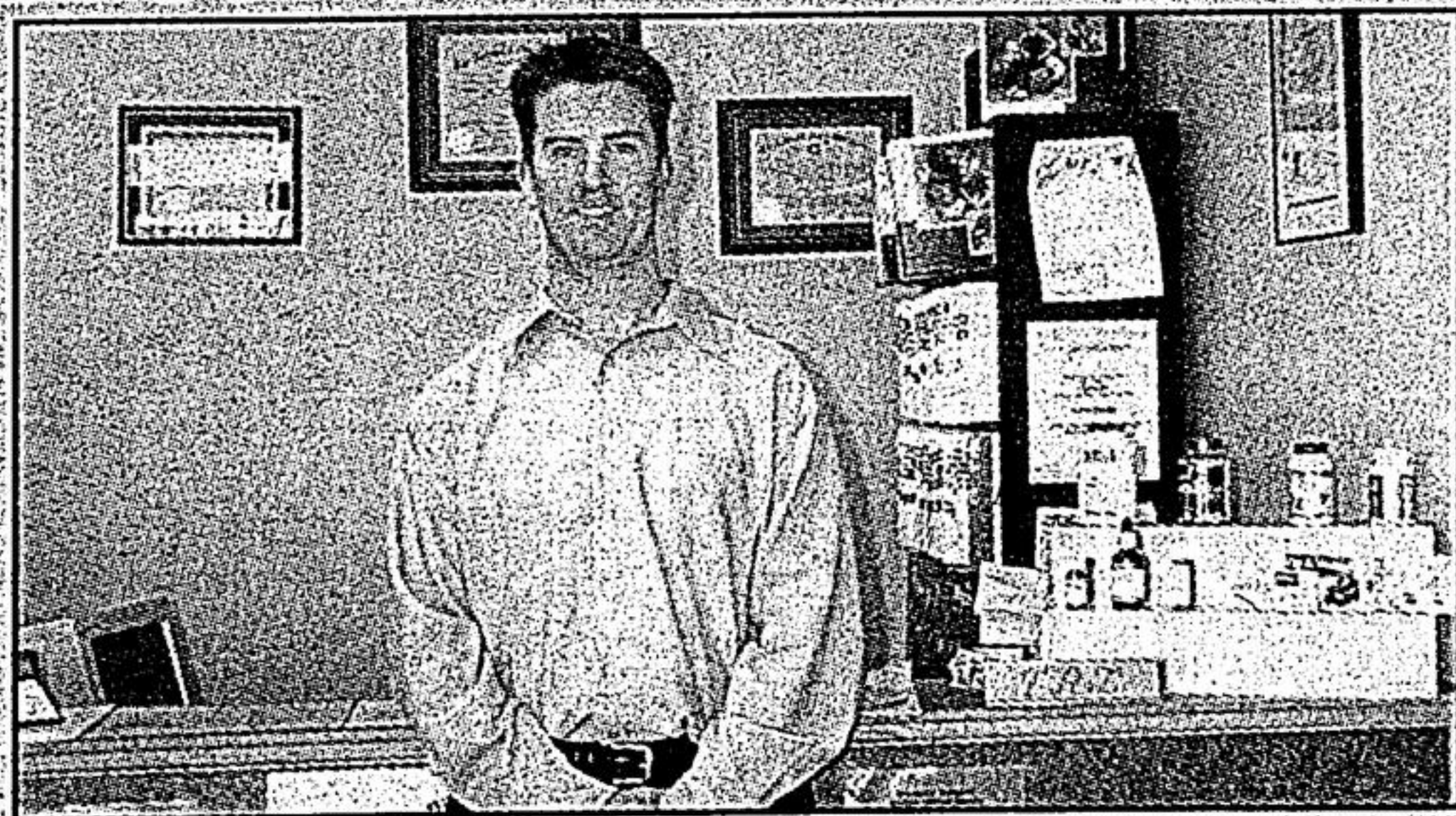
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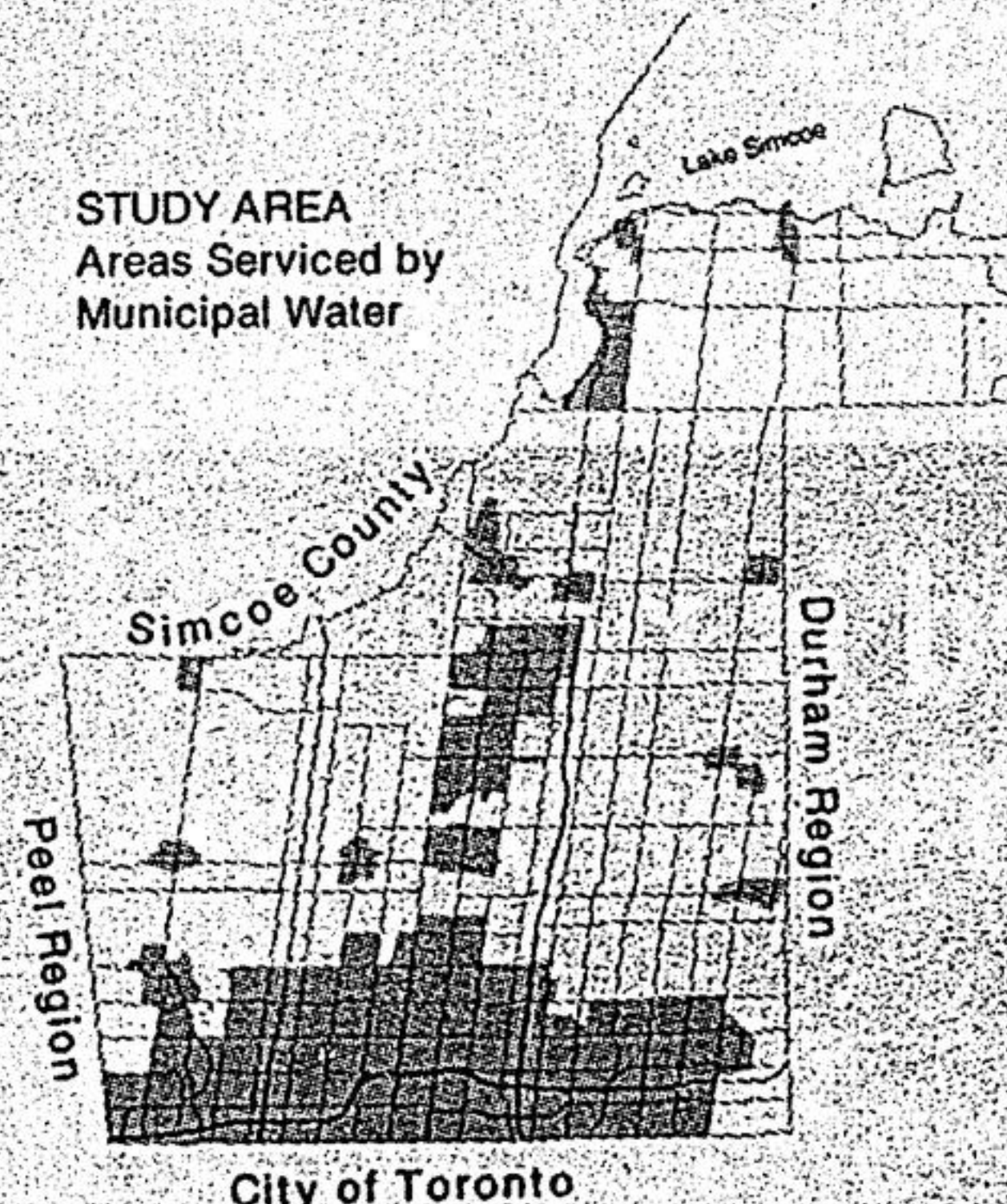
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The Regional Municipality of York LONG TERM WATER PROJECT MASTER PLAN UPDATE NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

THE STUDY

The Regional Municipality of York has commenced an update of its Long Term Water Project Master Plan last reviewed in 1997. The Master Plan is a long-range plan that integrates infrastructure requirements for existing and future land use with environmental assessment planning principles. Master Plans for infrastructure projects are typically updated every five years to ensure the infrastructure program (eg, pumping stations, treatment facilities, water mains, etc.) remains consistent with the changing needs of the community served. It is the most appropriate tool to examine the Region's water infrastructure system in order to outline a framework for planning for subsequent projects. Once complete, the update will result in a revised Long Term Water Project Master Plan document that will identify and recommend water infrastructure projects required to satisfy growth in the Region to the year 2036.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Public consultation is a key component of this study. The proposed consultation plan provides for public information centres at two points in the study: Fall 2002 to review the problem and alternative solutions; and early in 2003 to review the preferred solution. Additionally, there will be opportunity provided to review and comment on the final Master Plan report expected in early spring 2003.

STUDY CONTACTS

If you have any questions about the Long Term Water Project Master Plan Update, or wish to be added to the study mailing list, please contact:

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