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# A message from Mayor Gordon Krantz

Milton made headlines in 2007 when it was identified as Canada's fastest growing community. But what many people may not realize is that the growth Milton has experienced in the last few years has taken place on two fronts – residential and industrial.

We pride ourselves in the balanced growth our community continues to experience. A balance between residential and industrial growth helps keep the residential tax base relatively low, provides jobs for residents and contributes to the economic health of the community.

Milton has a strong, thriving and engaged business community. There is definite potential for investment in Milton, as my recent trade mission to Asia with the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance has proven. We continue to look for investment beyond the borders of our community, our province, and even our country to secure new business partners around the world.

While seeking global business prospects

is important, our main focus continues to be our community. We continue to look for innovative ways to deliver essential services and programs for citizens of Milton. In 2007-08, we implemented the Fare-Free Transit pilot program, which allowed residents to ride for free between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily. We have made partnerships with the business community for many projects, including Fare-Free Transit and the Accelerated Roads Program. This program has allowed the town and Halton Region to deliver important transportation projects earlier than their expected completion dates thanks to interest-free loans from the development community.

Milton is very unique in that while most other communities in Canada are aging, Milton's population is actually getting younger – and more diverse. Milton is evolving into a young, dynamic community – one where we embrace opportunities to do things differently.

Milton is the ideal community in which to live, work and invest. We hope you enjoy this publication and take a moment to find out about the great things happening in our community.



**Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz**

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# Investors exploring potential of Milton

## FASTEST GROWING COMMUNITY IN CANADA MAKING A CASE FOR INVESTMENT

When the results of the 2006 Canadian Census were released, the Town of Milton enjoyed a level of media interest it had never experienced before. With a 71.4 per cent growth rate since the 2001 census, Milton was officially recognized as the fastest growing community in Canada.

Since 2001, a number of investors have cast their eyes towards Milton. The result has been a steady stream of development in the town, which has included speculative retail and industrial spaces, as well as an influx of new residents.

### LOCATION

Milton is ideally situated northwest of the City of Burlington and the Town of Oakville. Highway 401 runs just north of the town, offering reliable access to cities and towns throughout southern Ontario. Other major routes in close proximity in-

clude highways 410, 403, 427, 407, and the QEW. The proximity to these trade routes provides businesses and people located in Milton with ease of access to downtown Toronto, other large cities in Ontario, the American border cities of Buffalo, Detroit and Port Huron, and to more than 155 million North American consumers located within a one-day drive. The town's location near the 401 also provides businesses located within sight of the highway exposure to millions of commuters every year.

Canadian National Railway and Canadian Pacific Railway provide service to Milton, and the town is a short drive from Toronto Pearson International Airport. Milton is also located within an hour's drive of shipping ports in Toronto and Hamilton, both with access to ports throughout the Great Lakes as well as the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Atlantic Ocean.

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Banking on Canadian entrepreneurs

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In 2007, Whirlpool Canada Inc. took advantage of Milton's abundance of space by opening a 755,347 sq. ft. distribution facility on Boston Church Road in Milton.

### YOUNG AND EDUCATED

An important element to the town's economic competitiveness is the age of its populace. Milton is one of the youngest communities in Canada with a median age of 34.4. This is nearly four years younger than the town was in the 2001 census, and is currently four years younger than the average for the City of Toronto, and five years younger than the Ontario average. Milton's young working-age population (people aged 24 – 44) account for almost 36 per cent of the town's population.

"You can bet that we're certainly looking at ways of incorporating this younger, more aggressive workforce as part of our marketing," says Mario Belvedere, Chief Administrative Officer with the Town of Milton. "The economic development office is working on a marketing program, and that's one of the messages that we think people and companies would be interested in."

Located at the western edge of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Milton is provided with a vast pool of talent from outlying regions. In the GTA there are 3.1 million potential workers, many of whom possess post-secondary education. A number of Ontario's 24 colleges and 18

universities are located within an hour's drive of the town, allowing companies to partner with world-class institutions to develop programming and acquire talent in increasingly competitive markets.

### LAND AVAILABILITY

With a growing population, opportunities in the town's residential construction market are surging, and with it, office, commercial and industrial development.

An important reason for the town's growth has been the abundance of available land, some of which is already serviced and is awaiting development. Land in the Greater Toronto Area is becoming scarce, with prices sometimes exceeding affordability. In Milton, developable land is available, and with the community's potential, developers are taking advantage.

"One of our strategies here in the Corporation of the Town of Milton, which was mandated by our *Destiny Milton Strategy*, is the whole concept of balanced growth," says Belvedere. "The remarkable thing about all of this growth is that we've been able to match our industrial and commercial growth precisely with our residential growth. Our ratio of industrial to commercial development has remained the same



despite all of the significant growth that we've seen in the residential sector."

The Town of Milton created the *Economic Development Service Area Master Plan* to designate specific lands within the town for industrial and residential development. Strategic goals of the plan include managing the employment base for the long-term, focusing on business retention, attraction and expansion initiatives, and continuing to sustain the rural, agriculture and tourism sectors.

Two large tracts of land have been designated for the creation of industrial spaces for Milton's current and future industries. The first phase of the Milton Industrial/Business Park is more than 80 per cent complete, largely due to the average annual development of 1.5 million sq. ft. of new space in each of the past four years.

With the progress achieved in the first phase of development, the town is preparing to begin development of the second phase of the business park. Located south of the 401 at the James Snow Parkway, the Derry Green Business Park, or Business Park II, will comprise nearly 2,000 acres of land, becoming a major area of employment for the town's residents.

The next step in developing the second phase of the business park will be the drafting of the *Business Park II Secondary Plan*. The plan will address issues pertaining to policies on matters such as land use, urban form and design, transportation and servicing, including stormwater management, parks, heritage and other related issues. A public meeting to review the draft of the plan will be held in fall 2008 with finalization and adoption of the plan taking place later in the year.

#### RECENT DEVELOPMENT

With the town's obvious advantages as a business destination, developers have been lining up to create new space for retail, industrial, office and residential uses. In the last two years, Milton has averaged almost two million sq. ft. of new speculative retail and industrial development per year. Similar numbers are expected for 2008.

"Compared to places like Mississauga and Toronto, and even Oakville and Burlington, that's a significant amount of industrial and commercial space," says Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz.

O.R.E. Development Group, a member of the Minneapolis-based Opus Group,

has a scheduled completion date of July 2008 for its new speculative development at the James Snow Business Park. Located at 8350 Lawson Rd., the 320,000 sq. ft. building will occupy 16 acres of land, will provide a combination of office and industrial space, and will be divisible into to separate halves. But the development doesn't stop there.

The Milton Professional Centre is expanding the Bronte Street and Derry Road office space corridor. Maple Reinders Constructors Limited is constructing the Milton Professional Centre with completion scheduled for May 2008. The facility is a speculative office development located at 470 Bronte St. With two floors and 39,353 sq. ft. of space, the new development already has an incoming tenant with Milton's Prime Care Family Health Team.

In March 2007, Roxul Inc. announced it would be creating an addition and installing a second production line to its Milton facility. Construction began in summer 2007 and will be complete in early 2009. The \$135-million investment will provide additional warehouse space, bringing the plant's size to more than 700,000 sq. ft. The new production line will feature state-of-the-art equipment, which will limit the company's environmental footprint, while at the same time creating approximately 100 permanent jobs in Milton.

On April 8, 2008, AMB Property Corporation announced that it had fully pre-leased a 309,000 sq. ft. facility in Milton

to 3M Canada. Construction of the facility will begin in early summer 2008 and 3M Canada will take up residence in 2010. The building will be constructed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) standards, with AMB seeking LEED™ certification from the Canada Green Building Council.

"That's one thing we do pride ourselves on here in Milton," says Belvedere. "From the top on down, we do have an emphasis on industrial development because we know that we need a healthy balance between industrial and residential."

#### LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The Town of Milton has been supported by several key industries, including advanced manufacturing, the automotive sector, warehousing, distribution and logistics, and a significant food processing sector. With the support of these sectors, the town is eager to broaden its economic base by building off of its existing sectors to include new knowledge-sector industries.

Council's approval of a 150-acre site to establish a post-secondary presence in the town will be instrumental in attracting knowledge-based industries. Belvedere says that much of Milton's knowledge-based business attraction will be centred around the university's potential programming.

"We will certainly moderate our strategic direction to fit in with what the university is going to be promoting and teaching," says Belvedere. "We'd like to build on that."



On April 8, 2008, AMB Property Corporation announced that 3M Canada had pre-leased a yet-to-be-constructed 309,000 sq. ft. property in the Milton 401 Business Park.

## Elton Manufacturing

**Innovative Design,  
Quality Manufacturing**



Driving along Highway 401 west of the James Snow Parkway through Milton, if you look north you'll see a building that wasn't there a few years ago. The building houses Elton Manufacturing, a company that produces weather stripping and window frames for garage and front doors.

"I started this company in 1981 in Milton," says Tom Boer, President of Elton Manufacturing. "I started selling doors and windows and then slowly, over the years, it evolved into the manufacturing of door and window components."

In the last four years, Elton Manufacturing has nearly quadrupled its workforce from 18 to 70 employees. This growth prompted the company to invest in a new 100,000 sq. ft. facility to meet the demand of its growing list of customers.

Today, Elton Manufacturing supplies components for garage door manufacturers in countries all over the world. Much of the company's success is due to the young and enthusiastic team it employs. Elton Manufacturing's products, customer service and location have also been instrumental in the company's growth.

"Milton is an excellent location for manufacturing because you're within half an hour of any technology you may need," says Boer. "Milton is half an hour from Toronto, half an hour from Hamilton, and half an hour from Waterloo. Anything you need, any kind of high-tech or low-tech services, it's all here."

Another aspect to Elton Manufacturing's success has been the company's ongoing relationships with the BDC and Royal Bank. The BDC has been assisting Elton Manufacturing since 2001 by providing capital funding for the purchase of new machinery, as well as for the company's new facility.

"The BDC has been a great help," says Boer. "I am looking forward to continuing to build our relationship."

BDC is proud to serve  
Elton Manufacturing as a  
thriving member of the  
Milton business community.





# Mayor represents Greater Toronto Area in Asia

## DELEGATES TRAVEL TO PROMOTE BUSINESS POTENTIAL TO INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS

In March and April 2008, Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz, along with a group of eight delegates representing the 29 communities of the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance (GTMA), embarked on a two-week tour of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan to promote investment in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

"It was an exploratory mission, and as most of us spoke afterwards, we all thought that we were quite successful in making inroads," says Mayor Krantz. "It's all about making that part of the world aware of the opportunities in the GTA."

Accompanying Mayor Krantz on the trip were Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion; the managers of the economic development offices for Milton and Mississauga, Andrew Siltala and Susan Amring, respectively; members of the private sector; and representatives from the GTMA.

"What investors in that part of the world are looking for is overall stability and stability in government," says Mayor Krantz. "That was one of the messages that was conveyed and was very well received."

The tour took the delegates to Seoul, South Korea, the Japanese cities of Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, as well as to Taipei City, Taiwan. The main focus of the trip was to attract firms, talent and investment from these companies to the GTA, with a particular emphasis on sectors such as advanced manufacturing, information and communications technologies, and digital media.

While in Taiwan, Mayor Krantz and the delegation met with the country's president-elect, Ma Ying-jeou.

The delegation also met with companies that are already well established in Canada, including representatives from Korean companies, Hyundai Kia and LG Electron-

ics; NTT, Panasonic, Toyota and Mitsubishi of Japan; and TSMC in Taiwan, the world's largest semiconductor manufacturer.

Mayor Krantz says that the trip revealed opportunities for foreign investment for companies located within the reach of the GTMA. He says the trip also provided insight into how the relationships between each respective country's private sector companies and universities can stimulate commerce.

But, perhaps most importantly, the delegation left its Asian counterparts with an understanding of what it means to do business in Canada and with Canadians.

"There was a genuine interest, especially from the innovation end of the advanced manufacturing and digital media sectors," says Mayor Krantz. "I was quite pleased with the way we were received and the potential for doing business."



Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz (right) and Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion sign the guest registry at the LG Electronics Research and Development Centre in Korea.

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# Welcome to Hitherfield School

## WHERE STUDENTS GO BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

At Hitherfield School, children want to learn. They are challenged to ask questions and explore many possible answers, to realize their own strengths and aptitudes, and to achieve their optimum potential.

"Hitherfield's philosophy is rooted in empowering the child," says John Bailey, Headmaster of Hitherfield School. "With guidance from our experienced staff, students at Hitherfield are encouraged to be individuals, and are taught in a way that is expertly catered to each child's unique personality and learning preferences."

Belief in one's self and determination to succeed are integral components of Hitherfield's philosophy. Students learn to organize themselves and to study effectively. As they gain confidence, they are encouraged to take greater responsibility and to go beyond expectations.

The school's curriculum is based on the

belief that every child has ability, and that given the right environment, each child will achieve his or her potential. Hitherfield's programme includes Ministry of Education requirements in its design, with students in Grades 1-8 at Hitherfield having weekly tests in math and spelling. Unit tests in the sciences and other subjects are ongoing.

Class sizes at Hitherfield do not exceed 14 from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3, and 15 from Grade 4-8. Small class sizes allow more intimate interaction between teacher and student, facilitating an effective learning environment.

A rigorous athletics programme, facilitated by the school's recently completed



gymnasium and theatre, promotes cooperation, team spirit and sound moral fibre. Hitherfield's inclusive music and drama experiences foster an appreciation for the arts as well as confidence in public speaking.

Students are aware of community commitment. They participate in the Terry Fox Hike in September, perform for senior citizens at Christmas, and support three children overseas through the Save the Children Foundation.

Hitherfield utilizes the natural resources of its rural location to enrich the school's curriculum in many ways. Students participate in cross-country skiing and running, enjoy nature walks and pond studies, and

have the opportunity to develop and plan other recreational, environmental and scientific activities. Students are encouraged to think beyond the classroom.

Hitherfield School was founded in September 1991. Located just outside the village of Campbellville, Ontario, the school sits majestically on a hill overlooking 82 acres of beautiful rolling countryside. With an original building dating from 1867, the campus has expanded significantly, most recently adding a full-sized gymnasium and a multi-purpose atrium.

"We are very proud of our school and welcome parents and potential students to come and visit us," says Bailey. "Only by seeing the school in action, enjoying the friendliness of students and staff, and marveling at the beauty of our location, will you truly appreciate the uniqueness of Hitherfield."



Established 1991



Call for more information  
or join us at one of our  
**OPEN HOUSE** dates:

**Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008**  
10am-2pm

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
10am- 2pm

**Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009**  
10am- 2pm

# HITHERFIELD SCHOOL

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- Our students want to learn. The school sits on 82 acres of beautiful, rolling countryside and includes a full sized gymnasium & fully equipped stage with lighting and sound systems, an up-to-date computer lab, an ecological study pond, cross country ski trails, and more!
- Bus service is available



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## More Blue and Green for a Better Planet

Today, many of us are concerned about our environment and what we can do to help. One way we can all contribute is to reduce the amount of waste we generate in our homes by practicing the 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle.

In September 2007, Halton Regional Council approved changes to waste collection to increase the amount of recycling and reduce the amount of garbage sent to Halton's landfill. These changes will help protect the environment, extend the life of the landfill site, reduce greenhouse gas emissions improving air quality, and create useful recycling and compost products conserving natural resources, for a better planet.

### GreenCart

The most significant of these changes is the introduction of the GreenCart program to Halton. The GreenCart is like a Blue Box for your kitchen scraps. It collects household food waste and compostable paper creating valuable compost material. Previously, around 45 per cent of the average garbage bag in Halton contained food scraps and compostable paper. Compost is used in landscaping, agriculture and restoration projects.



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In April, GreenCarts, Kitchen Catchers and information packages were delivered to houses that receive curbside waste collection. If moving into a new housing development, you will receive a GreenCart once the Region begins to provide waste collection to your neighbourhood. If moving out of a house, please leave your GreenCart behind for the new owner. Visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca) to watch our online GreenCart Program video.

#### Blue Box materials can go in one container

Halton residents can put all their recyclables in one Blue Box rather than separating papers and containers into two boxes. Glass, plastic bottles 1 (PET) and 2 (HDPE), plastic tubs and lids, metal cans, aluminum foil, juice boxes, milk cartons, paper, envelopes, newspaper, phone books, box board and corrugated cardboard can all go in the same Blue Box, making it even easier to recycle.

**Advances in technology and changes in the marketplace have allowed the Region to change the way of collecting and processing recycling materials, therefore pre-sorting is no longer necessary.**

#### What does this mean for your waste collection?

Halton Region's curbside waste management programs include:

- ✓ GreenCart collected once a week
- ✓ Blue Box collected once a week
- ✓ Garbage collected every other week (with a six bag/can limit)
- ✓ Yard waste collected every other week (on the same day as garbage); urban areas only from April to December
- ✓ Bulk collected once every four weeks (with a three item limit); from February to November

With the collection of your food scraps every week in your GreenCart, you'll find the amount of garbage decreases substantially. With the materials that can go into your Blue Box and GreenCart for recycling, your garbage will

basically consist of items like plastic film, chip bags, granola bar wrappers and empty aerosol cans. Plus your garbage will have fewer odours because food materials, which contribute to odours, are collected weekly in the GreenCart. Check your 2008 Waste Management Guide and Collection Calendar, or visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca), for more information.

#### A plan to manage our waste

Blue Box and GreenCart collection are part of the 2006-2010 Solid Waste Management Strategy (SWMS), approved by Halton Regional Council in June 2006. The SWMS has a number of key components intended to protect and conserve the capacity of Halton's landfill site and divert 60 per cent of residential waste away from the landfill.

Halton's landfill is an important resource as it allows us to manage our residential garbage within our regional boundaries. Our landfill was expected to be full by 2023. The direction to reduce waste is a sustainable approach to waste management that will extend the landfill's life by another six to eight years and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The changes should help raise Halton's waste diversion rate to the target of 60 per cent from the current 43 per cent. We would like to thank all Halton residents for their enthusiastic participation in recycling.

You can view a copy of the 2006-2010 Solid Waste Management Strategy online at [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca).



## Producing Green Energy

The Landfill Gas Collection and Utilization Project is a partnership between Halton Region and Oakville Hydro Energy Services Inc. (OHESI) to collect landfill gas and use it to produce electricity. The project will provide enough "green" energy to power approximately 1,500 homes.

Halton Region has installed over three kilometres of piping within the buried waste at the Halton Waste Management Site to allow the gas to flow, under vacuum, from the landfill's interior to the Site's first-ever enclosed flaring system. The gas collection and flaring process reduces odour at the Site, as combustion of the gas renders it virtually odourless.

OHESI has constructed and operates a utilization system to generate electricity from the landfill gas collected by Halton Region's system. OHESI's landfill gas utilization facility is now generating and transmitting "green" energy to the power grid, derived directly from the Region's landfill gas supply.

Removing landfill gas from the landfill both reduces odours in and surrounding the landfill site and cuts down the emission of ozone-depleting methane into the atmosphere, improving the environment. Through its capture, this renewable resource can be used to produce electricity.

The Regional Municipality of Halton [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca)

## TAKE IT BACK! HALTON



[www.halton.ca/takeitback](http://www.halton.ca/takeitback)

**Take It Back! Halton** is a new program that provides one convenient source of information on retailers that take items back for reuse, recycling or proper disposal. The program was launched on Wednesday, October 31, 2007 with retail partners that take back plastic shopping bags for recycling and also offer customers reusable bags to reduce the number of plastic bags going to landfill.

Retailers that take back batteries, car oil, compact fluorescent lights bulbs, fertilizers, paints, pharmaceuticals, solvents, and thermostats, will be added to the program. Check our website at [www.halton.ca/takeitback](http://www.halton.ca/takeitback) for updates on additional items and locations where you can take materials back.

**Take It Back! Halton** will assist Halton Region in reaching a 60 per cent diversion of residential waste away from the landfill. This extends the life of the landfill and is vital for Halton's environmental and economic future.

**Take It Back! Halton** is part of the Halton Region 2006-2010 Solid Waste Management Strategy to promote product stewardship initiatives.

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# Combining heritage with forward thinking

## TOWN HALL, ARTS CENTRE AND SPORTS CENTRE ARE ALL IN THE WORKS

The Town of Milton can trace its beginnings to the early 1800s when Jasper Martin, his wife, Sarah, and their two sons settled along Sixteen Mile Creek. From those original settlers sprouted a small community, and in 1857, Milton received its status as a town.

Today, vestiges from those early days can still be seen around Milton through the preservation of the town's historic buildings. With a grip on the past and an eye to the future, the Town of Milton is faced with the challenge of preserving its heritage, while at the same time enhancing the community's offerings to provide for the predicted influx of people and industry. It is a challenge that the town is meeting head-on.

This proactive approach can best be seen in the revitalization of Town Hall, which was originally constructed in 1855, with an addition completed in 1985 to meet the needs of the town. The Town of Milton is eager to keep the historic structure, while at the same time expanding the hall with a modernist architectural approach.

"The decision to retain the Town Hall in the downtown core and in the business district was a very unanimous public decision," says Jennifer Reynolds, Director of Community Services for the Town of Milton. "I think it really reflects the sort of connection between existing Milton, historic downtown Milton, and the needs of a growing community."

Beginning in January 2006, the Town of Milton and MHPM Project Managers Inc. began the design development phase that would see the Milton Town Hall enhanced for the 21st century. The \$23-million revitalization will entail a 50,000 sq. ft. addition to the existing facility. It will include a number of new offices, a large meeting area, a lunch room, and a kitchen. Construction began in June 2007 and is scheduled for completion in November 2008, with occupancy taking place shortly thereafter. The Ventin Group is serving as the architects on the project, and Atlas Construction was commissioned to build the addition.

The expansion is becoming more apparent each day. The concrete floors have been



A rendering of the completed expansion of Milton's Town Hall. The new Town Hall symbolizes Milton's link to its historical roots and the town's evolution into a competitive region within the Greater Toronto Area.

poured and much of the structural steel for the upper levels is in place. Framing for the windows and the exterior walls is being installed, and crews are working on the link between the old building and the addition.

When the addition is complete, Milton's Town Hall will be a symbol for both the community's understanding of where it came from, and its understanding of where it is going.

But Town Hall is not the only aspect of the community that will receive an upgrade. The town is working to further its artistic footprint with the creation of the Milton Arts and Entertainment Centre. Approved by Council in 2006, the centre will serve as a facility for local artists. The centre will also house a number of amenities for Milton's artistic community, including a 500-seat theatre, two art studios, one multi-purpose room, an art gallery, a meeting room, and space for the centre's administration. A new central library will also be located on the site.

Funding for the development of the Arts and Entertainment Centre came from a number of sources. Totaling \$20.45 million for development costs, the centre will receive \$7.5 million from development agreements, and will seek \$3 million in provincial and federal grants, \$5.2 million from fund raising and naming rights, \$4.2 million from joint venture partnerships and \$500,000 from the Slots Community Fund. The town forecasts that the design stage of

the arts centre will take place in 2011, with construction potentially beginning in 2012.

"The Arts and Entertainment Centre will be a real signature facility that will draw both people who live in Milton and those visiting the town," says Reynolds. "It's something that will ground Milton culturally, and will be a real statement of the support of culture, creative thinking, and lifelong learning in the town."

From a health and fitness standpoint, the town is meeting the needs of this growing community with the proposed expansion of the Milton Community Park, and the Milton Sports Centre Expansion Project.

The Milton Sports Centre was opened in 2003, and was designed with future developments in mind. The centre currently offers two ice pads, a gymnastics complex, a banquet hall, a multi-purpose room, meeting rooms, a concession operation, a pro shop, and administrative space. Additions to the centre may include two additional ice pads, an aquatic centre and associated amenities.

The town will undertake a feasibility study to determine the specific program needs and design requirements for the sports centre. The study will confirm required building components, concept plans, capital and operating cost estimates, a business plan, the facility's footprint, parking requirements, links to outdoor parks and trails, including a connection to the adjacent Community Park, and a detailed architectural design.

While still in the planning stages, some suggestions for the Milton Community Park include adding two major lit baseball diamonds, four major lit soccer fields, one practice soccer field, one major fully accessible playground, one major spray pad, one park pavilion with washroom facilities, one major, multi-use field and special event area, and lit parking areas. The town is also considering amenities such as a skateboard facility, an outdoor skating rink, a multi-use court and volleyball courts.

"The sports centre was designed to be expanded, so now we're just finalizing, but we are hopeful it will meet indoor recreational needs for all ages," says Reynolds. "Combined with the Community Park, which will be a significant outdoor programmed and passive space, we are hoping that it will also meet the needs of a growing and changing community."

Since the Milton Sports Centre and the Milton Community Park are in such close proximity, the development of both will be undertaken simultaneously, but will be based on separate work plans due to the diverse nature of each project.

The Town of Milton is committed to providing its residents with the amenities they need to live active and fulfilling lifestyles. As Milton continues to expand at unprecedented levels, the town and its people will continue to strive toward greatness in making Milton among the most livable communities in Canada.



# Laurier looks for expansion opportunity

## INITIATIVE TO ATTRACT POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION IS GAINING MOMENTUM

On March 31, 2008, Milton Council approved a 150-acre site for the development of the town's Education Village. The goal of establishing the Milton Education Village is to create a community within the greater community that, in addition to educational facilities, could include on-site student housing, a residential neighbourhood, and a research and innovation centre.

The village will establish Milton as one of the province's most competitive knowledge economies, providing an environment for creative individuals to share ideas and stimulate innovation. The town has already garnered interest from one of the country's most renowned institutions, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Wilfrid Laurier University signed a memorandum of understanding to explore the possibility of the university establishing a new campus in Milton. The university, whose main campus is in Waterloo, Ontario, already has satellite campuses in Brantford and Toronto. With 150 acres of land to potentially build on, the development of the site would significantly increase the size of the university, would expand the school's presence in the Greater Toronto Area, and would provide Laurier with added exposure to Canada's largest population centre.

"We're really establishing two areas of focus," says Max Blouw, President of Wilfrid Laurier University. "The first one is around the academic decisions that need to be made, our opportunities that are out there, the scope of these opportunities and the process of narrowing them down. And the second is clearly around the capital planning, the physical planning, and the various issues associated with all of that."

By signing the memorandum of understanding, Laurier has the first chance to do something with the land parcel, but must decide within three years to develop the land.

Blouw says that should Laurier decide to develop a campus in Milton, potential programs that could be offered at the campus will complement Laurier's current offerings and will reflect the needs of Milton and the surrounding communities.



This 150-acre plot of land on Tremaine Road between Derry and Britannia roads in Milton has been designated as a future development site for a post-secondary institution. Wilfrid Laurier University has signed a memorandum of understanding with the town to explore the potential development of the site.

"One of the areas that there has been some early discussion around, but no commitment to, has to do with environment, green technologies, environmental sustainability – perhaps with material science as an underpinning to all of that," says Blouw. "It's one area, but it's not the only one that we might contemplate."

The Town of Milton has been working on establishing a post-secondary institution in the town since 1994, when Council approved the *Destiny Milton Strategic Plan*. In 2000, a post-secondary subcommittee was established, and in 2007, the town launched an aggressive marketing campaign targeted towards colleges and universities throughout Canada. The campaign received responses from 40 different institutions with 16 of the respondents expressing some level of interest.

The town prioritized its mission, creating the "8 Steps to Success" that would serve as a guide for the process of acquiring a post-secondary institution for the town. There are also plans to involve provincial government ministries in the process of developing a campus. The Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges Universities and the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal are both on the town's list of potential partners in the development.

A post-secondary presence is typically a boon for any community. Universities and colleges create thousands of jobs and attract students that invest in the town through tuition, housing rentals, and other purchases within the local economy. The Milton Education Village could potentially become a centre for new ideas, innovation, and new business opportunities.

And Milton is an excellent choice to establish a post-secondary institution. According to Statistics Canada's 2006 Census Report, Milton is home to one of the youngest populations in Canada, and also one of the most educated. An educational facility in Milton would also be able to draw commuting students from surrounding communities such as Burlington, Oakville, Mississauga and Brampton.

"Every once in a while I'll get asked a question as to why a municipality might be so aggressive in pursuing this," says Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz. "Well, a well-educated community is a very prosperous community. It increases the standard of living and creates jobs, so that's the motivation for the Town of Milton on pursuing the initiative. It looks like we're going to be successful."



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# Transit initiatives underway

## WORKING TO ENSURE MILTONIANS GET FROM POINT A TO POINT B

The Town of Milton is experiencing a surge in its population and industry. Milton's population is expected to exceed 150,000 people by 2021, which will mean additional vehicles on the town's roads and an increased need for a comprehensive public transit system. The town is actively working to provide a road and transportation system that will meet the needs of the town now and in the future.

From June 2007 until January 2008, the Fare-Free Transit pilot program allowed Milton residents to use public transportation free of charge daily between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. With the program, Milton became the first municipality in Canada to offer free transit service for an extended period of time.

The goal of the program was to increase the number of people in Milton that utilize the town's transit amenities. It was spon-

sored by Mattamy Homes Ltd. Halton Division and Fieldgate Developments, and saw ridership increase 63 per cent over the previous year. This means that an average of 3,800 more people per month were utilizing the transit service compared to 2006.

The program targeted residents who would benefit from and utilize the free service, including seniors, students, spouses of single-income earners, and families with young children. The project was a success in that it provided a safe and reliable service to those who could most use it, and it also benefited the environment by encouraging people to use the service and leave the car at home.

In March 2008, the Town of Milton launched four new buses to serve the town. Each bus, emblazoned with Milton Transit's new logo, is 30 feet in length and is lower to the curb to provide easier access

for people using wheelchairs, strollers and shopping buggies.

Milton is also serviced by GO Transit, which provides residents of Milton and the surrounding communities with access to regions throughout the Greater Toronto Area. GO provides people living outside of the community with an affordable and environmentally sustainable means of getting to and from Milton.

This year, the Town of Milton will commission a transit study to gain a greater understanding of the needs of the community.

One of the key initiatives for the town is to balance industry growth with the growth of its residential populace. Transit will prove to be a vital component to Milton's success, and through various initiatives, the town is making sure that its system is capable of supporting Milton's growing population and business community.



The Town of Milton recently launched four new buses to increase transit services for the town's residents.

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