



NORTH HALTON'S ONLY TRULY INDEPENDENT DAILY MULTIMEDIA NEWSGROUP

*Reclaiming our community, one story at a time.*

[HERALD ARCHIVES](#)

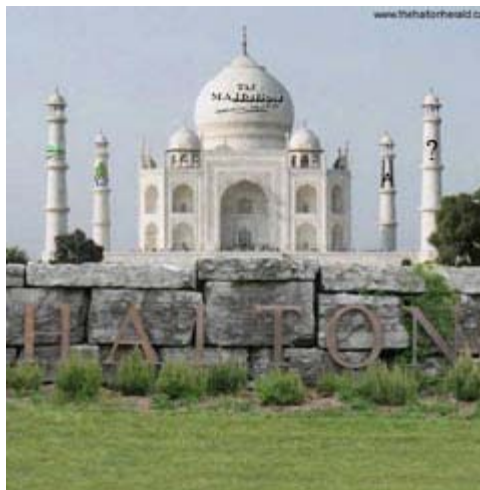
[COMMUNITY CALENDAR](#)

[LINKS](#)

[SEARCH](#)

**The Region's 'Taj MaHalton's' plans forging forward, regardless.**

Posted on Wednesday, July 12 @ 23:54:47 EDT by [editor](#)



*click to enlarge*

**Halton Region:** Melanie Hennessey from [The Oakville Beaver](#) reported July 8th, 2006 that despite [The Halton Catholic District School Board's](#) intentions NOT to participate in the [Region's Campus plan](#), the Region's administration and finance committee, at its July 5th meeting, instructed staff to finish negotiating a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) to proceed with [Halton Regional Police Services](#) and the [Halton District School Board](#) (HDSB) for the shared facility that would house all three regional bodies.

*The special report alluded to:*

- Without the Catholic board the project is now going to cost taxpayers an estimated cost of approximately \$107 million, opposed to the previous projection of \$127 million.
- The committee also learned the campus may also include; not only the existing Woodlands Operations Centre but also possibly a Halton 'centralized' Courthouse and energy facility.
- The initial controversial savings outlined in Reports [CS-84-05/CA-51-05](#) were estimated by region be worth \$20 million. That number has apparently been considerably reduced to only \$12 million since the Catholic board decided not to participate.
- MacCaskill was quoted in the report stating the Region's capital and operating costs for the project will increase from 67.6 million to \$69 million but wasn't sure what the Halton District School Board's or the Halton Region's Police Services Board's added financial burden would be.
- The report did quote Halton CAO Brent Marshall stating; "the Region has already been approached by two other organizations interested in joining the campus that would more than make up for the loss of the school board."

Unfortunately, the report did not mention the current value of the perfectly good, reasonably new facility the Region is currently using, and, if Mr. Marshall's aspirations are realised, intends to tear down. Nor was there any date or substantiated fixed amounts mentioned with regards to the anticipated compounded increases taxpayers will be expected to pay in regional municipal assessments increases to finance this initiative, or when we could expect to realise any of the potential savings.

In October 2004, Council approved report [CA-47-04/CS-75-04](#) from the region's CAO - Brent Marshall, authorizing the preparation of the Service Partnership Business Plans with the Halton District School Board and the Halton Catholic District School Board as part of a Joint Accommodation Opportunities Strategy. The report identified that the Region and each School Board require expansions and/or updating of their administrative facilities in the 2007-2009 timeframe.

[Other Herald reports on the Region's aspiration for a replacement facility.](#)

[A special report on - the secret credentials of the Taj MaHalton's grand schemer, C.A.O. - Brent Marshall.](#)