

The seeds of our future are taking root right now, for better or worse. This page shares better, forward-thinking ideas and celebrates significant environmental achievements that can help us lead the way in creating the Niagara Escarpment as a healthy, sustainable example of a thriving World Biosphere Reserve.

REDUCING DRIVING

Smart Commute is a program of the municipalities of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area and Metrolinx, an agency of the government of Ontario, and is intended to **EASE GRIDLOCK BY PROMOTING CARPOOLING, CYCLING AND TRANSIT.**

In Nov. 2010, Smart Commute awards were given out to 10 workplaces from Caledon to Hamilton to Ajax, for their efforts in helping employees create alternatives to driving to work by **WALKING, CYCLING, TAKING TRANSIT, CARPOOLING AND TELEWORK.**

For more, see www.smartcommute.ca.

OMB DENIES QUARRY IN CALEDON, CALLS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO AGGREGATE

In a November 2010 decision against a new quarry in Caledon, the Ontario Municipal Board wrote in part, "The **LOSS OF VIEWS** of rural lands, the **LOSS OF A CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE** and cultural heritage resources and the conversion of a rural area into an urban area centered on a **HEAVY INDUSTRIAL OPERATION** cannot be permitted in the interest of the production of more aggregate for infrastructure development. **IT IS TIME FOR ALTERNATIVES TO AGGREGATE** for infrastructure construction to be found."

THE PASSION OF BARBARA HALSALL

Our environment in general, and the Niagara Escarpment in particular, **LOST A PASSIONATE ACTIVIST AND ADVOCATE** when Barbara Halsall of Georgetown died on December 3, 2010. Barbara was a **FOUNDING MEMBER OF PROTECT OUR WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES (P.O.W.E.R.)**, and was its long-time, hard-working president. P.O.W.E.R. credits Barbara with improving the Niagara Escarpment Plan, successfully opposing waste incinerators in Halton Region, and helping thousands of young people to get outdoors and plant native trees through the Future Forest program.

A local newspaper wrote a favourable item about her, and "This grudging praise from an editorial team that was not sympathetic to her views was a great surprise to us," shares her son Michael.

Finally, the publishers of this magazine met while serving on the board of P.O.W.E.R., so **IF IT WEREN'T FOR BARBARA, THIS MAGAZINE PROBABLY WOULD NOT EXIST.**

