

MP's advocacy on Service Canada pays off

Re: Fears for future of Service Canada in Bolton (Caledon Citizen, Nov. 24).

I want to express my gratitude to David Tilson, MP for Dufferin-Caledon, for his strong and effective advocacy for our community of Caledon.

A number of months ago, we were under the impression that Service Canada had left our community. We expressed our concerns to Tilson immediately. The loss of this service, for which Caledon Community Services (CCS) has long provided office space and reception support at no cost in order to maintain this local presence for Caledon residents, would have caused undue hardship for many in our community. Employment Insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, Social Insurance numbers and Old Age Security Programs are just some of the services provided by Service Canada.

Tilson's advocacy with the minister paid off. We have just been informed that Service Canada has chosen to maintain their services within CCS. So, to Tilson and to our federal government, I express my thanks for their consideration of our concerns. Local services go a long way for many residents, in particular in a community without public transportation. We are grateful that Service Canada will be remaining as a CCS complimentary service in the years to come.

Monty Laskin

CEO, Caledon Community Services