

Re: Don Mills Civitan Arena Faces Environmental Worries, Sep. 23, 2008
<http://www.insidetoronto.com/article/56108>

While we can accept that Don Mills hockey needs a new arena, you must sit back and wonder about using the "scrub land at Don Mills and Hwy 401" and the size and scope of the Civitan project. The best use of this land appears to be for a "green" tree farm rather than hockey league play.

Anyone who is familiar with the area might say "who's fooling whom"? Besides the environmental questions, a taxpayer might say, How did this out of the way and inaccessible, unserviced land become "preferred"? And what will be the impact on the inner roadway traffic between Don Mills and Leslie?

Anyone wanting to get there will likely have to use a car since it will be a long walk from a convenient public transit point.

Civitan's vision will cost in the multi-millions to build as well as roadway and infrastructure improvements that the city might have to consider. Where is all the money coming from? And what risk will there be to taxpayers if Civitan cannot financially manage it? Turning it over to the city just seems to imply that the city must provide the staff and operating budget from funds that the city doesn't have.

We must wonder why Civitan has not decided to incorporate their new recreational vision into the needs for a community centre under discussion at the old Civitan Arena site and as well to work with the city to double the ice facility at the Oriole Community Centre at the Peanut.

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