

Council ignores staff recommendation

Town gives green light to stop sign

CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

Despite a staff report recommending against, Halton Hills council voted to install an all-way stop at McDonald Blvd. at Division St. in Acton.

"This is an issue that simply won't go away," said Mayor Rick Bonnette, who initiated the motion to countermand the staff recommendation. "Putting in an all-way stop is a lot safer and less costly than doing studies every year or two."

The mayor was referring to studies on this intersection near the McKenzie-Smith Bennett School every year since 2004. It was first brought to his attention in 2002.

"There is a lot of concerns from people in that area for their children," he said.

The new all-way stop was slated to be in place last week.

According to the staff report, the cost of installation will be about \$2,000, the amount of traffic does not meet the criteria for an all-way stop, and its installation will create vehicle emissions, fuel consumption and noise pollution. In a June 25, 2008 radar study there was 84 per cent compliance with the speed limit of 50 km/h and 209 vehicles passed through the intersection during the four-hour study.

While the mayor accepted the traffic numbers, he pointed out the intersection is on a curve, and adding to the visibility problems is a corner property with a fence, plus foliage.

For 30 years of service

Toronto YMCA honours area resident

The YMCA of Greater Toronto recently honoured a Georgetown man for 30 years of service.

Franz Schmidt, along with 17 others, was recognized for his years of service as a YMCA director, career counsellor and planner.

Schmidt began his connection to the YMCA when he interned as a counsellor at the YMCA of Greater Toronto while completing further graduate studies in Psychological Assessment and Counselling.

Over the years, he has made his mark in group therapy and both family and marriage counselling. However, it's in career counselling that Schmidt found his calling.

Countless adults and youth in the community have benefited from his expertise in counselling

and management assessment, and Schmidt says he finds his work extremely rewarding.

"Being at the Y means I can find harmony between my values and working for a living. All seems right with the world for me, and the Y is a big part of that," says Schmidt.

Co-worker, Barb Williams, General Manager of Essential Skills, Employment and Community said, "Franz is a wonderful person to work with, and he's dedicated to coaching people so that they can find their true path. He is continually learning new ways to enhance Career

Planning Services and shares them with the rest of the association.

"We are very lucky to have Franz working with us."



FRANZ SCHMIDT

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"Freedom and Power"
by Frank Teravich

We can only have power when we have freedom, and we can only have freedom when we are free to be who we truly are. It is with this freedom that we then have the power to become what we are meant to become and to live the lives we choose to live. Understanding the relationship between these two forces creates an energy in our lives that gives us hope and allows our dreams to take flight.

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