

Halton Council vetoes regional transit system

By Irene Gentle
SPECIAL TO THE BEAVER

A second attempt to initiate a region-wide transit review was nixed by Halton Council last week.

Previously, the health and social services committee also put the brakes on a motion by Halton Hills Councillor John Day to look at a regional transit system.

Day linked the issue to a staff report on the working poor, arguing that a lack of inter-regional transit links are a stumbling block to the impoverished, students and seniors.

He argued that some North Halton residents have a tough time accessing services located largely in the more populous southern parts of the region.

"The services are in the south and the people in the north want to get to them," said Day.

He hinted that if the situation were reversed, some form of transit would already be in place.

That drew the ire of Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale.

"We fund services where the people are," she said. "I think some of this dialogue is getting a little unproductive."

Day's motion was supported

by Milton Councillor Rick Malboeuf, who noted the initiative doesn't promise a transit service will be forthcoming.

"It simply asks us to look at it," he said. "It does not commit us to dollars. It doesn't commit us to a plan."

But any hint that the Region is looking at taking on a Halton-wide transit service is a mistake, said Mulvale.

"Be careful, my friends, with what you are doing," she said. "To suggest in any way that we're taking a baby step towards a regional transit system — not on the backs of Oakville taxpayers."

A Regionally run transit system has already been looked at and rejected in the past, said Burlington Councillor Linda Schreiber.

"Before we spend a lot of time on this, I think we should be realistic about what the Region's role is," she said.

It's likely too early to think about an interconnected Halton system, agreed Planning Director Pat Murphy.

"You really have to have the basics there first," said Mr. Murphy. "You don't have those yet. It's premature to work on a systematic level now."

Ian Anderson House Strawberry Social

Ian Anderson House (IAH), Ontario's first free-standing cancer hospice, hosts a special Strawberry Dessert Bridge and Euchre on Friday, June 16th.

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Le Dome is located at 1173 North Service Rd. East.

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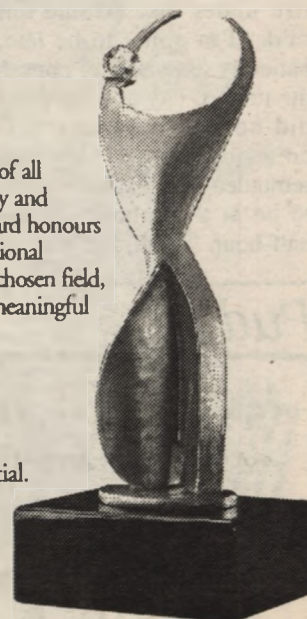


CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 4th Annual ATHENA Awards



Mayor Ann Mulvale

Mayor Ann Mulvale was the initial recipient of the ATHENA AWARD in 1997. One nominator described her as (embodying) what ATHENA is by nurturing and caring for the community. Mayor Mulvale encourages people to recognize the empowering contributions of those who mentor and encourages others to excel by submitting nominations for the year 2000 Athena Award.



The ATHENA Award program celebrates the potential of all women as valued members and leaders of the community and recognizes those who support them. The ATHENA Award honours individuals who strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment... women and men who excel in their chosen field, have devoted time and energy to their community in a meaningful way, and who also open paths so that others may follow.

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Nomination forms available at

