

Disposition of the Resolutions

By Anne Dyas

Long Combination Vehicles (LCVs):

The Minister of Transport, Tony Clement, assures FWIO that "the Ontario Government has no plans to allow LCVs."

Dombind: Norm Stirling, the Minister of Environment, has "decided to initiate a phase out of the use of this material as a dust suppressant."

Removal or Neutralizing Environmental Hazards:

Minister Stirling writes: "The province already has a number of safeguards in place to ensure that financial contingencies are available to assist with ... cleanups." The Minister believes that where it is possible to identify the polluter, be it individual or company, the "polluter pays."

Rural School Funding: The response from Drew Namoth, Business Services Branch of the Ministry of Education and Training (on behalf of the Minister David Johnson) "...announced changes to ... give both urban and rural boards considerable flexibility ... with respect to operating schools. These changes will permanently add approximately \$218 million more ... for school operation and renewal."

Health Care Costs: Donna Segal, the Director of the Registration and Claims Branch of the Ministry of Health, wrote: "Ontario residents may inquire about the cost of health care services ... provided to them by writing or visiting their local OHIP Office. The Ministry of Health is preparing to implement an initiative which will make the availability of their patient statements known to the public."

Reasonably Priced Tests for Drinking Water: There has been no response to date. However, it has been brought to my attention that there is a liaison between the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) and the Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition (OFEC) to make water testing available at a more reasonable cost.

Contact: OFA at 1-800-668-3276

email: water@ofa.on.ca

web site: www.ofa.on.ca/water

Testing and Research of the Canadian Food Supply:

The Minister of Health, Allan Rock, stated that at the federal level "the primary responsibility for food safety issues is shared between Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CIFA), which reports to Parliament through the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. Health Canada is responsible for setting food safety standards and policies and conducting research activities... The budget announced that \$65 million would be invested over three years in food safety and nutrition in the Department. Some of these funds will help ensure a high quality research program. CIFA is responsible for all enforcement and inspection activities." This agency also maintains laboratory facilities to ensure the safety of all food products sold in Canada.

A resolution requesting cooking and sewing courses be made available or retained for Grades 7 and 8 was returned to the sender. Research indicated: that some parts of Ontario offer these courses in high school only; that some school boards have funds for "special projects" and it was recommended those interested should contact their local board; and, many teachers are saying that the curriculum is too full to have additional courses added.

Note: FWIO has now received a response to all the resolutions sustained at the November 1998 Board meeting.

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Profile

Anne Dyas - On The Move!



Take a young city woman from England, move her through umpteen mining communities across Canada, then finally, on her last job, let her choose where to live. You end up with a house tucked away in the woods in the Great Claybelt of Cochrane, a flock of chickens and a considerably older woman thoroughly immersed in Women's Institute. This then is your current Lobbying Coordinator.

Peter and I were married in Liverpool, England, on January 1, 1957 (so he can never forget our anniversary!). We emigrated to Canada in 1958 to work at Gaspé Copper Mine in Quebec. I worked as a laboratory technician there until Peter had moved up the ladder and became my "boss." This was not allowed by the company. I was fortunate then to stay at home raising our children, two sons, Stephen and Richard, and a daughter Karen. When Karen was aged nine, I went to work as Head Clerk in a Yukon Department Store, later as Assistant Postmaster in Newfoundland, and lastly as Sub-Post Office Manager in Saskatchewan. We then moved to Quebec, and due to the language difference I decided to not go out to work.

Our move to Cochrane in 1988 resulted in an invitation to join the Clute Women's Institute. Through them, I became a 4-H Leader for 10 years. As WI gave me self-confidence, I gradually accepted positions. In 1995, I was elected Board Director and was a member of the *Home and Country* Editorial Committee for two years.

Our children had long ago left to spread their wings, though they did come back once or twice when things got a bit too tough. Now the boys are both married; Stephen has three sons, Rick has one. Unfortunately, they all live in Fort McMurray, Alberta. Karen is engaged and living in North Bay, so we will stay in Ontario for now.

My interests are many and varied. Some I have parlayed into a small business - selling fresh eggs and making and selling preserves, baking, hand knits and homemade fudge. Other interests include birdwatching, gardening, reading and cryptic crosswords. I volunteer with the Hospital Auxiliary and have a seat on the Hospital Board, the Anglican Church Women and the Select Vestry, as well as the local Historical and Agricultural Societies.

Greatest weakness? It is difficult to say "No." Greatest strength? I always keep my word. Wish for the future? To remain healthy enough to complete all my projects, try all the recipes, use up my stash of yarn and be remembered as a helpful, kind person.