

Propose One Halton Education Authority Would Do Away With Local Public, High School Boards

Georgetown's public school and high school boards and all other public and high school boards in Halton County would be abolished and replaced by a new county education authority in a master plan presented to county council by the Halton Consultative Committee, Thursday night.

The plan, which took over a year to compile, was accepted by county council for study.

This week it was passed on to all local authorities and present school boards for their consideration and comments.

There are at present ten

school boards in Halton made up of 88 trustees.

The report suggests the dissolving of Georgetown, Esqueping, Acton, Milton, Oakville and Burlington high school districts and the establishing of a new high school district.

It recommends that a by-law be prepared "establishing the entire county area for public school purposes," and asks for support from every Halton municipality.

The new single board would be composed of 22 elected representatives, two from Georgetown, one each from Esqueping, Nassagaweya, Milton and Acton and eight each from Oakville and Burlington.

The report recommends that one representative from the separate school system be elected to the board. Any member may be elected by county council.

To maintain liaison with ratepayers in the communities in which boards would be dissolved it is proposed that three education committees be set up for North Halton, Oakville and Burlington. These committees would make recommendations to the board on property maintenance in schools, local transportation arrangements, and attendance problems including suspensions and expulsions.

W.B. Elsey, Esqueping, chairman of the secondary schools

consultative committee said "The time is ripe. Action should be taken now. A single board of education for the county would be in a stronger position to select the good ideas from the bad and to implement the ones which would give the most for the education dollar."

Eric Gudgeon chairman of the public school consultative committee said "Communications between the various school boards in the north end of the county seem to be completely lacking the way things are now."

The package states that medical authorities agree on the harmful effects of nicotine on the blood pressure, heart rate and blood vessels. They then point out that Bravo cigarettes

Board Chairmen Comments

A proposal to abolish local public and high school boards in the county in favour of one board of education administering all Halton Schools has drawn strong objections from Georgetown and Esqueping board chairman — but neither has it prompted unconditional endorsement.

E. H. Ted' Gorth, chairman of the Georgetown District High School Board, commenting on the proposal had this to say: "The plan would accomplish the same end result as the objective our board had in mind when we submitted our brief to the Dept. of Municipal Affairs regarding the Plunkett report as requested. Plunkett recommended two entirely new counties which he called Mississauga and Halton-Peel. The consultative committee appointed by Halton county council approached their study along the lines of Halton County only. Our board already has a working agreement with the Central Peel Board on some courses and the arrangement works quite well."

Mr. Gorth said he could visualize greater distances to be travelled by local students if Georgetown were tied into areas to the south rather than Central Peel to the east.

"We know large areas of administration are advantageous in many respects and I'm confident that whatever form the new area takes Georgetown representatives will cooperate with other municipalities, keeping in mind the interests of the taxpayer and secondary school students," he added.

"I think we would still like to see the system stay as it is," Georgetown Public School board chairman John Mintern commented: "however this is a progressive age in education and I can see where there would be some benefits accrued from a large area administered by one single board."

Mr. Mintern said he felt "smaller school areas are more likely to notice the benefits than a system of Georgetown's size."

"Speaking for things as they are now, the smaller local boards do have a better liaison with the ratepayer," he said.

Esqueping Public School Area Board chairman commented: "The trouble now is that every board is operating a little bit different and uniformity is lacking. Elementary school boards are just now starting to get advantage from industrial arts and home economics facilities in the high school. Under a single board we would have had this a long time ago."

"I felt they (the consultative committee) would come up with this idea of a Halton area. I think it may be the only way to handle the situation, and should prove much better than the old way."

Hot Garbage Cargo Dumped Onto Street

Sanitation department men were faced with garbage that was too hot to handle Wednesday morning — and it was right in the back of their garbage packer truck.

The men were making one of the last pickups on Charles St. before heading for the dump when they noticed smoke curling out of the side of the packer.

They tried smothering the fire by packing the contents tight, but the smoke grew heavier. They filled buckets from a stream opposite 73 Charles St. and opened the back door and doused what they could, but the wall of refuse continued to smoulder.

Firemen arrived and doused the hot cargo, but not until some of it was dumped into the street to make the job easier.

A few years ago collection men drove a smoking packer direct to the dump site only to find they were stuck with their problem because a hydraulic hose had been burned off en route.

The fire alarm was the fifth this week. Firefighters made two trips, Friday and Sunday, to a pile of burning shavings at a woodworking factory on River Drive, doused a burning grass and underbrush on a farm on Main St. south on Saturday, and saved a car afire on a Glen Williams side street the same day.

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CFRB Will Build Teevee Transmitter On Base Line

Hornby Tower will have to share its dominating position on the southern skyline soon.

Radio station CFRB has been given approval to build a television transmission tower on the Base Line a few miles east of the CBC's Hornby radio tower.

A previous application by CFRB was rejected because it was too close to a proposed airport in the Omagh vicinity.

A CFRB spokesman said the new site has been approved by the Department of Transport. He said the tower property will be 27 acres.

Several residents of the area have expressed fears that their tower would interfere with their radio and television reception and that the tower might reduce land values.

However they dropped their opposition after being assured that the D.O.T. has stringent controls to insure there be no interference and that the land values would not be affected.

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