

Snow's resolution sparks provincial legislation

Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough announced that the Ontario Government will implement uniform building standards in the Province "as soon as possible."

He said "the efficiencies implicit in a system of uniform building and fire safety standards should alleviate some of the serious housing problems that we have been facing."

"We know that it does not present the only solution to the housing crisis, but it is another

decisive step in the right direction," Mr. McKeough told the annual convention of the Ontario Municipal Association in Ottawa Monday.

Snow's idea

"The subject of uniform building standards found its way to the floor of the Ontario Legislature in March, 1968, through a resolution by my colleague Jim Snow, M.P.P., for Halton East."

He actively urged the adoption by the province of the National

Building Code of Canada and the standardization of building, fire and safety regulations for all municipalities in Ontario. Mr. Snow's suggestions were sound and well-reasoned, based upon his practical experience and knowledge as a general contractor."

In fact, the esteem with which he is viewed by leaders in the construction field has since been acknowledged with his appointment by the Prime Minister to the Board of Directors of the

Ontario Housing Corporation," Mr. McKeough said.

The Government has decided to place the responsibility for organizing and operating uniform building standards with the Department of Labor.

Department of Labor

Labor Minister Dalton Bales told the convention that his Department will appoint two review committees to work out the practicalities of implementing uniform building standards.

"One committee will be responsible for drafting appropriate legislation. It will examine existing legislation in Ontario and resolve any differences that exist between municipal building by-laws, provincial standards, The National Building Code and The National Fire Code."

Second committee

"The second committee will be concerned with setting up the necessary organization for effective inspection of building standards, approval procedures, uniform interpretation and enforcement, and developing staff, training and education program."

Mr. Bales added that a great deal of detailed work has to be done before uniform standards can be introduced "and we will proceed with this as rapidly as possible."

"We will need to test and discuss the programs these committees develop on both the public and private sectors to ensure that all possible difficulties are adequately resolved before legislation is implemented."

Mr. McKeough said the idea of a universal system of building standards has strong appeal and "would result in substantial efficiencies in the planning, design, administration and construction of buildings as well as in the processing and stocking of building materials."

In September, 1968, Mr. McKeough set up an advisory committee under the chairmanship of Mr. C. D. Carruthers, an engineering consultant, to explore the whole subject area.

The Committee reported back on January 9, 1970. Among its recommendations were: Adoption of the National Building Code of Canada 1970 and the National Fire Code of Canada 1970;

"The development of an Ontario Building Code during the transitional stage to include necessary standards not now incorporated in the national codes;

"A review of present legislation and the development of new legislation where necessary;

"The appointment of two interim review committees;

"The establishment of building inspection training and certification."

Mr. McKeough said that after lengthy study of the Carruthers Committee report by both the private and public sectors, the Government decided to implement its recommendations.

Mr. McKeough told the audience of municipal leaders that "the Carruthers Committee recommended and the Government subscribes to the view that building and safety inspection are properly local government responsibilities - perhaps administered at the county or regional level."

Province's role

"The role of the Province will be more in the nature of training and education programs for building and safety inspectors and for the development of province-wide standards."

Mr. McKeough added that among the benefits resulting from the adoption of uniform building standards should be that our technology will be more capable of producing buildings of architectural and functional quality in mass volume.

"It should also mean that industry will be able to reduce and streamline our present system of complex, multi-purpose in-

ventories and expand its techniques for manufacturing buildings that are portable, demountable and increasingly adaptable."

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HARRY K. WATSON, right, took over as the manager-secretary treasurer for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority on August 1, 1970. Here he gets some pointers on the inside workings of the Authority from Chairman Roy McMillan, left, and Jack Pawley, centre, chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.—(CVCA photo by Joan Rollings.)

Reeve gets backing on 100 foot setback

Halton County was well represented at the Ontario Municipal Association Annual Meeting in Ottawa last week. A full complement of county councillors attended.

Those attending were Warden Allan Day and Reeve Bill Gilles of Oakville; Reeve W. Hunter and

Nassagaweya all attended. During the conference Mrs. A. MacArthur was successful in getting 100 per cent backing in her move to have the setbacks that quarry operations can operate within property lines increased from 50 to 100 feet. OMA had suggested 50 feet in their resolution.

Will obey six per cent guideline for wages

Halton County Board of Education released salary increases for senior administrators at the regular meeting of the Board in Oakville Thursday.

The Director will receive up to \$35,000 a year while the assistant Director will receive a salary in the range of \$29,000 to \$31,000 and superintendents will get between \$25,000 and \$28,000 a year.

Director J. W. Singleton said that no one in administration has had a raise in 18 months and he said that raises issued would be in keeping with the government's request to abide the six per cent per annum increase. "The government has made this request and I think we have to

listen. Although the teachers came through with a nine and a half per cent boost raises for administration will not exceed the guideline."

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ESQUEJING Township Council BRIEFS

At their regular meeting Monday night, Esquejing Council:

—Passed a motion instructing the clerk to give the township solicitor a list of ratepayers, who are three years or more in arrears so he may commence the necessary procedure to register a tax arrears certificate with the Department of Municipal Auditors.

—Amended a motion passed at their meeting August 4 with regard to the Twin Lakes property. The original motion approved purchase of the land for a summer camp for crippled children. The amended motion approves the purchase for a summer camp for crippled children and for a summer and winter recreational centre.

—Passed a motion approving the proposed location of a 14 inch watermain on Churchill Road in Acton, as shown in drawings presented by R. V. Anderson, consulting engineers for the town.

—Received a copy of a letter from the Halton County Health Unit to George F. Moore, R. R. 1 Limehouse, informing Mr. Moore the Unit had inspected and approved the sewage disposal and water supply systems and food concessions at the Golden Horseshoe Dragway.

—Approved the issue of a building permit to William Fenson for the construction of a building 40 feet by 80 feet on part of the west half of Lot 23 Concession 8, on Highway 7. The building is to be used for retail farm implements.



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