

# Hill will challenge unit proposal

Esquesing Reeve Tom Hill said he will protest both at the county council and provincial government levels against the proposal to maintain Milton as a single Central Halton unit in a four borough Halton region.

"How any government can go against the majority of opinion, which was a three borough proposal, then slice Oakville up, take away assessment from Nassagaweya and Esquesing and add it to Milton which hasn't got enough people to fill the houses it's building now, is beyond me," the outspoken township head told this paper.

Hill made it clear he was speaking only for himself and not necessarily for his council, but he insisted the boundaries laid out in the original county council brief were satisfactory.

**Bright side**

On the bright side, he said that he was happy to see the makeup of local boards be left open for discussion and that he was

satisfied with the proposed representation on the regional council.

Deputy-reeve Len Cox pointed out the bulk of his township's commercial and industrial assessment lies in the southern end, which will become part of the Central Halton borough.

"It's certainly not helping us," he suggested.

Cox offered the government a suggestion of his own.

"I think one idea might be to send East Flamborough in with Milton and leave Nassagaweya and Esquesing the way they are."

Councillor Wilfrid Leslie said he feels Milton should have been included in the North Halton borough. He also suggested the government might have been just as far ahead to extend the parallel boundary divisions proposed for Peel County westward so that they divide up Halton in three parts as well.

Maltby concerned Newly-elected Councillor

George Maltby said he was a little concerned about the southern end of the township being lost to the Central Halton borough.

"However, I feel there's still room for discussion on this yet, before it becomes final," he added.

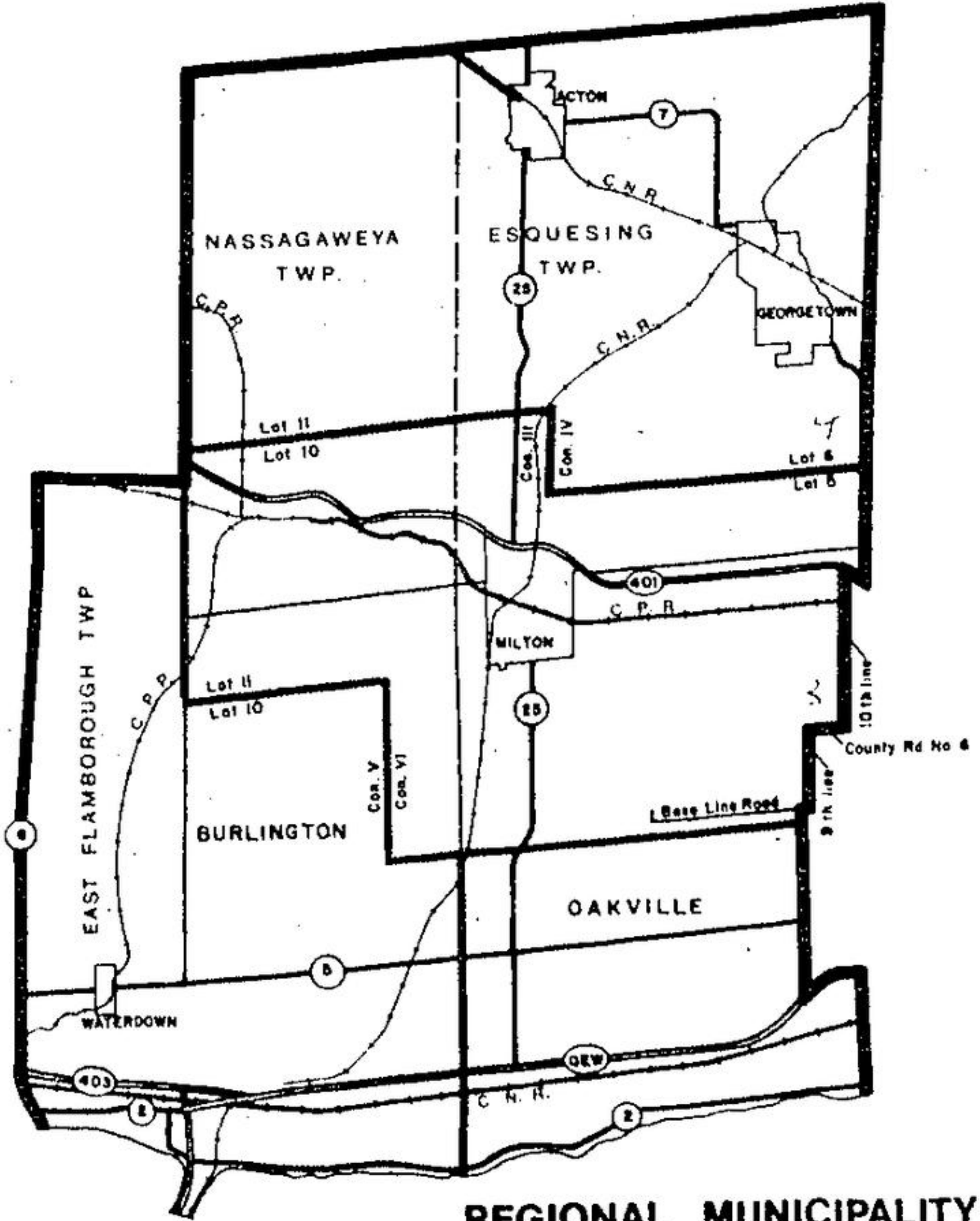
He said he was at first surprised at the inclusion of East Flamborough in the Halton region, but saw merit in it once the reasons were explained.

He said the suggested regional council representation figures looked fair to him, but emphasized he is most concerned about the formation of local boards.

"It just suits me dandy," beamed Esquesing Township's school trustee Bill Lawson, a Milton area farmer. "I'm just tickled to death." Lawson noted the proposal for a Halton region was similar to a Board of Education recommendation in 1969.



ESQUESING REEVE TOM HILL registers disgust as he listens to regional plans for Halton County presented Tuesday night in Hamilton. (Photo by D. Gibbons)



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

— PROPOSED REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
 — AREA MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES

## Milton

### The happy gang

"The people of Milton should be very happy to be retaining their identity as a lower level municipality," Mayor Brian Best concluded at the end of Tuesday's proposal presentation. "This is going to be the best form of government to serve the people of Halton."

Best said some of the recommendations on regionalization that went to the province from municipalities were given "without rationalization or logic" but Milton's frequent briefs were

well thought out and well documented. "I am glad the provincial government has sat down and rationalized the whole thing," he said, and ended up with four borough units in Halton.

Three things in the province's proposals delighted the mayor — first, that Halton remains as a unit; secondly, that Burlington stays in the county; and thirdly, that Milton and surrounding lands will remain as a unit of their own.

"I'm very happy — Milton got

everything it asked for, and then some," Deputy Reeve Bob McCuaig of Milton reports. "It was certainly more beneficial to Milton than I expected."

McCuaig said he had felt all along the province would recommend a four-unit Halton, but felt the town's brief urging four units instead of three was probably a strong influence on the Queen's Park decision.

Milton and Acton councillors, planning boards and staff had hired a bus to transport them to the meeting in Hamilton.



GEORGETOWN'S smiling, cigar-smoking Mayor Bill Smith was generally pleased with the Halton region proposal. Georgetown will be the largest of four present municipalities contained in the new North Halton borough. (D. Gibbons photo)

## Georgetown mayor is optimistic

Mayor Bill Smith of Georgetown took an optimistic view of the government proposals for Halton but suggested that if the new areas were based on population his first glance seemed to show that the Milton area's was not proportionate.

Councillor Ern Hyde of Georgetown said the North Halton area proposed may not be the best economically but as far as the environmental aspects of the area "it seems to me we are getting the best deal in the North," he said.

Both Georgetown representatives thought the proposed North Halton area would be workable with a community of interest.

They declined further comment until they had a chance to study the proposals further.



NASSAGAWEYA deputy reeve Jim Watson looks glum as he listens to proposals for regional government in Halton County. (Photo by R. Downs)

## Nassagaweya is severed

Nassagaweya Township Deputy Reeve Jim Watson headed a large delegation from Nassagaweya to the unveiling of Regional Government proposals in Hamilton Tuesday. "I'm not surprised at the outcome," he said after the proposals were read. "We realized many of the boundaries in Halton were going to have to be scrapped."

The people of Nassagaweya would likely be disappointed to see the township severed at 10 Sideroad, "but we have to fight this out at the local level," Watson said.

Residents living north of Highway 401 will be disappointed at losing the race track and its large

assessment, to the Central Halton unit, he felt.

His own home and that of Reeve MacArthur are both in the area proposed to be joined with Milton in the central unit.

"Personally there will be no effect on me, we go to church in Milton and my boys play hockey in Milton," he said. But Watson said he would be contacting his neighbors and asking their opinions before council takes any action.

Mrs. MacArthur was ill and unable to attend the presentation of regional government proposals.

## Jim Snow: "It's great"

"I think it's just great," Halton East MPP and Minister of Government Services Jim Snow beamed, "it's an excellent plan."

"A great deal of work has gone into this proposal, at all levels of

government. There will be some who object, no matter what it said."

The province is willing to listen to opinions on the proposals, Snow stressed. "There will be room for discussion."

# Meen unveils four unit Halton

Text of the comments of A.K. Meen, Parliamentary Assistant to the Treasurer of Ontario in outlining the proposed Regional Government for Halton County, as delivered in Hamilton Tuesday evening.

To many of you, our proposal for Halton will sound familiar, since a lot of the ideas in it came from you. Among these we acknowledge particularly the suggestions in the briefs we received from many of the municipalities of Halton County, and from the County itself.

We are in complete agreement with the fundamental point made in the Halton County brief; we too believe that the best form of government in Halton would be a two-tiered municipality embracing all of Halton County except the small part of eastern Oakville, as mentioned in our Peel proposal.

However, we propose two departures. The first is the addition of the village of Waterdown and the township of East Flamborough, which are now in Wentworth County. The second has to do with the number of municipalities within the region.

The community of interest shared by Waterdown and the urban part of East Flamborough with the Town of Burlington has been recognized for some time. Even if we had found it desirable to include Burlington with Hamilton and Wentworth—as the Steele Report recommended—we would still have proposed joining Waterdown and East Flamborough to Burlington.

In our opinion, this amalgamation is essential if only because Waterdown is currently receiving water from the Aldershot sector of Burlington, and this service needs to be extended.

To recap briefly then: The regional municipality of Halton would cover virtually all of Halton County plus the Village of Waterdown and the Township of East Flamborough, except for a very small part of Oakville.

How many area municipalities would be appropriate for Halton? This brings us to our second departure from the Halton brief.

Like their counterparts in Peel, representatives of Halton County took the commendable step of recommending a reduction in the number of municipalities. They wanted their Regional Government unit to consist of just three area municipalities.

Milton, however, took the view that it should form a fourth municipality.

Having considered both sides of the question very carefully, we are inclined to see considerable merit in Milton's point of view. We agree that there is a separate, identifiable community of interest centred upon Milton and stretching across the middle of Halton County. We see it as having a character and prospects for development similar to those of the proposed area municipality of central Peel. Across this wide mid-section of Halton there is, in our view, a community whose residents do not look to the northern part of the county for their community services, but to Milton.

For this reason, we subscribe to the idea of having four

area municipalities in Halton. Municipalities we refer to, for discussion purposes, as Burlington, Oakville, Central Halton and North Halton.

However, our proposal differs somewhat in detail from what was proposed locally. Rather than following the boundary suggested by Milton, we would rather see a boundary line farther south so as to include the growth centres of North Oakville and North Burlington—both of which are part of the development plans for the Toronto Centred region.

There is, in our view, a sound rationale for this suggestion. Within the next few months, the Government of Ontario will be announcing the routes of the parkway corridors intended to separate those growth centres from their southern counterparts. When that announcement is made, the final location of the southern boundary of central Halton can be adjusted to coincide with the parkway corridor.

For purposes of this proposal, we have drawn a line on the map to represent this boundary. But I caution you very strongly against trying to infer from this line what lands will actually be involved in the parkway. This line, to be announced some months from now, could vary one way or the other, according to the decision on the parkway belt.

Now, for a moment, let us look at the four proposed area municipalities, one by one:

This would be the Burlington area municipality. It would consist of the major part of the present town of Burlington, the township of East Flamborough and the Village of Waterdown. From the present town of Burlington we would remove an L-shaped strip running across the northern part of Burlington, north of Kilbride and down the east side to a point near Zimmerman. This strip would become part of Central Halton.

The area municipality of Oakville would have an eastern boundary with Mississauga, as I described earlier. The western boundary with Burlington would remain unchanged. The northern boundary of Oakville would be moved considerably southward, as I mentioned. The object would be to make sure that all of the proposed North Oakville community—referred to in the Toronto-Centred Region concept Plan—would be included in Central Halton, as you will see in a moment. Otherwise, North Oakville would be split in two—a situation which I think you will agree would be most unsatisfactory.

The southern boundary of Central Halton will be evident to you by now, from the descriptions I have given of Burlington and Oakville. For the northern boundary of Central Halton we propose to draw a line starting in the western boundary of Nassagaweya Township and proceeding eastward on the line between lots 10 and 11 to point east of Highway 25. From here the boundary would jog southward, then eastward to the boundary of Chinguacousy Township.

We believe that this enlargement of Milton is well justified by the patterns of community interest I mentioned a few moments ago. I should emphasize too that the government intends to confine major urban growth in the future to zone 1 of the Toronto Centred Region, which covers only the southern

section and part of the central area. The rest of the central area and all of the northern area are in zone 2.

The fourth municipality, North Halton, would be made up of Acton, Georgetown and the northern two thirds of Nassagaweya and Esquesing Townships.

For Halton we propose a regional council of twenty-three representatives including the chairman.

Burlington would seat nine members on the regional council; Oakville would have six; Central Halton would have three; and North Halton would have four.

This arrangement would achieve a balance in the voting around the council table, with no one municipality dominating the rest.

At the same time it would assign voting power in close proportion to the population, since Burlington would have the largest population of the four, and Central Halton the smallest.

As I am sure you have noticed by now, our proposals for Peel and Halton are fundamentally the same. In both cases we are recommending establishment of two-tier governments. Each region would embrace only a few area municipalities—three in one case and four in the other. Each of these area municipalities would be constituted according to present communities of interest and to the best projections available of future growth.

Because of these basic similarities between the two proposed regions, it seems reasonable at this point to raise certain questions and deal with recommendations applying to both Peel and Halton.

PROPOSED HALTON REGION MUNICIPAL STATISTICS

MUNICIPALITY	ESTIMATED POPULATION		REPRESENTATION ON REGIONAL COUNCIL		POPULATION PER REP.	ESTIMATED EQUALIZED ASSESSMENT		ESTIMATED SQUARE MILES	
	1971	1972	Seats	% of Total		\$,000	Per \$1,000	Area	Per Sq. Mile
Burlington	93,000	47.0	9	39.1	10,333	855,095	43.0	108	26.6
Oakville	59,000	29.8	6	26.1	9,833	720,760	36.2	67	16.6
Central Halton	14,500	7.3	3	13.0	4,833	155,046	7.8	92	22.8
North Halton	31,500	15.9	4	17.4	7,875	258,716	13.0	138	34.0
TOTALS	198,000		23			1,989,617		405	

POPULATION STATISTICS: 1971

EQUALIZED ASSESSMENT FIGURES: 1972