

# Reeve questions Queen's Park role in region set-up

Halton's new regional chairman, Allan Masson, told members of Acton council last week that he expected representatives of North Halton on the new regional council would be a "catalyst" as they had been in the past at the county level, and he got his answer from Reeve Pat McKenzie who sharply challenged some of the chairman's first decisions.

Masson who picked Acton as his second stop in an around-the-county swing to introduce himself to councillors, said he had enormous respect for the northern municipalities and he expected good, experienced representation from the Town of North Halton.

"I have been amazed at the type and quality of leadership from the north in the past," he told members of council in a briefing on Monday. He felt this had not always been so with representatives from

the south of the county.

"It is a big job and interesting," he said, noting he was now in the process of formulating plans that those at the regional level would accept, such as by-laws and recommendations for staff. He compared the job to that of a pilot flying an aircraft on instruments.

The first problem the new region must face was an election and then the investiture and swearing-in of the new council on October 18. He said the Lieutenant-Governor, the Premier and M.P.s would participate, so it would be a red ribbon affair.

Masson said that the need for staff had been the subject of pressure from some municipalities who had their own favorites but that he intended to advertise for competent people and put their names before a Queens Park Selection Board. This

way he hoped they would get a clean slate of competent people.

The new chairman predicted the Halton region would soon move its headquarters from the county building at Milton because the province wants to take it over, and a Warden's committee is looking for a new site, which would likely require from 40 to 50,000 square feet and have as many as 1500 employees.

Halton owned

Reeve Pat McKenzie wasn't satisfied with that kind of solution. He questioned why the region should vacate the county building since it was owned by Halton. He suggested the province, not the county should be looking for a new site for its facilities.

Masson replied that the building had been designed essentially as a court house and the cost of renovating it for a regional

headquarters would be prohibitive. It would be cheaper for the province to convert the 20 per cent of the building the county uses, than the other way around. "Jim Snow has figures which proved it," he said.

McKenzie also questioned why Queens Park was to provide the board that would review applicants for regional jobs.

"What's the matter with us? Surely we can interview applicants?"

The chairman said he did not think those on the region would want to wade through a large stack of applicants.

"Why not?" the reeve asked. "That is how you assess a man."

Deputy-Reeve Peter Marks remarked the north thinks highly of the Milton site for the county offices because they were central, and wondered whether the regional committee would be receptive to recommendations from local councils on a five

year projection to tie loose ends up in matters which they now controlled.

Masson said they certainly would entertain the idea.

On the subject of key positions in the region, he said, he presumed they would advertise in the area. At the regional level the administrator would be the first job filled. He thought the administrator should choose his own department heads.

Questioned by Councillor Norm Elliott about the choice of afternoon or evenings for council meetings at both the regional and area levels, Masson related that the two regions he visited held evening meetings but it would be up to the regional council to work this out at the most convenient time.

Committee meetings in Kitchener-Waterloo and Niagara regions were, however, held in the afternoons. Regional council meetings would have to be

scheduled so as not to conflict with council meetings in the four areas of Halton because regional representatives would be on both bodies.

Mayor Les Duby said the question of afternoon or evening meetings was a special concern in Acton because interested people wanted to see if there was time available for them to run for office.

Later in the meeting, after Mr. Masson had left, council passed a resolution which asked that the majority of meetings in the new town of North Halton be held in the evenings to assure the maximum participation by all who wished to enter. Georgetown and Esqueping councils were to be sent copies of the resolution for their endorsement.

A lot of dedicated and concerned people would be eliminated if they held afternoon meetings, declared Elliott.

## Garbage problem, energy closely related says Johnson

At a meeting of the Ontario Garbage Coalition executive (an amalgamation of 35 re-cycling and anti-landfill site groups) at Preston, on August 15, William A. Johnson, chairman of North Halton group G.U.A.R.D. (Group

United Against Rural Dumping) was appointed to lead the anti-landfill efforts. He was also appointed publicity director for the coalition.

Johnson sees the garbage problem and the energy crisis

closely related, and says he has impressive statistics to prove it.

According to a study by Von Roll Ltd. of Montreal, 335,000 tons of garbage has the equivalent calorific value of 100,000 tons of coal or 14 million gallons of fuel oil. The Ontario Garbage Coalition emphasizes reclamation and re-cycling before incineration, and stress the fact that steam generation (energy) must follow incineration.

"Those who cry 'Air Pollution' should note Montreal's garbage burning steam generating plant operates well below that province's stringent air pollution standards," he said.

On the garbage situation in Halton, Johnson says although the Indusmin Quarry is not now considered as an immediate recipient for Toronto's garbage, G.U.A.R.D. is closely watching for reaction to the McLaren report that suggests that three of Halton's quarries could be used for the county's garbage. He urges voters to closely question candidates in the forthcoming regional elections on their attitude towards re-cycling, reclamation, and landfill sites.

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ACTON, ONTARIO WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1973

Second section

## One article keeps plan held up



Esqueping Council hopes to arrange a meeting with Minister of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs Hon. John White next week to try to come to an agreement on one article of the township's long-awaited official plan.

Reeve Tom Hill would not define the article when asked about it Monday night, but he did say it is the only one keeping the plan from being approved in its entirety. Council first started proceedings towards an official plan in the fall of 1969.

Once the official plan is approved, the township's zoning by-law, which is now ready in draft form must go before the Minister for his approval. Only then will ratepayers seeking a change of land use be able to request a zoning change.

During the past four years while the township's controversial agricultural holding by-law

has been in effect, council has temporarily turned down numerous requests from ratepayers wishing to start one man operations.

## Shoulder complaint

Acton council agreed to investigate a complaint from Councillor Bill Yundt that the shoulder of the road on Main St. from Brock St. to the Kingham Hill Estates subdivision, was dangerous for cyclists.

Shoulders along new sidewalks from Church St. to the new subdivision were finished with blacktop as far as Brock Ave. but Mr. Yundt thought further finish was necessary along the remainder of the route.

WITH THE beginning of Acton's Centennial year 1974 less than five months away badges bearing the Centennial emblem are being sold. The attractive red, blue and green badges may be purchased from Paul Nielsen for 50 cents apiece. Playground leader Kathy Turkosz liked the badges so much she tried on four as decorations. Susan Mills positioned them.

(D. Gibbons photo)

## No restrictions on imported shoes but Government offers alternative

The leather and shoe industry was disappointed in the conclusions reached by the Anti-Dumping Tribunal of the federal government on the effects of leather footwear imports on Canadian production but partly mollified by promises of government help to revitalize the Canadian shoe industry.

The Tribunal concluded that imports of footwear are not being imported into Canada at such

prices, in such quantities and under such conditions as to cause or threaten serious injury to Canadian producers of like or directly competitive goods.

Shoe and leather manufacturers were "shocked" at the Tribunal's conclusions.

Earlier this year they made a submission to the Tribunal asking a restriction on imports sufficient to allow Canadians to compete in their own domestic

market. They charged imported shoes being sold in Canada were being subsidized and as such created unfair competition.

Acton affected

The Beardmore plant at Acton, largest tanning operation in Canada, feared a drop in employment and cut in production, unless some controls were introduced, president and general manager Peter Dunham told the Free Press at that time.

Some 65 per cent of domestic leather goes into the manufacture of footwear. Studies have shown the country's tanning industry is almost totally dependent on the Canadian footwear industry for its existence. This includes the jobs of about 2500 employees of the concerns, over 400 of them in Acton.

As a result of the Anti-Dumping Tribunal's report the federal government said it could not introduce any special measures of protection against imports of leather footwear but there were other measures which would assist the industry to make adjustments.

As an alternative to import controls, the Hon. Allan Rock, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, offered a five year program to revitalize the industry, including restructuring and rationalization under a program which would include direct long-term loans for amalgamations, modernization, new plants, etc. He proposed new programs of design assistance, export promotion, industry image and better marketing information.

In order to ensure fair import competition, the minister said anti-dumping duties would be applied where applicable. Countervailing duties will be established where exports are subsidized and the federal government is setting up a committee to assist the industry in the preparation of briefs for G.A.T.T.

The industry has also suggested enlarging the jurisdiction of the Textile and Clothing Board Act to include footwear, the elimination of sales tax on all footwear, preferred freight rates to western Canada and simpler paper work in applying for grants and loans.

The minister promised to take the suggestions under advisement and proposed working parties be established between his department and the industries involved and a further meeting held to hear the reports of the working parties.

## Try recycling

Georgetown council will try a recycling experiment for a month.

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