

Fair topples all records three-day format success

An all-time record attendance of 14,000 was rolled up on three days when Acton Fall Fair, coinciding with the town's centennial, produced its biggest and best show ever.

In every department records topped as the hard-working officials staged a unique and wonderful show for centennial year.

Friday night attendance was the first record to go. Last year was a record 2100—this year 1334 adults, 520 students and 610 children paid admission, and many others entered on passes, for an estimate of 2600. 175 exhibitors, 65 officers and directors and over 80 midway employees don't show on the admission figures.

Sparkling show
The midway glittered and swirled Friday and the community centre was

Parade
Floats and parade entries were put into three divisions for judging.

The first class was the novelty, The Cuthbert family, of R.R. 2, Acton came in first for their centennial float, depicting life as it was 100 years ago. The Lionettes float was second with Shawn Lambert's entry in third place.

In the business category, the animated Acton School of Dance float came in first, followed by the Gibson entry. The Acton skating club was awarded third spot.

The service club was on by the Y's Men. Second place was held by the Evangel Tabernacle, and the Georgetown majorettes in third spot.

Sunday's recorded attendance was 1593 adults paid at the gate.

There had been 332 cars parked Saturday and 229 Sunday.

All-over increase at the gate was estimated at 15 per cent.

14 rides
There were 14 rides on the midway for happy customers and Happiland Shows was signed up again for next year,

right on the spot. It was considered the best midway ever here. There were 85 employees with the rides and concessions on the grounds, and local people were hired as well.

Extension of horse events to Sunday left more room and time for Saturday's horse events.

The grounds were still packed with the mini-farm a favorite.

Opening
Ontario dairy princess Brenda Trask, Alma, officially opened the fair Friday night, saying bilingual communications between rural and urban people are very important.

She was introduced by Halton Dairy Princess Joyce Wilson of Milton.

Fair president Ken Murray expressed his pride, in his first year, at other firsts: first-time Halton Hills, first reunion of past Queens, first incorporation of Western horses, and the Carlsberg team.

Happy
Participants in Sunday's new Western horse show were very pleased, despite the cold. They had 75 people competing, in 169 categories. They continued till 6 p.m. Top judge Herb Towers was also well satisfied with Acton's new arrangements. The English horse show Saturday was also good. Fiddlers had increased prize money this year and entries were good.
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THE HIGHLIGHT OF this young lady's night on Friday was when the crown was placed on her head. Karen Hillman of Speyside received the honor of being this year's Miss Acton Fall Fair. Ann Luty, last year's winner, places the crown on Karen's head, and holds the robe the queen will wear for the next few days. First runner-up Charlene Hubbell, right, looks on.

Compromise on what Legion pays the town

Halton Hills will receive \$900 in lot levies and an additional \$20,000 in lieu of five percent dedication of park land for the Acton Legion subdivision it was decided at the Monday night administration committee meeting.

The committee rejected the idea of having the 29 lots appraised so as to determine how much Halton Hills should get instead of the five percent of land. They felt the time taken for an appraisal would unnecessarily delay the development and hold back Legion plans.

The subdivision will consist of 29 homes. It is located beside the new Legion hall off Mill St., in Acton.

Mike Brodigan, Woodlands Associates, told the committee that they felt \$11,576 would be appropriate payment instead of the five percent of land.

Councillor Ric Morrow's estimation was in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

"We arrived at the \$11,576 through a standard practice. We subtracted the servicing costs from the construction and took five percent," Brodigan stated.

"Maybe we should take the five percent land and make it into a parkette. That would be about 1.5 lots," committee chairman Roy Booth suggested. He added the town could keep the land and then sell it as a means of getting their rightful share.

"If we don't treat this like any other development everyone will want special privileges. This started out just as a little development for a few veterans. That isn't the case now. This is a money making venture and should be treated as such," Booth said.

Morrow said that he was probably using high figures while the Legion was using low figures. "That's understandable. Let's compromise at \$20,000," he suggested.

Councillor Dick Howitt agreed with compromise and also thought the "Legion suggestion was a little low."

Duby wondered if the town was "like everyone else just out to get their share of the pot" but agreed on the \$20,000 figure.

Brodigan said the land wouldn't be serviced and so not worth as much and they would need approval to sell it from the Ministry of Housing and they probably wouldn't get it.

"We must remember that the new Legion is a great asset to the community, their centennial project, and had full support of this municipality. The subdivision is just a fund raising method for the Legion," Councillor Les Duby said.

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OVERALL PRIZE WINNER in the parade float contest was the Acton school of dance float, depicting the centennial year. Between 8,000 to 10,000 paper flowers were on the float in the design of the centennial symbol. Parts are now at the international plowing match.

List winners

In next week's Free Press, fair prize winners will be listed in the various categories, as well as winners of special awards and the horse shows. These are compiled from the judges' books.

Parking tickets, charges at fair

Acton police said they had no real problem over fair weekend.

Despite their warning, many people parked illegally on Park and Knox however, and about 50 parking tickets were issued on fair days.

There were no incidents at the beer tent or the dance, according to police, and despite the noise everything, in police terms, was "quiet".

Extra police were brought

in to assist the local detachment.

Two plainclothes officers from the O.P.P., anti-gambling branch laid three charges of cheating at play at the midway Saturday night. Two women and one man were charged at the fish pond and dart booths.

They will appear in court Oct. 16.

Night classes start Monday

Night school classes begin next Monday, and continuing registration may bring the total number of classes up to 11. This is a record number of classes for Acton night school.

Registrations are still being taken for some classes on the first nights next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Two yoga classes and the needlework class are already filled. Classes which will take more are Brush Up Your Typing and Office Skills, Men's and Women's Fitness and Recreation, Landscape Design and Horticulture, Off-loom Weaving, Sewing, Book-keeping for Small Business, Interior Design and Decoration, and Typing.

Snow rules coming

A special meeting will be set up with Halton Hills works committee, the Georgetown and Acton Snowmobile clubs, to consider uniform regulation of the machines in the area. Councillors hope to prepare a bylaw on operation of snow vehicles to cover all of Halton Hills.

Georgetown and Acton bylaws are quite similar, except that Acton only permits snow vehicles to be driven in town for "ingress and egress" to out-of-town spots.

Dragway noise—hands tied

Halton Hills administration committee will reluctantly inform residents in the vicinity of Toronto International Dragway there isn't much they can do about the noise. Unless the by-law is violated, and apparently the shut down time is being observed, the town is powerless. They are looking into a new noise by-law which might be able to control noise at the drag strip.

Noise laws soon

Halton Hills administration committee decided to look at anti-noise by-laws which were in use in Georgetown and Acton to guide them in drawing one up for the town. They want a by-law for all of Halton Hills. There were never any noise regulations for Esqueping township.

No regional police takeover here yet

Despite persistent rumors, Halton regional police will not be taking over in Acton Jan. 1. The talk has been going the rounds for three months or so, but Regional Chief Skerrett says "it isn't so. Just rumors."

A feasibility study is being

made of regional policing in Acton and the rural areas, which will be presented to the regional police commission before the end of the year.

There is no way the change-over could be made immediately. Costing will have to be considered especially by

the police commission before the decision is made.

"There'll always be an Acton office," Chief Skerrett assured the Free Press, even if and when the regional police take over here.

Highway 401 will always be policed by the O.P.P.

400 at Legion

Over 400 people attended the open house at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197 on Sunday. Among them were people from all over the country, as well as from the United States.



THE REV. James Smye is the new parish priest at St. Joseph's church.

Halton Hills leads campaign

Towns want responsibility for water, sewer projects

It is almost a year since the 24 men and women elected to serve on Halton's first regional council celebrated election victories. The first year has been one of unrest and disenchantment at the political level.

That disenchantment was underlined Wednesday during the regional council meeting when representatives of Halton Hills Council declared their intention to petition Queen's Park in order that some regional responsibility can be transferred back to the area council level.

The return of sewers and water services would go a long way to making the areas masters of their own destinies as far as residential and industrial growth goes, they said.

As it stands now the region must approve any new water or sewer installations. Oakville Councillor

MacAnderson added fuel to the fire when he said he would ask Oakville Council to follow Halton Hills' lead in the request for the change.

Want staff report

The debate was triggered by the request of the finance and administration committee to have a report on the present and projected staff complement for the public works department.

Public Works Chairman Jack Raftis said the report should be done for all departments. He noted that Children's Aid, Health Unit and other bodies under Community Services Committee were those that should be checked as far as staff goes.

Works committee member Gord Brown suggested a staff organization sheet for that department had been developed and a further

report would be of no use. He supported Raftis' objection.

Anderson said he was fed up with the fancy footwork of the "Mutt and Jeff" team which is anxious to take the heat off the public works department where it properly belongs.

"For the birds" Anderson, obviously angry, said the council was not truly accountable. "This regional government is for the birds. It's a waste of time."

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett sanctioned the proposal to return sewers and water to the area councils. "It's time we got tighter reigns on what is happening. The solicitor brought in a report recommending we take over the world a couple of weeks ago. I'm not prepared to do that," he suggested.

The report he referred to was prepared by solicitor Neil Bates, recommending

regional takeover of several areas not under the region's jurisdiction at the current time.

Following the meeting Morrow said he felt the chances of bringing about the change were very good. Morrow wouldn't elaborate but indicated he had reason to believe the change could be made.

Framework set up

If the proposal materializes the change would necessitate major internal revisions in the Regional Public Works Department. While the department is not yet fully established or prepared to take on all the functions it is responsible for, the framework is there.

That department has had difficulty recruiting personnel from local town staffs. Many of the takeovers have been protested by either municipal bodies or existing agencies.



FRIDAY evening's entertainment at the fair ended with the exciting crowning of Miss Acton Fair, Karen Hilfman. Here, the Hanson-Eaton duo play accordion and violin for the attentive, record-breaking crowd. Former Miss Acton Fairs are seen in the front of the picture. The Friday gate of 2,464 paid admissions -

plus all employees and officials on passes - made a new record and the fair continued in this pattern for its three days. Sunday crowd showed possibilities for other years to the happy but exhausted officials who had been working, exhibiting, hauling, planning, dining and dancing all weekend.