

Police friends, citation declares

We are here to say goodbye to friends, Les Duby said as he gave the traditional citation to the Citizens of the Year.

"These are the fellows we expect to look after us 24

hours a day, seven days a week. We expect them to be kind, courteous and helpful no matter what the circumstances.

"We expect them to catch all the thieves, solve all the

breakins, appear in two seconds at accidents, direct traffic at all the fires, and look after our children, and enforce all the laws—except maybe those parking by-laws.

"These are the men we expect to be in their office at all times in case we phone them. At the same time we expect them to be out on patrol all the time so they don't miss anything.

"As early as 1942, Acton had a one-man highway patrol detachment staffed by Provincial Constable Ray Mason, formerly of Oakville detachment, who was a member of the force motorcycle patrol and used a white patrol car after the war. There was no detachment office here at that time.

On November 1, 1949, police duties in Acton were taken over by the Ontario Provincial Police with a detachment office in the town hall. The detachment was staffed by Provincial Constable J. S. Kay, who is now staff

Superintendent of the Criminal Investigations Branch; Provincial Constable A. A. Forester, who is now Inspector at No. 1 district headquarters, Chatham and Provincial Constable J. A. Wood, who is now a Corporal with the Essex detachment.

"The cost of policing didn't increase any for the town since the municipality qualified for a provincial grant of 25 per cent to cover the cost of police protection.

"It is only in recent years that costs have escalated but much less than in municipalities with private police forces. Acton has had 25 years of most economic operation.

"The municipal policing contracts in 1949 called for salaries of \$2,984 for a corporal and \$2,590 for a constable.

Mr. Duby recalled police constables of years ago Chief MacPherson and Chief Harrop, and paid special tribute to Corp. Ray Mason who came to Acton as detachment

commander in 1950. There were two constables then, and by May 1 of this year there will be eight.

Special aspects of police especially dealing with school children, were mentioned.

"Just as their profession has been special to them, and they are proud of it, so our O.P.P. have been special to us and we are proud of them. The law, as we have known it in Acton has honored us."



THOSE GOOD old days. . . Staff Serg. Cec Gibbons, Grant Allan and Inspector Art Forester reminisce at the Chamber of Commerce dinner.



FIRST INDIVIDUAL plaque was presented to the "silver fox" — Cons. Bruce McArthur. He's been here 13 years.

Education budget is up \$9 million

A budget reflecting an increase of \$9,170,000 for education in Halton was approved by the Halton Board of Education Thursday night. The budget reflects an increase of 17.5 per cent over 1974 actual expenditures. The total budget amounts of \$61,630,374.

That amount excludes the planned \$1,000,000 expansion to the central administration building. That expansion will be paid out of the board's reserve for working funds.

The total expenditure for elementary schools is \$30,004,207, an increase of \$4,426,988 over 1974. The per pupil cost at the elementary level is up to \$1,016.25 or an increase of \$159.94 per pupil.

Secondary level Total costs at the secondary level amount to \$30,726,167, an increase of \$4,752,077 over 1974. Per pupil costs for high school students are up \$194.38 to \$1,576.

Provincial grants will cover 60.33 per cent of the cost this year, compared to 59.26 in 1974. Halton municipalities will pay \$23,804,631 in direct taxes to the board.

Burlington will pay \$10,171,539, Halton Hills \$3,084,940, Milton \$2,078,474 and Oakville \$8,579,978. Those amounts will be altered slightly to reflect the decision of the arbitrators upholding an appeal for Nassagaweya area residents on the 1974 assessment.

The budget was passed with trustee Dick Goodin calling the lone dissenting vote.

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Levy urges

Ban snowmobiles from town streets

Snowmobiles would be banned from all streets in Acton and Georgetown, if a proposal made by Councillor Harry Levy, at Halton Hills council meeting last week is adopted.

Councillor Russell Miller pointed out the snowmobiles would have to be hauled out of town, then probably parked on country roads. "Our roads could be jammed with cars and trailers, since many farms allow snowmobiles to use their property."

Councillor Ernie Sykes pointed out provincial legislation allows snowmobiles to cross highways at right angles, while this suggestion would prohibit it.

"Councillor Levy is saying what people have been afraid to say, that they don't want snowmobiles in urban areas," commented Councillor Ric Morrow. He said he agreed with allowing snowmobiles to cross roads at 90 degree angles, from one open space to another.

Levy stated flatly, "I'm saying no-one should drive on any street in town."

"I hope you're prepared for the storm that's about to break over us," warned Morrow.

Councillor Pat McKenzie termed the proposed amendment "harsh". He said people should be allowed to get to the parks.

Les Duby, Acting Mayor in the absence of Mayor Tom Hill, said ingress and egress should be permitted, but the other conditions should be strictly enforced.

Works chairman Joe Hurst explained the committee took the view that Halton Hills is

not fully urbanized, so snowmobiles should not be banned from town streets. He said the speed limit for snowmobiles is recommended at half the car speed limit, a control the town did not have now, but will have if the draft by-law is passed.

Hurst said the proposed by-law had been drafted after consultation with the police department. He said the by-law should apply over the whole town, not parts of it.

Miller opposed any banning on streets, he said the reduced speed limit would reduce the noise, and urged snowmobiles be given a chance.

Levy emphasized he was not against snowmobiles, in their place, which he contended was not town streets. He said he did not object to them crossing at right angles, and claimed his amendment would not stop this. "I simply don't want them driven along streets."

Levy said he realized the problem was different in the rural areas.

Councillor Dick Howitt said he could support the banning on town streets, but not in the rural areas. He said many of his neighbors have snowmobiles which have caused no problems in his area or any other area in the former township of Esquesing. He said he would support the banning if the rural areas were exempted and the crossing of town roads at right angles was included.

McKenzie pointed out if the amendment passed each snowmobiler would have to own a car, a trailer and a trailer hitch. "It's a bit harsh," he added.

Yielding a point, Levy said he could go along with Howitt's suggestion that the rural areas be exempted.

This amendment was referred back to committee of the whole for further debate.

A clause making a fluorescent safety antenna on all snowmobiles was approved,

for any vehicle travelling on public property or road, as was a clause stating the hours.

The hours of operation are

the same as in the existing by-law, from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m., except Sundays when snowmobiles can't operate until nine in the morning.



ACTON CURLING Club president Brian Robertson presented a cheque for \$1000 to treasurer Bill Cripps at the club's awards night Saturday. The cheque was donated to the club by Ab Robinson and Ted Tyler Jr., who organized the second annual Sun and Fun Bonspiel, which was another great success.

Recommend increase for dog control officer

Dog control officer George Herrington and council's finance and personnel committee came to an agreement on his pay increase at the committee meeting Monday night.

Forwarded to council will be the recommendation Mr. Herrington receive an increase from 63 cents per capita to 76 cents this year, and to 84 cents next year, on a two year contract.

"We need his service and we've been satisfied," commented councillor Pat McKenzie.

Mr. Herrington had requested an increase to 80 cents per capita this year, but councillors felt they couldn't justify such an increase all at once.

Expansion Mr. Herrington explained since his last increase he has hired a full-time man, bought

two new trucks, installed two-way radio hooking into the answering service and doubled the size of the pound.

He has also taken the contract for dog control of Milton, although he explained they only patrol the town proper answering calls only in Nassagaweya.

He now employs two full-time men.

Overtime He explained he has more overtime calls now than before. Since his trucks are patrolling more, more dogs are let loose at nights

resulting in calls to him. His answering service takes over them.

Councillors felt his percentage increase should not exceed that recommended for other departmentments.

Mr. Herrington said he felt he could provide satisfactory service under the proposed new fee structure.

Repair corner

A storm sewer excavation at the corner of Church and John which caved in a week and a half ago was dug out and completely refilled Monday Halton Hills workmen and equipment redug the excavation.

Church St. is being readied for reconstruction. Five or six trees will be cut down.

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Grass, chimney keep men busy

Acton volunteer firefighters were busy over the weekend with two grass fires and a chimney fire.

At 1.15 p.m. on Saturday, the men were called to a fire on the First Line of Acton at the end of the pond. There was no damage other than burnt grass and fire chief Mick Holmes suspects children set the fire. The owner lives in Toronto and was not present at the time.

The second grass fire of the day occurred when J. Gardin, of the Fourth Line, Nassagaweya was burning rubbish. Mr. Holmes noted the cause of the fire was the wind catching the flames and sweeping them across the grass.

A chimney fire at the home of G. Lindvik at the Third Line Erin at 6 p.m. Sunday was the third fire of the week.

end. Firefighters doused the flames before any damage was done.

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Toyota Community Calendar

What's doing in the North Halton Area

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"ANNIVERSARY SERVICE"
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