

Regional faces and facets



MEMBERS OF Halton Region's Planning Department, Steve Hare and Dave McCleary, examine plans currently under study. The region's planning department is currently working on the first region-wide official plan to govern land uses in the region.

With the inception of regional government, many of the services Halton residents once received from their town, city or township councils are now provided from the senior tier of municipal government.

Operation of landfill sites, pollution control plants, day care centres and overall planning functions were assumed by the region and are now handled through the various departments within the region.

All told the region employs 833 full time and 32 part time employees. The largest single employer within the region is Halton Centennial Manor in

Milton with 258 of staff, followed closely by the police department with 253 uniformed and non-uniformed staffers.

Other departments working within the regional concept include the public works department, 158 employees; social and family services 34; legal department 4; treasury, 20; planning 15; clerk's department 14; personnel department 4; health department 99 and the land division committee employs five people.

The services provided by the 865 regional staffers vary widely and range from oper-

ation of pollution control plants in all four area municipalities to day care for pre-school youngsters.

The Social and Family Services Department broadened the services it provided under the region bill to include day care, marriage counselling, household budgeting, and welfare services are among the areas of endeavor that the department engages in. The department is headed by Rennie Vivian.

Planning at the regional level is new for Halton. That department under the leadership of Ed Cumming is currently working on an official

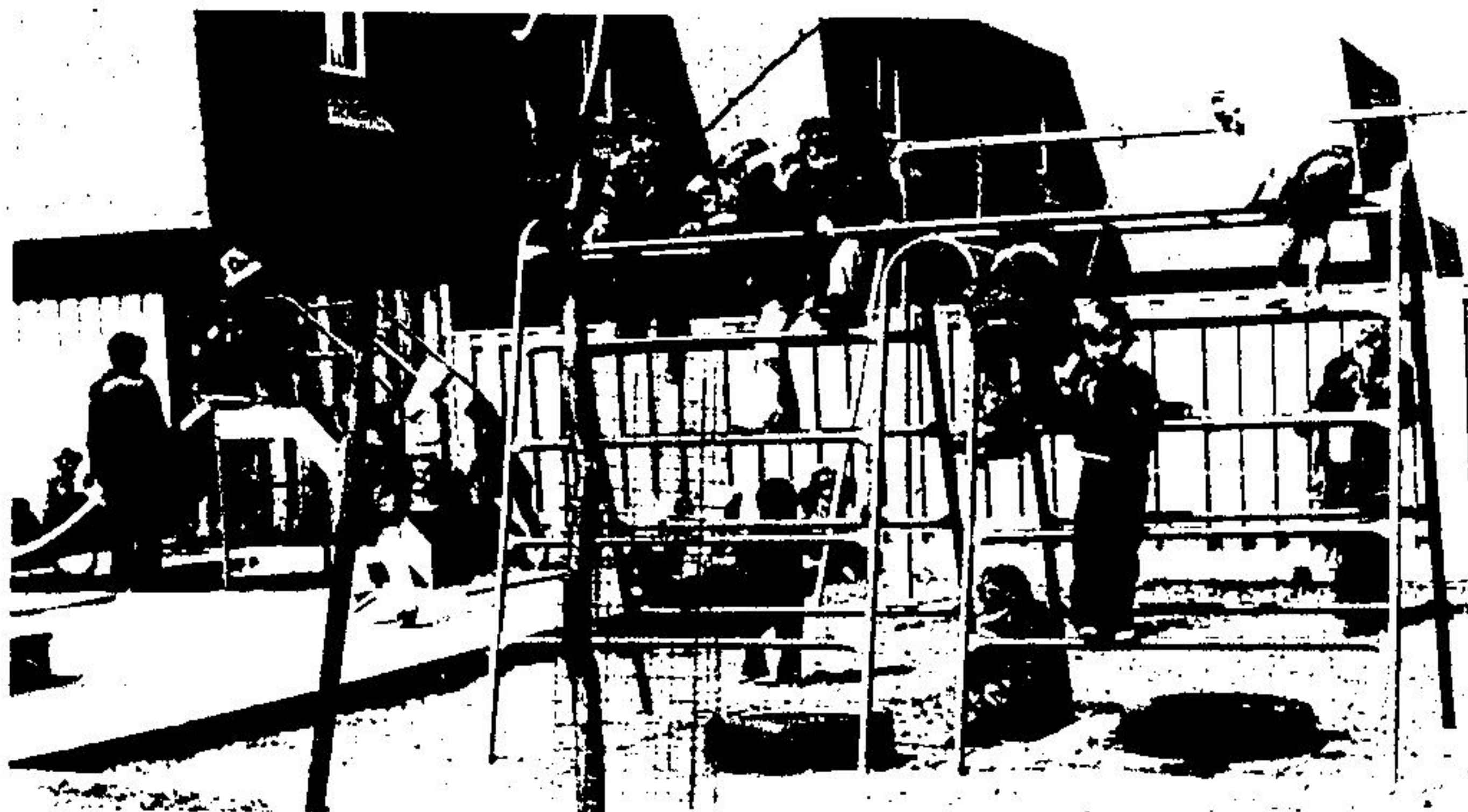
plan to govern land use within the region. The regional plan when completed will address planning problems in more general terms. The regional plan will supercede area plans in areas of conflict but regional planners are optimistic that those conflicts can be ironed out and have the local and regional plans mesh. The document will have far reaching implications on land use within the region.

Subdivision control is another area where the region's planning department has responsibility. Previously plans adopted at the area

level would go directly to Queen's Park for ministerial approval. The province has committed itself to returning some planning powers it now has to the regional level.

Probably one of the toughest areas to assume at the regional level was in the area of public works. That function had previously been split up between a number of agencies operating at the local or area level.

After a year and a half the region has worked out many of the bugs that haunted staffers and politicians in the early days.



DAY CARE is something new for Halton Region's Social and Family Services Department. The municipal day care centre in Oakville was inherited by the region.

The region is currently converting a house in Georgetown into a day care centre. Private home day care centres are being set up throughout the region to meet the growing needs.



REGIONAL PUBLIC WORKS department took over many responsibilities formerly handled at the area level. Bruce Kitchen, a senior design construction supervisor points out upcoming work to draftsman Wayne Cook.

Serving
Halton
in many
ways



MUSEUM CURATOR Erla Brittain heads up the operation of Halton Region Museum. The

museum is situated at Kelso Conservation area.



ACTIONS OF THE REGIONAL staffers are guided by Halton Region's 25 person council. Councillors meet twice a month in regular council and twice a month in committees to formulate policy for the region.

RONA BIHUN HEADS up a staff of four people working in the land division office at regional headquarters. As secretary manager she reports to a committee of nine people who sit as a quasi-judicial body. Last year the committee dealt with 577 applications for separations.