

The Acton Free Press

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New federal boundaries

Would sever Halton Hills

A severed Halton Hills is proposed in federal electoral boundary changes released this week by an independent commission. Acton would remain in a largely Halton area and Georgetown would be lumped in with Caledon, the Town of Vaughan and the Township of King.

Halton Region would have a riding that would include all of Burlington plus a second riding that would include the Town of Oakville, the Town of Milton plus Acton and part of the former Esquesing area of the present town of Halton Hills.

The Georgetown area would be placed in a Peel-Halton riding that would include the north east of Esquesing plus Caledon, Vaughan and King.

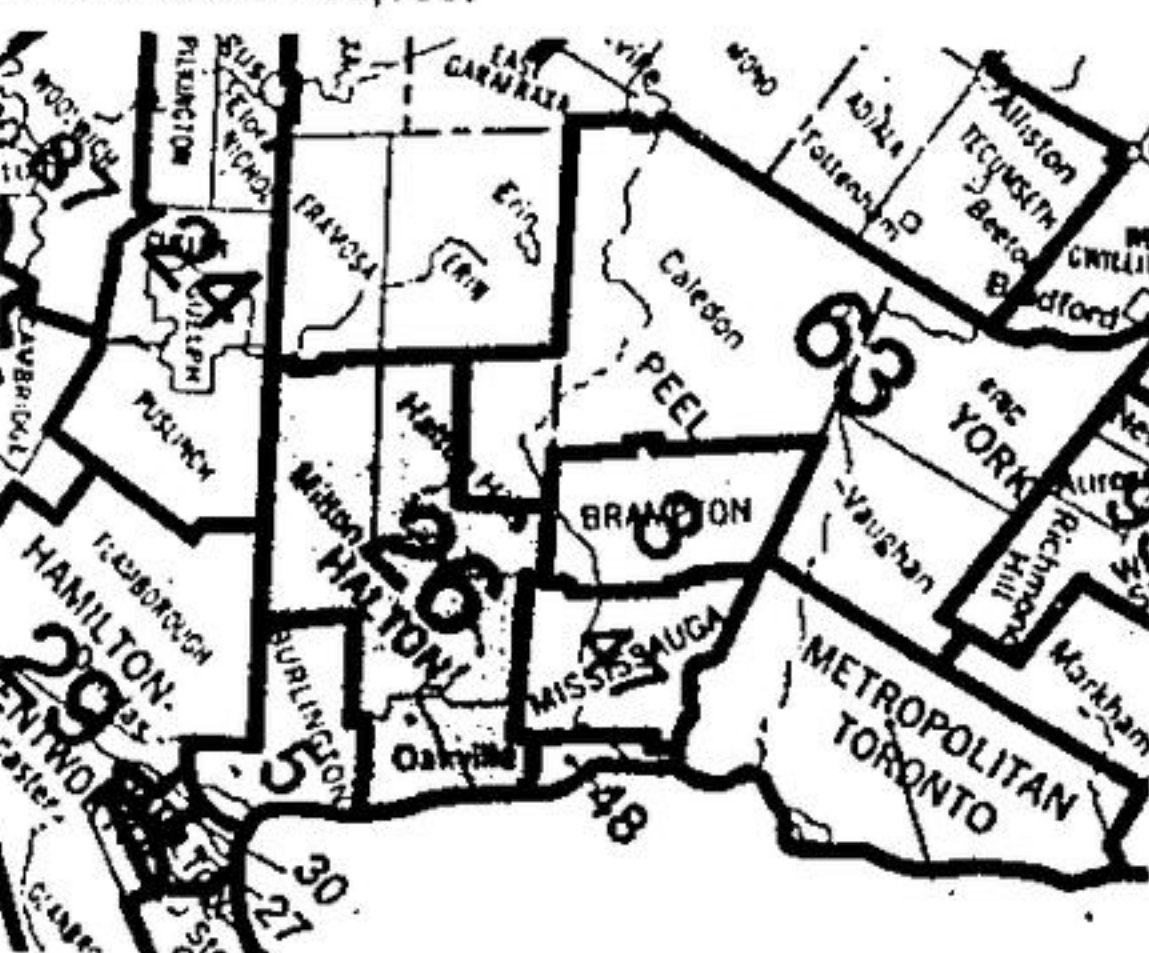
The newest revision would give Ontario 95 MPs, seven more than at present, as determined in accordance with the provisions of section 51 of the British North America Act as amended and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act as amended.

The proposed changes coming in the midst of an Ontario election campaign have already been criticized for confusing voters in the September 18 election where completely different riding boundaries are being used for the first time.

Halton Hills is completely in the new Halton-Burlington riding in the provincial.

Progressive Conservative candidate Gary Dawkins has branded the timing as confusing.

The population breakdown for the new ridings is: Burlington—86,113, Halton—82,679, and Peel-Halton—66,790.



Proposed changes in local federal election ridings

At present, Halton Region is located in two federal ridings.

Liberal MP Dr. Frank Philbrook of Oakville represents Halton riding which includes the Town of Oakville, urban Milton, former Esquesing, Acton and Georgetown. Erin and Erin Township are in too.

Halton-Wentworth riding, represented by Tory MP Bill Kempling of Dundas, includes the City of Burlington, former Nassagaweya, and extends westward into Hamilton-Wentworth Region.

The proposed changes have been drawn up by the Federal

Electoral Boundaries Commission of Ontario. Chairman of the body is Mr. Justice Campbell Grant of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Public sittings on the proposed changes are to be held across Ontario.

Interested Halton residents can appear in Toronto on Oct. 6 at 9:30 a.m. Such persons must notify the secretary of the commission in writing if they plan to make personal representation. This must be done within three weeks.

The secretary, Brian McCoil, has an office at Room 301, 25 St. Clair Ave. East, Toronto.

Will cause confusion

Commenting on the proposed federal riding boundary changes, Halton-Burlington Conservative candidate Gary Dawkins said he felt the announcement at this time would cause even more confusion than that which already exists provincially.

He noted that the changes in the ridings locally caused some confusion and that's natural. "There's no federal election for three years, it seems so unnecessary."

Asked to comment while in Milton Tuesday afternoon, Ontario Premier Bill Davis

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LOVELY KAREN HILFMAN, Miss Acton Fair, took part in the Sweetheart of the Fairs contest along with 83 other fair Queens for the Miss CNE title held opening day. The contest was rained from the bandshell and moved into the coliseum where it concluded with a flow of glory for Miss Massey Fair, the new Miss CNE, Miss Erin, Brooke Miller, and Miss Halton, Connie Course, also competed.

On September 1

Acton and Esquesing will be Division Ten

Midnight, September 1, the Halton Regional Police will be extending their services into Acton and Esquesing.

For the past several years, these areas have been policed by the Acton O.P.P. in the town and Milton O.P.P. in rural areas.

Staff Sergeant Bernard Ward will be in charge of Division Ten (Acton and Esquesing) with Georgetown being the District headquarters, North Halton, including Acton, Esquesing, Georgetown, and the old town of Milton will be called District one. Georgetown will be Division 11 and Milton Division 12. Regional headquarters will be in Oakville.

Nassagaweya will still come under the jurisdiction of the Milton O.P.P.

In addition to Staff Sergeant Ward, there will be

11 constables in Division 10 located in Acton. Transferred from Division 11 of District one (Georgetown), will be Rod Donaldson and Tom Rodueck. Burrell Galling comes to Acton with nine years experience on the Burlington police force and one year with the Halton Regional police. Constables Allen Dayack, Derek Marshall, Barry Holland, Alex Pearce, Bruce Lindsay and Michael Michalski have all had previous experience with the Metro Toronto police force. Edward Carlstrom comes from the Hamilton police and William Piper was an O.P.P. officer.

"These men are not rookies," Staff Sergeant Ward said. "There will be one common telephone number for all people in District one to call

when in need of police aid. The number 878-5511, was the only exchange toll free to all areas in the Halton Regional police coverage area, including Oakville and Burlington. These calls go to Oakville, where the message is relayed to the specific district and division.

Staff Sergeant Ward commented that he would like anyone calling to give as much information as possible and the exact location in order to help the investigating officers. In this way, service can be speeded up.

Staffing the first shift of police officers on September 1 will be Constables Holland and Michalski. Staff Sergeant Ward will be there for a while to make sure everything is running smoothly.



GARY DAWKINS, Tory candidate in Halton-Burlington riding, was warmly greeted by Premier Bill Davis at mid-afternoon Tuesday when the leader of the Ontario Conservatives stepped down from his campaign bus in Milton.

Dr. Philbrook puzzled

Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook is just as confused about new proposed federal electoral boundaries in Halton as most of the public.

In an interview late Tuesday afternoon Dr. Philbrook said he plans to investigate thoroughly what has been done to his riding.

"I haven't really had time to study what has been done to my riding. All I know so far is what I have seen in the paper and using my old riding map, I haven't been able to figure out what I've lost exactly," he complained.

When informed that he had lost Georgetown and the part of his riding which is in Wellington County, he said he would complain to the Electoral Boundary Commission.

Disappointed "I am very disappointed about losing Georgetown and some of Esquesing township. I wanted to keep all of Halton Hills in my riding along with Milton and Oakville. Halton Hills should be all together in

one riding," Dr. Philbrook said.

He noted that he had expected to lose Erin and the parts of his riding in Wellington but was surprised to lose Georgetown.

Halton's MP said he only knew what he saw in the daily press advertisements on Tuesday and that MPs weren't given prior warning of the boundary changes.

"At one time I heard I would lose everything north of Highway 5 and that was later changed to everything north of Highway 401. I had also heard I would keep Georgetown and Milton and lose Acton. As I said, I knew I would lose Erin and I thought maybe Acton, but not Georgetown," he explained.

Further north Describing the entire matter as "puzzling" Dr. Philbrook said he didn't think keeping Acton but losing Georgetown made sense since Acton is further north. "I love this riding and the people in it. I hate to lose any

part of it. One thing, it will be easier to get around the riding now."

In reaction to reports that provincial officials are upset about the announcement because it further confuses voters during an election, Dr. Philbrook said the announcement was merely coincidental. He noted federal boundary changes have been announced in British Columbia and Quebec and Tuesday was simply the day for the announcement for Ontario.

He said he now has 30 days to complain to the commission taking care of boundary changes and that after further study he will lodge a complaint.

Dr. Philbrook said he doesn't hold out much chance of a change in the commission's decision, even after his complaints have been heard. He says the commission takes the complaints into consideration but doesn't often change its mind.

Karen Hilfman attends Miss CNE competition

Miss Karen Hilfman of R.R. 4, Acton, Miss Acton Fair, travelled to the Canadian National Exhibition on

opening day last Wednesday to compete for the title of Miss C.N.E. along with 83 other Ontario Fair Queens.

Miss Connie Course of Milton, Miss Halton, and Brooke Miller, Miss Erin, also participated in the event. Janet Ann Kennedy of Massey Fair

garnered the title and the honors which were awarded the first place contestant.

Reports from the local contingent were that they enjoyed the two days at the C.N.E. no matter the outcome. None of the area girls were chosen in the top 12 finalists.

Karen Hilfman said she had a wonderful time and the trip was fantastic. The C.N.E. paid all expenses except the travel to and from the fairgrounds.

The girls arrived at the exhibition Tuesday morning.

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Town shocked by councillor's death

Halton was shocked and saddened this week by the sudden death from a heart attack of Len Cox, in Peel Memorial Hospital, late Monday afternoon.

Mr. Cox, 56, was well-known as a councillor for Halton Hills and also at Halton Regional council.

He first entered politics as an Esquesing councillor in 1971, and was elected deputy reeve in 1973.

With the advent of regional government, Mr. Cox was elected as councillor for Ward 2, (formerly Esquesing town-

ship), and was acclaimed regional councillor for that ward.

Two authorities

He served on the Halton Hills works committee and was chairman in 1974. He was also a member of the public works committee at the region. In addition he served on both Credit Valley Conservation Authority and Halton Region Conservation Authority. At the time of his death he was vice-chairman of HRCA.

He was a member of Hillcrest United Church, a past master of Campbell Masonic Lodge, and member of Georgetown Masonic Lodge.

Mr. Cox just recently was licensed as a real estate salesman, with an Oakville company.

Tributes from fellow councillors and staff are numerous. Mayor Tom Hill described him as a dedicated councillor who always had the interest of the town at heart. "He worked hard at the Region for the expansion of Georgetown sewage disposal plant, and for the extension of water to Norval, and was dedicated to the position he held."

Would go to bat At the regional level, he was respected as a driving force in the fight against

landfill sites in the north, and was known to both press and fellow councillors as one who would go to bat for "the little guy."

"A good councillor and friend," was Councillor Ernie Sykes' sorrowful comment.

"An asset to council who will be sorely missed," commented Councillor Les Duby.

Ernie Reid, Chief Administration Officer for Halton Region, said, "I found Len Cox to be a very conscientious councillor for the region. He was very personable and everyone seemed to like him. He was very aware of people and their concerns. Some of the staff took it pretty badly, we're going to miss him."

"Backbone"

Brock Harris, chairman of Halton Region Conservation Authority, described him as "the backbone of the Authority, with a strong concern for conservation."

Mr. Cox farmed for many years at his home on the Seventh Line and 10 Sideroad, and later operated a painting and decorating business. He was the second councillor to die of a heart attack in the first term of regional government for the area. Graham Ripley of Georgetown died before he could assume his elected office in Halton Hills.

Adjourns

Halton Hills council met Monday night but adjourned immediately in shocked silence upon hearing of the death of Councillor Len Cox.

Fast trains no problem here

Halton Hills works committee decided there aren't any problems with high speed rail lines in the populated areas of town.

The town has been invited to send a representative to a special meeting in August in Mississauga to discuss safety measures along high speed rail lines. Halton Hills won't be represented at the meeting.

Free Press Canada-wide winner

In Canada-wide competition The Acton Free Press was this year presented with two major awards, one for the best all-round newspaper, and one for the best front page. The presentations took place last week at Saskatoon, during the annual convention of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association.

The Free Press was entered in the class for newspapers in the circulation category of 2,500 to 3,999.

The Gertrude A. Dunning Memorial trophy was presented for the best all round category. Competition officials described this year's classes as having the highest entry on record. There were 542 entries in all the categories.

For the best front page, The Free Press was awarded the Fort Erie Times - Review award. Other winners in the annual competition,

sponsored by the national newspaper association, were The Canadian Champion, Milton, which won the best all-round trophy in its circulation category and The Independent, Georgetown, which placed second in its circulation category for tabloid newspapers. The three papers are printed at the Acton plant of Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. Milton Publisher Jim Dills was in Saskatoon to receive the awards. Son Steven Dills accepted the award for the Georgetown paper from the Rt. Hon. John Diefenbaker who made some of the presentations, following a luncheon address to the convention.

Other Halton winners included The Oakville Beaver and the Burlington Post which took second and third in their circulation category for tabloid newspapers.



COUNCILLOR LEN COXE

Environmental Board touring route lands

Members of the Environmental Hearing Board began two or three days of tours of lands affected by the Bradley Junction to Georgetown 500 kV Hydro corridor Tuesday.

The board, which concluded 10 days of hearings into the proposed hydro line route in Hillsburgh in August

will be visiting a number of properties which the line crosses. The land being viewed by the board will include farm land.

Board secretary Tom Murphy was reluctant to discuss the tour since the hydro line question is still before the board but noted the board is touring the lands to "get a first hand look at what what was discussed at the hearings."

He said the board is going alone and wish to remain as inconspicuous as possible. Neither representatives of Ontario Hydro or the

Interested Citizens Group have been invited to tour with the board.

Murphy pointed out many things were discussed at the hearings and many witnesses urged the board to take a look at the property under discussion.

He said he didn't know how many pieces of property the board would inspect and wasn't sure if the tours would take two or three days.

Earlier this year Energy Minister Dennis Timbrell ordered the board to examine 22 miles of the proposed hydro corridor.

Three men die over weekend

Two Beardmore employees and another man who once worked for the company died over the weekend, two of them accidentally.

Arthur Galbraith, 42, a forklift operator in the beam house, died in Guelph General Hospital from a previous illness. Surviving him are a wife and five children who live at 301 Main St. S. in Acton.

John Henry Walker, 18, who worked in the maintenance department and was from Orton, Ontario, was killed Saturday night at 11 p.m. when his motorcycle struck a barrier at the Guelph-Falkington township line intersection.

The third, a former Beardmore employee, 33-year-old Anthony Kri, was drowned in Wasaga Beach on Sunday. He leaves a wife and a family on Longfield Rd. in Acton.