



PAM MITCHELL made a submission on behalf of Georgetown's branch of Pollution Probe to the mid-escarpment committee meeting of the Niagara Escarpment Commission in Caledon. Probe called for the preservation of the Bruce Trail as

a permanent park. The submission endorsed the NEC development control areas, and asked the commission to make a minimum of compromises when permanent plans are set for the escarpment.

## Escarpment commission hears brief at Caledon

Minor changes in the border lines of the Niagara Escarpment Commission's (NEC) development control area may be made, a NEC official says.

L. Symmes, chairman of the mid-escarpment committee, said some of the land in the control area is not included because of geographic or environmental reasons. "There are some cases where land is included for administrative reasons," Mr. Symmes said.

"I'm not saying changes will be made, but it is possible," the chairman told a public meeting held in the Caledon council room Tuesday, Nov. 25.

One of a series of meetings, one of a series, is to give the public opportunity to make presentations and comments concerning the mid-escarpment which takes in Dufferin and Halton counties. Similar meetings were conducted last week to the north of the middle section. Forty people took every seat in the council chamber.

The mid-escarpment committee's next meeting will be in the Milton council chamber Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Symmes made his comments concerning the possible changes in the size of the development control area following a request by Yvonne Christie on behalf of Ken Easley who wants an exemption from the NEC's area for the east half of lot 27 concession 4 of Halton Hills, just east of Acton.

Mr. Easley's representative asked why "both lot 27 in concessions 5 and 6 in Esquesing" were also included in the commission's plans.

Reading from a prepared statement the representative said: "It would appear that there are very few half township lots included in the NEC plan, that is south west in a half lot in concession 4 of Nassagaweya, northeast half of lot 26, concession 4 and southeast half lot 15, in concession 1 of Esquesing."

Mr. Easley's property was described as a 100-acre farm "reasonably good and without any features common to escarpment brow property."

Acting commissioner Ivor McMullin advised Mr. Easley's representative to approach Halton Hills council about an alteration in the development control area. "Halton Hills will make submissions to NEC, and we submit them to the minister, who may with recommendations release land from the control area," Mr. McMullin told the meeting.

The Easley request for an exemption from NEC control was typical of approximately half of the dozen submissions heard by the committee. Procedural questions and endorsements from groups and individuals took up the rest of the 3 1/2 hour meeting.

The NEC is responsible for two areas, a planning area from the Niagara River north to the Bruce Peninsula, and a smaller development area contained within the 2,000 sq. mile planning section.

NEC is regulating the development control area until a Master Plan, expected next year, is completed. New building projects and alterations to existing structures require a permit from the NEC.

Pollution Probe made a presentation to the commission on behalf of Pollution Probe, Georgetown. She called for the preservation of

the Bruce Trail as a permanent park. The submission asked if the commission was considering granting easements, with a reduction in municipal taxes, into the park were being considered.

The submission claimed that "Quiet recreation" was the only "compatible use", and that trail bike and snowmobiles counter the intentions of the park system.

Pollution Probe's submission generally endorsed the NEC and urged it to make the minimum of compromises when permanent plans are considered.

Borrow land

Hildegard Ardal, of Glen Williams, added her name to eight others in a submission supporting the NEC, and also made a separate presentation of behalf of Beth Mathiasen of Georgetown.

In a generally philosophical approach to the commission the Glen Williams woman said she did not believe people own the land—"We just borrow, or have the use of the land."

"I don't believe we are free to do with the land as we see fit," she said.

When pressed for a comment on government versus private control of land she said: "We don't like too many restrictions by government, it goes against individual rights, but if it has to be, then I'm in favor."

Would develop

The committee also heard from Hamish Harrison, a chartered accountant, on behalf of four owners of 524 acres near Milton. Mr. Harrison distributed copies of a 17-page exhibit detailing a request for release from NEC control area so that the land might be developed.

The committee reserved a decision on the request concerning lands north and south of Derry Road, on the west side of the CNR line, on the east side of Tremaine Road.

Mr. Harrison said that inclusion of the land in the development control area has "seriously affected" the value.

Committee member J. Boeckh said that Mr. Harrison should first determine if the town of Milton would accept the land once it was

released by NEC.

Mr. Harrison said it was his understanding that Milton council favored such a move.

Milton mayor Anne MacArthur, also a NEC committee member, countered Mr. Harrison's description of the subject land as flat. "You're still in the foothills," Mayor MacArthur said.

G. W. Adams, a director of Caledon Ratepayers, asked the NEC to join with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) and ask the Ministry of Natural Resources to amend a quarry company's site plan to put a hopper conveyor belt across the Credit River.

Mr. Adams also called for the withdrawal of all gravel quarry licences, so they could be renegotiated taking into consideration environmental concerns.

Martin Sernas called for a streamlining of the commission's apparatus for approving projects. Mr. Sernas pointed out that developers invest in a plan, which may not work out. "We have to present detailed applications, consult engineers, and landscapers—

it all costs money", Mr. Sernas said.

Mr. Sernas suggested that a decision on the principle of a project be given by commission staff members before developers go ahead with costly studies.

Even if the staff turns down a proposed project, Mr. Sernas asked that developers appear before the commission to plead a project's merits.

Mr. Sernas said that people opposed to a developer's idea could appear before a public hearing.

Mr. Boeckh, a committee member, said there was no appeal in the NEC process because it was an advising board only. "We are a commenting agency," he said. "So the point about the appeal doesn't apply."

A substantial part of Mr. Johnson's speech was directed towards his own riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Peel. He spoke of the high percentage of senior citizens in the area.

Mr. Johnson stated that "agriculture is the backbone of our area and must be preserved". He said that "the retention of the family farm must remain a high priority and policies should be continued and improved to assist the farmers to survive against ever increasing costs of production."

Mr. Johnson supported the government's intention "to reaffirm Sundays and holidays as days of restricted commercial activity". He said that we should not expect small businesses to operate on Sundays because "most of them cannot afford the extra costs of operating seven days a week". Their increased costs "will subsequently be passed on to consumers."

Mr. Johnson called for better rail and bus facilities in his area. He said that he would personally like to see "the establishment of GO trains from Toronto to Guelph and from Toronto to Shelburne—with connecting lines linking up the smaller communities."

In order to encourage tourism in his area, Mr. Johnson asked that more consideration be given to the concept of family farm vacations.

Mr. Johnson expressed his concern over gravel quarries in his riding, stating that "the consequences of these operations include noise, pollution and extensive use of highways". He said that "much thought and planning must go into this very controversial issue."

Despite numerous appeals and several phone calls board officials answer officially they are not sure of how many they should print, and the costing, so therefore it is premature to issue any.

Meanwhile, Interested Citizens from this area, concerned that like the account of creation in Genesis, the board chairman's three days are allegorical, wonder how long it will really take to procure them. In fact they are disturbed because it seems the Environmental Hearing board has its report of the hearings prepared except for evaluation, revisions and editing before printing. The area group envisions a report before they get transcripts.

How does an organization squeeze transcripts out of the Environmental Hearing Board, promised at recent Hillsburgh hearings concerning the 500 kv hydro corridors proposed to zipper through Halton Hills?

That's what the Interested Citizens group, asking for an independent study of the proposed corridor from Milton to Bradley Junction, is asking these days. All their efforts to get transcripts of the hearings have so far been futile. They wouldn't feel so bad but board chairman D. S. Caverley promised they would be available about three days after hearings ended.

Rotarians reported a grand total of about \$1,400 in their campaign for the arthritis association this fall.

**\$1400 in drive**

**No transcripts of hearings**

**No transcripts of hearings**

## Continue dump debate OMB to hear Raftis offers no help drive-in case

Haltion Region's Public Works Committee will consider the fate of the Nassagaweya area dump at a meeting in the near future.

The dump has been ordered closed by the Ministry of the Environment. Officials of that ministry have described the site as a potential pollution hazard and have complained that the site has not been operated in accordance with ministry regulations.

To operate the dump for another year and meet ministry standards would cost \$43,000. Ministry officials have suggested use of a transfer bin that would cost \$17,000 per year.

Too expensive

Regional Public Works chairman Jack Raftis told a committee meeting Wednesday that both proposals were too expensive and the region should not be a party to either plan.

If the site is closed and nothing is provided in its place, some residents would have to travel as far as 20 miles to dump refuse at the Georgetown sanitary landfill site.

Milton Councillor Russ Powadiuk and Mayor Anne MacArthur have asked the committee to consider paying a carrier to dump refuse at the Georgetown site instead of the Nassagaweya site.

Not our job

Raftis balked at that suggestion, noting the area council—not the region—was responsible for transportation of garbage. The region is responsible for the operation of landfill sites only.

He said there were several instances throughout the region where rural residents had to pay to have their garbage hauled and dumped wherever a site was available.

After some discussion, staff was instructed to prepare a report on how much it would cost to have Allan Ferrier haul residential garbage from their homes to Georgetown instead of the Nassagaweya site.

Final Ontario Municipal Board hearings over the proposed drive in theatre in the Ashgrove area of Halton Hills will be held in the Halton Hills council chambers on the Seventh Line December 8 and possibly go on to December 10, if necessary.

Two previous attempts by the OMB to settle the issue were resulted in disavowments.

## Town juggles funds for change rooms

New change rooms at Georgetown Fairgrounds Park will still be built but it required a little shuffling of funds by Halton Hills council Monday to do it.

Last week administration committee suggested the town get provincial permission to spend \$32,300 on the project and the remaining \$5,566 comes from this year's

recreation budget. Councillor Harry Loy said \$16,500 is budgeted for the project already and rather than wait for Ontario Municipal Board permission to spend the rest of the money the town should take it out of the lot levies fund.

It was noted the town must move on the changeroom project since the municipality got a good price for the work.

## \$100,000 decrease

The Ministry of Natural Resources is asking Halton Region Conservation Authority to operate for 1976 with a decreased budget of \$100,000.

HICA proposed a 1976 budget of \$568,950, an increase of \$122,000 over this year. This represents a 27.5 per cent increase, of which 20.2 per cent is attributed to inflation.

according to HICA manager Murray Stephen.

"With a decrease of \$100,000 we will be forced to release administrative staff, cut per diems, close the office, stop committee meetings, cut insurance and not pay our taxes," Stephen told the Authority Thursday night.

## First speech

Jack Johnson, recently elected M.P.P. for Wellington-Dufferin-Peel, delivered his first speech to the Legislative Assembly speaking in support of the motion to adopt the Speech from the Throne.

Referring to his predecessor in the Legislature, Mr. Johnson said that John Root was "one of Ontario's finest and most sincere public servants". He said that Mr. Root "served this House, and served the people of our riding well for 24 years, and his diligence and hard work will be greatly missed."

A substantial part of Mr. Johnson's speech was directed towards his own riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Peel. He spoke of the high percentage of senior citizens in the area.

Mr. Johnson stated that "agriculture is the backbone of our area and must be preserved". He said that "the retention of the family farm must remain a high priority and policies should be continued and improved to assist the farmers to survive against ever increasing costs of production."

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Ric Near

## Wins \$400 on Grey Cup

Rick Near, R.R. 2 Acton, is the lucky winner of the \$400 top prize in the Georgetown Lions Club Grey Cup Draw.

Lion Peter DeLillo of Masson Motors, sold him the winning ticket. Mr. Near also works at Masson Motors. At present the lucky winner says he has no plans for his windfall.

Another Acton resident, Pearl Baker, 59 Mowbray Place, won \$75 for the third quarter score, while Joan Maddock, Burlington won \$50 and Henry Helfant, of Henry's Clothing Store won \$25 for the first quarter score.

## Theft

A break in and theft at the taxi stand was reported to police. A sum of money was missing.

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Mr. F. L. BURKE will be in Georgetown, Friday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon.  
In Acton, Friday, December 5th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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**We also wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**SYLVIA MAGES**  
Acton Y.B.C. Program Director

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