

# Arenas lose \$100,000

The three arenas in Halton Hills ran at a combined loss of over \$100,000 in 1975, a report from Recreation Director Glen Gray revealed at Halton Hills administration.

The report was not made public but Councillor Ric Morrow pointed it out. He said at the rates projected for 1976-77 season the loss would be \$80,000 this year.

Councillor Roy Booth said the increase recommended by the recreation director would up the town's coffers by \$300 a week or \$15,600 a year.

Councillor Harry Levy, appearing at the committee in his capacity of chairman of the Kinsmen Bantam Tournament, said he had no quarrel with an increase in rates for normal use of the arena, but contended the bantam tournament did not fall in that category.

Recreation Director Glen Gray pointed out it's ultimately a council decision, whether to run arenas at a loss or have the people who use the arenas pay enough to cover operating costs.

Levy explained the entry for each team in the bantam tournament is \$40, an increase of five dollars over last year.

According to Levy's letter presented to council, the proposed rates in the recrea-

tion director's report show an average increase of 21 per cent.

Levy said he would not object to out-of-town groups paying a rate to cover costs, but suggested minor sports and other local groups should "Other people may not get the same chance."

Levy claimed the prime have their \$1 per capita grant upped if the rates are upped.

He said the organizers are local residents giving freely of their time, without whom the town would need to hire people to provide the same leadership. "The costs would be a great deal higher."

He equated the argument of the users paying for the facility with childless couples paying school taxes.

Levy claimed the increased rates would mean an extra cost of \$2,800 to the bantam tournament, out of a total budget of \$5,000. He pointed out one of the objects is to provide cheap entertainment for the youngsters in town during the holiday week.

"This tournament, under its existing form and costs has done more for the promotion of the town than any other activity," stated the letter. He claimed businesses in town benefit.

Levy said any profits left over are turned over to the arena, and cited \$300 to help

equip the First Aid room. He said the canteen derives 25 per cent of its first quarter's revenue in the one week of the bantam tournament.

He said the Kinsmen could absorb a small upward adjustment, "but more than 700 per cent is impossible."

Levy said he was fortunate in that he saw the recreation directors' recommendations, time charge every day after 9 a.m. was not normal.

Booth said the recreation director recommends the taxpayers should be liable for any capital construction, but once constructed should pay fees comparable with the maintenance costs. He said, "It behooves us to decide what philosophy we wish to recommend to council."

He said another philosophy is to completely subsidize everyone, while another tries to strike a happy medium.

Booth reminded the committee of the vast services provided by volunteers to the community, which would have to be replaced by paid staff.

Chairman Les Doby said the recreation director had been asked to make what amounts to an internal audit and he had done it. "It's up to us to rationalize what can be done". He said he would like both the recreation director's and Levy's report studied, and would like some information about the method used in other areas.

He said he felt there was room for flexibility, but said \$100,000 was too much to put on the taxpayers' shoulders.

"We'll have to investigate the advantages of having tournaments against the cost."

The committee recommended both reports be held over and the recreation director be asked to submit a report on the method used by other municipalities in assessing recreation costs.



EMPLOYEES OF the Bank of Montreal wear roses from the Heart Fund Drive. Douglas Dawson, Mrs. Wendy Kamel and Mrs. Marion Storey pin the flowers to their lapels as a form of advertising for the Heart Fund. February is Heart month, and canvassers will be knocking on doors for donations. Roses have been placed in all the banks and several stores in town as a form of contribution to the fund.

# Garbage report tabled today

An interim report assessing advantages and disadvantages of 11 sites identified as possible landfill sites is scheduled to go before Halton Region Council's Public Works Committee today.

Of the 11 sites being considered a site at Tremaine Rd. and Britannia Rd. is rating high on the list of possible sites.

The validity of a land fill site there is being challenged by both the residents of the area and the Halton Federation of Agriculture. The main objection rests with the idea that the land is prime agricultural land.

The Milton Brick site has been considered as a possible site to handle construction rubble and dry waste. If that site is used the major site or sites for domestic life could expect a longer lifespan.

The interim report is being treated as a confidential document until it has been presented to the committee this afternoon.

Wally Wells of M. M. Dillon Engineering is one of the authors of the report and he has said that the report will not make recommendations as to which site or how many sites should be used.

What the report will do is point out the advantages and the tradeoffs that will be

required for council to take action on any particular site or sites.

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# Town can't afford new grader in 76

Halton Hills is going to repair two old graders rather than buy a new one the works committee council decided Monday. The cost of a new one was considered unaffordable.

Engineer Robert Austin reported this week two graders, one manufactured in 1960, and another in 1964, both require repairs costing more than \$10,000 each.

He said the 16 year-old grader is used only during the winter for snow plowing and the town really only needs three graders.

Austin suggested the town could get \$13,000 for the two broken down graders on a trade-in and then pay about \$50,000 for a new one. He said if a new one was going to be bought the decision should be made soon since it would be needed next winter and graders sometimes take eight months to arrive.

He said the accepted lifetime of a grader is 13 years if kept in repair can last forever.

The committee thought considering the belt tightening the town must do this year a new grader shouldn't be bought. Instead the 1964 machine will be completely fixed and the possibility of repairing the 1960 grader will be examined. Both machines need new engines, tires and other parts.

The 16 year-old grader has had its engine rebuilt six times and the committee wants to know if an entirely new engine can be installed even if major modifications must be made to the machine.

The councillors thought it would be a good idea to get the 1960 grader fixed since there would be a spare machine in case any of the other three break down.

The Ministry of Housing has approved an \$81,000 grant to the Region of Halton for a housing study under the Ontario Housing Action Program.

The Region requested the grant to help with a housing study for the area, which will include employment, income and other economic factors, which will be taken into account in the overall regional official plan.

The preparation of a housing policy statement at the regional level is the most satisfactory method of ensuring that local housing targets are integrated with provincial housing objectives," said Housing Minister John Rhodes.

OHP hopes to speed up home building in selected areas and encourage the building of homes for moderate income families.

The housing study is one of several segments for Halton's Official Plan.

# O.P.P. patrols reduced in austerity program

Problems with police service provided in Halton by the OPP will be caused by a shortage of manpower, Halton Regional Police Commission learned this week.

Last month the Police Commission received a letter from the OPP warning the force wasn't going to be exempt from Queen's Park's austerity program and "there is a possibility that we will not be able to provide the same level of service as we have in the past."

Regional Chairman and Police Commissioner Allan Masson followed up on the OPP warning in an effort to find out what kind of cut back in services the OPP was considering in Halton.

OPP Deputy Commissioner J. L. Erskine answered "the shortage of three members in Milton Detachment will reduce to a small degree the number of patrols in that portion of the Town of Milton that we are policing on your behalf."

Erskine said in his letter to Masson that the reduction of services warning was sent to many municipalities and referred "to the fact because of a shortage of manpower many of our detachments are short one to three members."

Police Chief Kenneth Skerrett said he has informed District One Commander Superintendent Floyd Schwartz of the problem and asked him to keep his men available to help the OPP. He noted Halton Regional Police officers in North Halton will be able to stand by at the scene of a crime or accident until the OPP arrives since there may be delays in the OPP responding to calls because of reduced strength.

The usual mid-winter building slump is reflected in January permits totalling \$162,350.

Last year January was only slightly better, with \$205,760 in permits issued.

Three house permits were purchased at a total of \$106,500. Alterations, fences, and signs accounted for the remainder.

The town collected \$438 in permit fees.

# Request for \$1,500 made at meeting

A request for \$1,500 from the town of Halton Hills was made in a brief submitted by the Interested Citizens Group at the Finance and Personnel meeting Monday.

The group is opposed to the proposed north-south hydro corridor from Bradley to Georgetown. They had previously revealed at a hearing in Hillsburgh their legal fees bill would be \$12,000.

Halton Hills has, according to clerk administrator Doug Pritchard, already contributed \$6,000 towards legal fees. The finance committee recommended that the additional \$1,500 be given.

Council is planning a look at the impact of the corridor on land usage within the municipality.

The committee decided to pass the Interested Citizens' brief on to the planning board.

erected for within the \$2,000,000 budget. The permanent regional headquarters will be built north of the Queen Elizabeth Highway on Bronte Rd. on Highway 25.

Ezewash laundromat, Mill St. W., reported to the police the windows of four dryers were smashed.

# Consider architects

Halton Region's Administration Committee will begin to consider a number of architects that could be considered eligible to design the region's new headquarter building Feb. 25.

Regional Chairman Allan Masson told reporters at a press conference Thursday that he felt the building should have character but not be a palace. He was confident that the building could be

erected for within the \$2,000,000 budget. The permanent regional headquarters will be built north of the Queen Elizabeth Highway on Bronte Rd. on Highway 25.

Ezewash laundromat, Mill St. W., reported to the police the windows of four dryers were smashed.



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