

# 500 protest landfill sites in their area

Close to 500 people attended a public meeting to hear presentations and briefs concerning what the region should do with its garbage. The meeting, sponsored by Halton Region's Public Works Committee Wednesday, had to be moved from the regional headquarters building to Nelson High School for what turned out to be the largest crowd the region had attracted since its inaugural meeting two and half years ago.

The hall was filled with militant, placard-waving protesters. Each of the areas being seriously considered was represented by at least one spokesman.

The message was usually the same: "Yes, we realize there is need for landfill, but not here."

**Nothing new**  
In spite of the fact that several lawyers were engaged to speak for citizens' groups there was no really new information.

George Kee spoke on behalf of Hornby Citizens' group in opposition to a site in that area.

He said there was a high water table in the area. "If there was ever a flash flood, heaven knows what tragedy would come to us. How thorough is this study?" he asked.

He said that contrary to the report the land in the vicinity of Hornby was almost all being farmed. "It would be almost sacrilegious to take it out of production."

He said 310 residents of Hornby had signed a petition protesting use of a site in that area for landfill.

**"Hands-off"**  
George Redfern, speaking on behalf of Central Esquimaux Ratepayers' Association expressed thanks that the McLaren report published earlier would not be carried out. That report called for establishment of a site in Ashgrove.

He said he was happy that the land there could remain in production and he urged the

committee to adopt a "hands-off" attitude on all farmland. He said more attention should be paid to expanding the current Burlington site. He said it was close to the centre of generation of garbage and is situated in what is known as the badlands.

He, like most other speakers, urged the region to get on with an active plan of resource recovery.

**"F" site**  
Lawyer Peter McWilliams represented the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group. That group carried large signs and had green lapel stickers that read "F". The Dillon report refers to that area as site F and it is favored as a single major landfill site in the region.

McWilliams said even though only 480 acres are required over the next 20 year period, residents of the area are afraid the region would continue to expand its site there until all 2,500 acres that are deemed suitable are used up.

**Should recover**  
He said he was disappointed that a site with a 20 year life span was being considered and said he had hoped the region would be involved in resource recovery programs long before then.

Milton Councillor Don Gordon said people in his area (Hornby) were upset by rumors that the region might even accept garbage from outside the region if a large site was set aside. He expressed concern about the difficulty in using old landfill sites for anything after their life as a dump is over.

He said rural residents come out on the short end of the stick on the garbage issue, because "they produce food from the land and the urban people return it as garbage." He encouraged support for a bylaw that would limit homeowners to one bag of garbage per week.

**Oppose farm use**  
Fred Nurse reiterated the position often stated by Halton Federation of Agriculture

and opposed use of prime farmland for landfill. Bill Johnson criticized the committee for restricting submissions to 10 minutes. "The assembly line tactic of a 10 minute time limit is an affront to the intelligence of anyone wishing as you put it, to participate in a meaningful way," he chastised.

Speaking on behalf of Nassagaweya Area Ratepayers' Association, he said more attention should be placed on resource recovery and less on landfilling.

He said there were at least 40 recycling plants working effectively in North America.

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AN ESTIMATED 500 angry residents opposed to landfill sites in North Halton swarmed to a Burlington high school Wednesday night to a public meeting hosted by the regional public works committee. A majority of the residents wore circular badges with a black 'F' on a green background, which symbolizes "farms first fifth last" to members of the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group. A final landfill decision is expected this Spring.

## Heart fund near finish

Returns are still coming in as the month-long Heart Fund campaign draws to a close. Convener Vic Bristow had about 70 canvassers calling door-to-door with good response. He will have a full list for publication before long, he says.

Mr. Bristow hauled down the Heart Flag from the Legion flagpole at the cenotaph Monday morning as the campaign ended officially.

However, anyone still wishing to donate may get in touch with him personally, or using one of the envelopes left at doors.

**Roses**  
At several locations red plastic roses were available to people with donations. These were in the banks last year and again this year. However, this time the roses were in the brewers' retail store and liquor store as well and response was especially good there, Mr. Bristow discovered.

Dr. Philbrook has a number of counter proposals he wants the House of Commons and commission to hear before the changes are finalized.

"First of all I have to lose Georgetown then I think wherever Georgetown goes, Acton and all of Esquimaux should go there, too. We must keep Georgetown, Acton and Esquimaux together because they are Halton Hills. It is now torn now and you can't go chopping towns in half."

All areas of Esquimaux east of Sixth Line and north of 10 Sideroad would join Georgetown in leaving the Halton riding.



HEART FUND flag was hauled down Monday by campaign organizer Vic Bristow. Returns were very good this year, he reports, and he'll have a complete total soon.

Report from

## Queen's Park

By Julian Reed  
M.P.P. (Halton-Burlington)

At last we will have a Ridd office which will greatly improve our service to the Constituents of Halton-Burlington. Over recent years citizens have found themselves dealing far more frequently with government than in the past and often ask their Member or his representative to help them cut through the red tape. The constituency office is designed to do just that. A further announcement will be made when plans become final.

Ontario's Guaranteed Annual Income System - the GAINS Program - was introduced to benefit residents over 65 years of age and people who are blind or disabled. The benefits for senior citizens are administered by the Guaranteed Income and Tax Credit Branch of the Ministry of Revenue, whilst the blind and disabled are taken care of by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

To qualify for assistance under the GAINS program, people must have lived five consecutive years in Canada, with the last full year in Ontario, immediately prior to applying for benefit. Alternatively, one must have lived in Ontario for one full year immediately prior to applying for Gains and have been resident in Canada for periods totalling twenty years since reaching age eighteen.

Items considered income are earnings from employment, net income from a profession or business, income from superannuation, retirement pensions, annuity payments and other sources, including pensions from any other countries, which are taxable in Canada. Bank, bond, mortgage and other interest are included, as are net dividends and net taxable capital gains, unemployment insurance benefits, net rents from property and income from family allowance. Old age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement payments are included, as well as payments from the Canada Pension Plan or Quebec Pension Plan.

If total income from all sources is below the guaranteed minimum which is reviewed periodically, a cheque is sent each month from the Ontario Government to qualified recipients to make up the difference. At the present time the monthly minimum for senior citizens is \$265 for a single person - \$330 for a married who both qualify. The current minimum for the blind and disabled is \$250.

People over 65 years of age who receive OAS GIS payments from the federal government, need not apply for the Ontario GAINS Programs. Their eligibility will be determined automatically. Those who do not meet the residency requirements from the Old Age Security Pension, but appear to satisfy GAINS requirements, should request an application form for GAINS by writing, visiting or telephoning the Ministry of Revenue at Queen's Park in Toronto. You may call the Minister free of charge. Dial "3" and ask the operator for ZENTH 8-2800.

If you are blind or disabled and are now receiving assistance under Ontario's Family Benefit Program, you will receive your benefits cheque each month automatically. You do not have to apply for it. If you do not receive Family Benefits, you may qualify for the special benefits program. Applications must be made through the District office of the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Dependents of special benefits recipients will receive additional assistance, based on the size of the family and the ages of the children.

This program does not apply to the totally unemployed, who have been transferred to Family Benefits from General Welfare-Assistance.

Those who qualify for the special benefits program, Family Benefits or the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement are entitled to receive approved drugs on prescription, free of charge. A card should be mailed to you automatically, but if you qualify for this assistance and have not received the drug benefit card, please contact the Ministry - either Revenue or Community and Social Services. Ontario doctors, dentists and pharmacists have a list of drugs approved by the Ministry of Health which may be dispensed free of charge under the Drug Benefits program.

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Mr. Arena has leased the stone cottage on the property for some time and requested a long term lease for the entire farm, part of the 1200 acre Silvercreek Conservation Area, in order to raise pheasant and quail for his restaurant business.

Feeling use of the land was not imminent, Authority executives drew up a 10 year lease with an option renewal of five years.

However, the Ministry has turned down the lease, it was revealed at a recent CVCA meeting, because "the pressure for recreation land could come any time." Only a year to year lease will be approved, the Authority was informed.

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**\$300 damage**  
A two-car collision on February 28 at the corner of Queen St. and Church Hill Road caused a total of \$300. Damages Halton Regional Police estimate.

Archie Papillon, 195 Main St. and Ralph Hall, 23 Norman Ave., were the drivers involved.

### M.P. reveals

## Georgetown is cut from Halton riding

Georgetown and North East Esquimaux Township have been lumped with the City of Brampton to form a new federal riding, Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook said this week.

While an official announcement hasn't been made, Dr. Philbrook said he and some other MPs have learned this is the decision reached by the Electoral Boundary Commission and it constitutes a small change from the original recommendation.

Last summer when the commission first proposed riding boundary changes for Halton it appeared Georgetown and north east Esquimaux would join Caledon, Vaughan and King Townships to form a new riding called Halton-Peel with a population of 66,700.

In October Dr. Philbrook and Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill appeared before the Electoral Boundary Commission urging changes so Georgetown and Acton would remain in the same riding. They said it was wrong to split Halton Hills because it is a social and political unit and must remain together.

The new Halton riding would consist of Oakville, Milton and Acton. Erin Township was also removed from Halton and while Dr. Philbrook wasn't happy to lose this area he knew it was useless to protest this change.

"It's like they never even listened to the mayor and me," was Dr. Philbrook's reaction to the commission moving Georgetown from a grouping with Caledon, Vaughan and King townships to a new riding with Brampton. He said he learned of the

"shocking" commission decision Friday when he was able to examine new riding boundary maps devised by the commission.

"From all the information I have been able to uncover the name for this new riding is Brampton," Dr. Philbrook said.

He said after learning of the startling change he conferred with MP Ross Milne who represents the riding of Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe and would represent the new Brampton riding and he agrees with Dr. Philbrook that this change is "illogical."

"Ross says he has nothing against having Georgetown in his riding but can't understand why the change has been made or the logic behind it," he noted.

The first move in the new battle with the commission will come this week when the Toronto and District Liberal caucus meets to discuss the problems posed by the new decision. "Many MPs are just as unhappy about changes besides Ross and I," he added.

Dr. Philbrook says he will need the support of 10 other MPs to bring the subject of Georgetown being placed in a riding with Brampton to the floor of the House of Commons for debate and he believes he has more than enough support now.

"What it will mean is all the MPs who are unhappy with the changes will debate the subject until such time as no one has anything else to say. It is the best move we can make at this time but this method doesn't have a tremendous record of achievement. The chances of

changing anything by debate are slim. The only thing it can accomplish is bring pressure on the commission to take another look at their decision.

The debates could rage on for some time he warned because there is a great deal of unhappiness among all MPs regarding riding boundary changes.

"It is just as though we never said a word to the commission when they move us from Halton-Peel to Brampton and do nothing about the problem of splitting Halton Hills," he said shaking his head in disbelief.

He urges municipal officials in Halton Hills and Brampton to get behind him and Mr. Milne in launching a strong and vocal protest. Dr. Philbrook would like to see residents write letter of protest to Ottawa for added support.

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