

Federal Liberals elect new Halton executive

Halton's Federal Liberal Riding Association took steps to shape its executive so that it mirrors new riding boundaries during a founding meeting Thursday in Acton's Robert Little School.

Steve Ormsby, of Acton, was elected new executive vice-president replacing Alice Walker, and Jill Planché of Oakville takes the place of Paul DeRues as secretary.

Both the outgoing executive members are from Georgetown and because that community is split from the Halton riding they are no longer with the association. Georgetown is lumped together with Brampton-Halton Hills in what used to be the riding of Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe.

The 22 party members also returned Slim Streek as riding president. Ralph Denny, R.R. 2 Acton, replaces Mr. Ormsby as one of the vice-presidents. Oakville's Terry Johnston was returned as the other vice-president. Angelo Serafini, an Oakville lawyer, is the association's new treasurer.

There was one nomination for each post. Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook voted in the elections and later addressed the meeting.

Review Riding president Streek

also got a motion to have a small committee set up to review the association's constitution, as a matter of routine, in preparation for the annual meeting in May or June.

In the riding re-alignments, Erin, Erin village and Hillsburgh may be placed in a western riding, while Georgetown joins the Brampton area.

Halton federal riding includes Milton, Oakville, Acton and surrounding areas.

According to Dr. Philbrook there are between 65,000 and 70,000 voters in Halton under redistribution. He said that he expected the number to top 80,000 within five years.

Ross Milne is the MP for the Brampton area.

Peptalk Dr. Philbrook gave the gathering a pep talk from the point of view of being half way through his four year term. "We may not have quality here tonight, but we have quality".

The first term MP used a glossy foreign magazine as a point of view for the country, Canada. The Growth of a Great Nation was quoted by the doctor as stating that Canada has everything in unvalued balance. That's not to say, Dr. Philbrook continued to read, that they've solved all problems, but that the nation's leaders are

trying to solve them. "The system is breaking down. There's too much work to do".

The federal bureaucracy is taking quite a bit of criticism Dr. Philbrook said, but added: "Our government, our party, I think is on the right track in slowing down the momentum to grow".

The recent Quebec election, which put in the Parti Quebecois to replace the provincial Liberals, also got attention from Dr. Philbrook. "It was a rejection of that man (premier Robert Bourassa)", the MP said.

There is no reason to believe that Quebec premier-elect Rene Levesque is any less a separatist now, than before, Dr. Philbrook said.

"There are many of us who think there can't be a Canada without Quebec, and that's why the Liberal Party is the only party of national unity", the MP said.

The Liberal party still believes in good management and knows how to apply it to the nation. "We've got to make it work", Dr. Philbrook said.

Near the end of his informal talk, the doctor said that out of the nearly 150 nations in the world, there are about 30 democracies, of which only one has a Liberal government.



HALTON'S FEDERAL LIBERALS held a founding meeting at Acton and elected a new riding executive. Four members were present at the meeting, including, in the front row on the left, executive vice-president Steve Ormsby from Acton and secretary Jill Planché. Other executive members pictured are vice-president Ralf Denny, in the second row with president Slim Streek. Halton MP Frank Philbrook stands behind former riding president Ralf Denny. Other riding executive officers, who were absent, are: treasurer Angelo Serafini and vice-president Terry Johnston, both from Oakville.

Bring back grade 13 examinations - Goodin

Halton Board of Education should try and bring back grade 13 and university entrance exams, Oakville Trustee Rick Goodin says.

He presented a motion Thursday night which will be dealt with at this Thursday's board meeting stating "this board is in favor of standardized uniform tests for all schools in Halton and also province wide departmental examinations for at least the intermediate divisions, grade 13 and university entrance."

Goodin, who is retiring from the board, went on to call for immediate adoption, without further delay, of departmental exams for grade 13 and university entrance and that Queen's Park be petitioned by the board to implement this across Ontario.

"There is urgent need for pupils and parents to gain a more realistic perspective on the development of scholastic ability, particularly as it applies to development and expectations of the future," he said.

He continued there is a great need for teachers to be able to evaluate their teaching methods and criteria for grading. He believes standardized tests would help them in this chore. Goodin also thinks standardized, province-wide tests, would help the administration more accurately determine the strengths and

weaknesses of Halton schools. "There is a great need for the public at large to have some objective basis for assessing the performance of the public school system and for making decisions about the magnitude of financial resources to be committed to public education," Goodin observed.

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Wins contest and a camera

First Free Press carrier to get 12 new subscriptions in the carriers' contest last week was Robert Rowe, 15, of 130 Longfield Rd. He added a dozen new names to his list to receive a camera from circulation manager Don McDonald.

Robert is in grade 10 at the high school and likes all sports, especially hockey. All carriers who participated in the contest are eligible for another draw for a camera.

\$200 damage

Halton Regional Police estimate a total of \$200 in damages after a pick-up truck struck a parked car on Wilbur St., on November 20 at 10:25 a.m.

The truck, driven by Bruce Guthrie, sustained \$50 in damages, while a car owned by James Henley, Eden Mills had \$150 in damages, police say.



PRESENTING CAMERA to Robert Rowe are Don McDonald and Marilyn McArthur of the Free Press circulation department. Robert was the first carrier to add 12 new names to his Free Press route, in a contest last week.

Pupils should be in class on Remembrance Day

Students might have got a lot more out of Remembrance Day had they been in classes where special programs could be held, several trustees told Halton Board of Education, Thursday.

Trustee Rick Goodin said he received quite a reaction from parents and students concerning Remembrance Day and most felt the day off from classes for students on November 11 was a waste. He said many people believe the day would have been more meaningful for the pupils had they been in classes and special services been held in the schools to teach students the significance of Remembrance Day.

Goodin said there is a trend to belittle things these days which happened in the past because people, like students, didn't live through them, and don't remember.

Director of Education Em Lavender said he shares Goodin's concern and thinks students should be taught

more about the meaning of Remembrance Day.

He noted many schools hold special ceremonies on November 10 to teach children about Remembrance Day. He said pupils can't remember World Wars I and II but they can be taught about them. Lavender added many of the teachers don't remember the wars either.

Trustee Tony Goodyear said the board teaches students about China in history and geography classes but he is sure few teachers have ever been there. He said he agreed with Goodin, pupils should be in school on Remembrance Day.

The trustees, teachers' federations, home and school associations and the public are all being asked for input dealing with holidays next year and scheduling of professional development days.

Trustee Ernie Bodnar said the week of professional days at the start of the school year, which delayed the opening of elementary schools, should have been used to straighten out problems like those which resulted in low enrolment and 25 teachers being removed from classes. He said that week should also have been

used for getting schools organized.

Trustee Irene Goobie also called for an investigation by the board to see if there is any way to reduce the nine professional development days allotted teachers each year.

Board must help cut crime

Halton Board of Education must do its bit to help reduce juvenile shop-lifting, vandalism and violence, Oakville Trustee Rick Goodin says.

"There are widespread reports courts are overcrowded, and shop-lifting, vandalism and violence and lack of respect and responsibility have been on the increase since lack of discipline, productive work habits and permissive attitudes have been allowed to infiltrate into

our educational system," Goodin observed.

The retiring trustee noted Director of Education Em Lavender told the board recently that in some schools in Halton 40 to 50 per cent of the pupils come from single parent homes.

Goodin has called for Lavender to provide the trustees with statistics dealing with the actual number of students in Halton who come from single parent and the relationship between

the increasing number of crimes committed by youths and the lack of discipline in the schools.

He called for "training to be implemented immediately in our schools to minimize and assist in overcoming the deficiencies and serious conditions in our society that are closely related to leading and training of youth, yet have been allowed to develop, influence and deteriorate society through our educational system".

Don't hire until fall

Trustee Jim Clelland doesn't think Halton Board of Education should hire teachers for the next school year until next fall.

Noting the mess the board found itself in this year when

elementary enrolment fell below projection and the board had 25 surplus teachers, Clelland said with all the teachers on the job market these days the board should hold off hiring until September, 1977.

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