

Team to restructure Hydro Commissions

A major step toward the restructuring of the six existing hydro commissions in Halton was taken, Thursday night, when a local study team was set up.

At present Mayor Tom Hill sits on three hydro commissions, Acton, Georgetown and Oakville. Since a small portion of Oakville was taken into Halton Hills he is automatically on that commission. Bill Smith, former mayor of Georgetown, is still a member of Georgetown Hydro Commission, since existing hydro commissions were frozen when regional government was established.

Milton Mayor Don Grodon also finds himself on three hydro commissions, Milton, Oakville and Burlington, because pieces of each municipality were taken into Milton, when boundaries were changed at the inception of the regional setup. Mayor Harry Barrett of Oakville is also a member of three commissions.

The restructuring study is aimed at solving this dilemma and bringing hydro commissions into line with regional government, but not necessarily meaning one regional hydro commission. Named as chairman of the Halton study team is Bill Rowney, Milton, and as vice-chairman Terry Graham of Burlington. Others on the study team are Councillor Roy Booth, representing Halton Region, Mary Munro, Mayor of Burlington, Councillor George Malby, Halton Hills, Mayor Don Gordon, Milton, Mayor Harry Barrett, Oakville, Wilf McEachern, Acton Hydro Commission.

Omer K. VanSickle, Campbellville Hydro Commission, Bill Smith, Georgetown Hydro Commission, B. Hughes, International Brotherhood Electrical Workers, and Gerhard Norgaard, Canadian Union of Public Service Employees. Bill Smith, in putting forward the motion to proceed with the study on restructuring and naming the chairman and vice chairman, said this was the time to go ahead so the study could be completed while the present regional and municipal council is still in office.

Mayor Harry Barrett argued that an additional representative from each of Oakville and Burlington should be on the study team, because of the higher population and number of users in the two southern municipalities.

Chairman S. A. Baldwin, of the Steering Committee, pointed out the guidelines called for approximately an equal number of councillors and hydro commissioners on the study team. He said each one is representing all of the people of Halton, not one particular municipality. "But we do not make the decisions, whatever you decide to do is the way it will be."

Barrett contended the province recognized the difference in size and population by the representation on regional council.

Tony Green, Oakville Commission, predicted the problems would be in the north of Halton, and said the south will be asked to foot the bill and provide expertise.

Barrett's motion passed and the additional members from each of Oakville and Burlington, as yet unnamed will be added to the study team.

In reply to a question Chairman Baldwin said the 1975 revenue for the various commissions were Georgetown \$2 million, Milton \$1.7 million, Acton \$765,000, Campbellville \$36,000, Burlington \$12 million and Oakville \$13 million.

Councillor George Malby pointed out the chairman had stated earlier the only alternative not acceptable was the keeping of the "status quo." "Maybe it's the best solution. Are you suggesting because we have a study we have to change something?"

Chairman Baldwin replied, "Surely if you have decided to have a study it's because there is need for a change. If not it's an expensive exercise for nothing."

The Chairman explained the guidelines for the study team would be based on the Hogg report, with alternatives ranging from one commission for the whole region, to a series of commissions, or any other reasonable solution, other than the status quo.

He said aim of restructuring is to eliminate rate disparities and minimize difference in service policies. He emphasized a primary concern of restructuring studies would be to ensure the transfer of assets are fair and equitable, and staff is protected in their jobs if transfers are necessary.



LISA DODSON DEMONSTRATES her award-winning form for the camera during Parents and Tots skating. She was the recipient of the "Best Figure Skater on One Foot Going Towards the Photographer" prize, which consists of having her name and picture in the paper. Lisa is 5.

Members angry over letterhead

Regional Councillors sitting on the Region's Administration Committee exploded at the suggestion that they as councillors should not write to constituents on official regional letterhead stationery.

"I've never heard anything so stupid. The staff is saying council shouldn't reply to constituents on regional letterhead," Burlington Councillor David Coons said.

"Councillor Coons is absolutely right," Councillor Ron Planche of Oakville said.

Chief Administrative officer Ernie Reid explained that the staff wasn't concerned about the councillors using letterhead but wanted council to pass a resolution authorizing the use if that was the feeling of council.

He said there is the danger of someone receiving comment from a councillor on letterhead and accepting the opinion as a council policy instead of an individual's opinion.

Councillor Coons said he'd never known it to be a problem in his nine years on council. He said council acted by resolution not by letters councillors may or may not write.

Councillor Mac Anderson of Oakville said he had had no problems in that regard because in his three years with the region he had never written a letter.

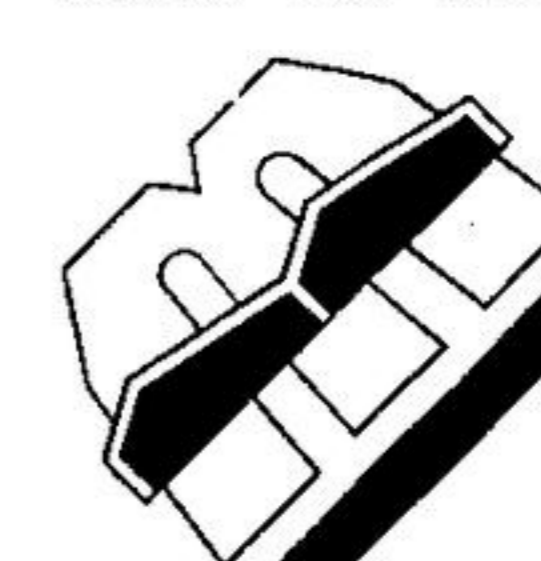
Council and public may review Bill 151

Bill 151, the act setting up regional government in Halton, will come under the scrutiny of Halton Hills council, and members of the public, if council accepts a recommendation from finance, administration committee.

The idea was put forward by Councillor Peter Morris who contended he had run into nothing but negative feelings about the region, when he campaigned from door to door at election time. He claimed there was a lack of information, with people not knowing what goes on. "They see this great bureaucracy and say all they know is their taxes are going up."

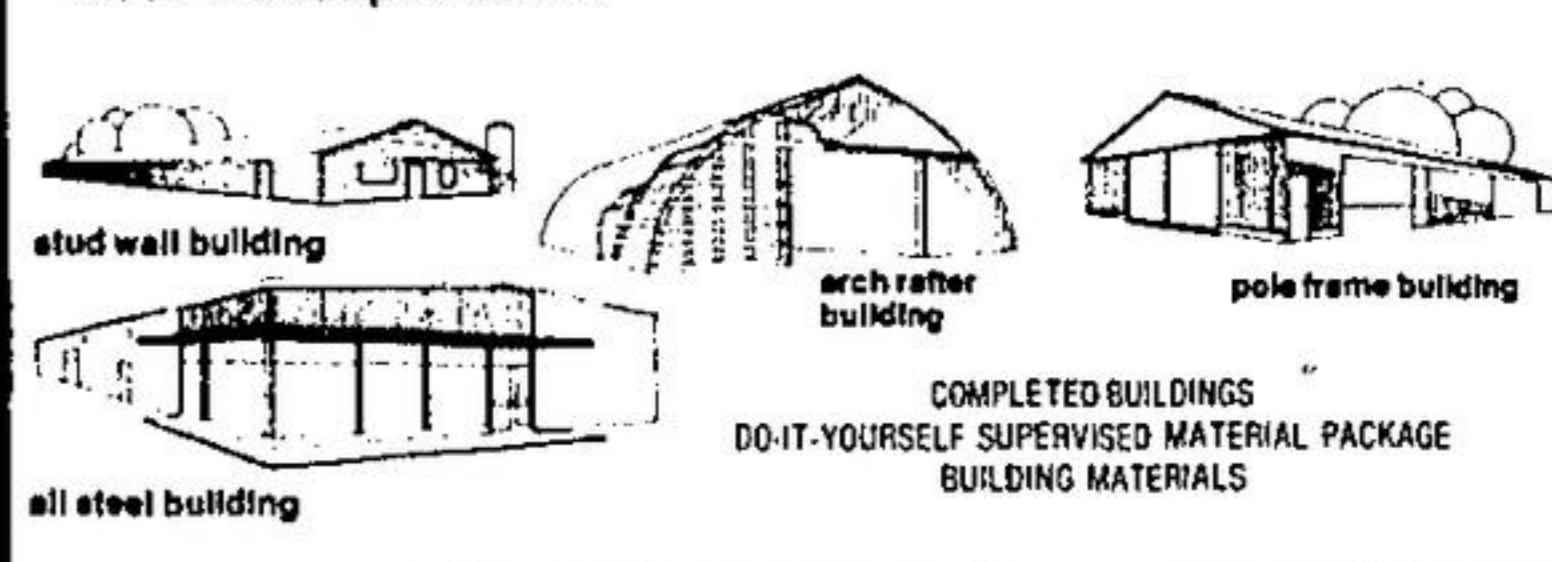
pointed out the regional committee of which he is a member, is doing such a study of Bill 151. He admitted the former county structure may have done a better job, but noted regional government is a fact. He said one big advantage is the lower borrowing rate available to the whole region.

set up and said any concerns should be listed and sent to the regional committee. Councillor Walter Biehn maintained a special meeting of council to discuss only Bill 151 might be more effective. The committee decided to hold a special council meeting, with the meeting being advertised asking for written submissions from the public.



Why buy Martin buildings?

- Our only business is building.
- 4 basic packages to choose from.
- We can make them wider; higher or longer — to suit your needs.
- We can build them square or round — in wood or steel — to suit your needs.
- We can supply a turn-key or do-it-yourself package.
- If you wish to build yourself, we will not drop a bucket of bolts or a piece of lumber in your yard and leave. WE WILL HELP YOU ALONG THE WAY.
- We build more buildings in Ontario than any other company we know of.
- We give you the buying power of a large company who specializes in buildings whether it is 28 gauge 5000 series painted metal in 12 beautiful colours or the best door track on the market.
- And most of all — all our buildings are engineered and designed for the area they are erected in — we don't just talk about it we back it up with a "WRITTEN GUARANTEE".
- If you want a building "BUILT TO LAST" call your local representative Jan Onsterman (416) 826-4441 collect or fill in the coupon below.



PLEASE SEND ME MORE INFORMATION

TO: **Martin**

R. MARTIN STRUCTURES LIMITED
39 Armstrong Ave.
Georgetown, (Halton Hills), Ontario, L7G 4S1
(416) 877-5115

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
COUNTY _____ PHONE NO. PLEASE _____

LAKEVIEW CENTRE Carpet and Flooring Specialists

Installers On Staff
We feature carpet from
"CELANESE"
"BIGELOW"
"VENTURE"
"OZITE"
"CALLAWAY"
Hard Surface and Cushioned Vinyls from:
"ARMSTRONG"
AND
"G.A.F."
FREE ESTIMATES

Lakeview Centre
126 Main St. N.
ACTON 853-1190

Expenditure approved

Bug spraying to cost \$9,149

Despite criticism from Milton councillor Jim Kerr, and Oakville councillor Laurie Mannell the regional committee of Community and Social Services last week approved a budget of \$9,149 for a mosquito-spraying program.

The program will spray certain public lands with the chemical abate, in the hopes of controlling the breeding of the encephalitis-carrying insect. Because the spraying is only being done on public lands, councillor Kerr

suggests it would be ineffective.

"We're only spraying five or 10 per cent of the land," he said. "Is that effective?"

Oakville councillor Mannell agreed with Mr. Kerr. "It's a waste money, let's use it for something we'll get results from. I just can't see this at all," he said. "I can't see that there is any benefit whatsoever to the taxpayers. We're not spraying all the spots where they breed or live."

Regional public health

inspector Jim Powell explained to the committee that the purpose of the program was not to eliminate mosquitoes, just to cut down their numbers as much as possible. He explained that the mosquitoes will live on birds, but when the mosquito population gets too large they attack humans, and this is when the disease is spread.

There were four fatal cases of encephalitis in Ontario last year, and five the year before said Oakville councillor Ron Planche, but there were 70 additional cases reported that were not fatal. He was in favor of the program.

Mr. Mannell was not convinced, however.

"We're killing off birds by the hundreds," he complained. "They're being poisoned by insecticides. If we had sufficient birds we wouldn't have to worry about mosquitoes."

Mr. Mannell wanted the money spent on education programs, to teach farmers and gardeners how to use insecticides properly.

Mr. Powell issued a report on abate to committee members, which showed it to be one of the least dangerous insecticides, and harmless to birds, fish and higher forms of life. Abate does adversely affect minute animal life in ponds, the report said, but the effects are short-term.

Last year the region budgeted approximately \$24,000 for the program, of which \$8,000 was subsidized by the province. Because some of the materials bought last year can be used in 1977, the expected cost of the program is \$9,149, of which the province will pay \$5,330.

The committee reviewed the program last year, but withheld final approval until the report detailing possible side-effects of abate had been received.

Health Council names executive director

William C. Leonard has been appointed executive director of the Halton District Health Council, it was announced this week.

He assumed the post March 21.

The Halton District Health Council is appointed by the Minister of Health to advise on the planning and co-ordination of health care services in Halton.

Mr. Leonard (Maj. Gen., Ret'd) spent his career in the armed forces, retiring in the last few months. He last served for a period of two years as chairman of a committee to NATO on arms standardization. Prior to that he served as commanding officer of Canada's Armed Forces in Europe.

The District Health Council has also established offices on

Trafalgar Road in the former Oakville Board of Education building between the Public Works building and the Oakville Public Utilities Commission offices.

Council Chairman Terence F. Baines said it was felt the location would be most accessible to the entire region. The Council has recommended to the Ministry the establishment or expansion of three programs involving psychiatric out-patient services. One is at the Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, one at the Health Unit and one is an expansion at Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital in Burlington.

It is expected two of these three programs will be approved for funding by the Ministry shortly, the chairman reported.

Committee goes in camera

Voting on a proposed 60 per cent increase in the Halton Children's Aid Society budget was postponed until after an April 5 in camera meeting.

The regional Community and Social Services Committee was expected to discuss and vote on the budget last week but on the request of chairman Walter Mulkeewich the discussion was held over until an informal meeting between the CAS and committee members could be held.

Committee members expressed the desire for more details about the society and its budget before voting. The committee in particular wants to discuss personnel matters, and for that reason

the meeting will be held in camera.

"a touch of class..."

House of David
MEN'S APPAREL / GREECE, CANADA

40 Wyndham St. N. 822-4541

Admiral COLOR TV



PRE-'77 CONSOLES AND PORTABLES
CLEAROUT
14" 20" 26"

Only thirteen sets in stock will be sold on a first come basis...

ALL SETS BEING CLEARED AT 10% OVER DEALERS' NET

\$299 TO \$725

FULL 1 YR. MANUFACTURERS' WARRANTY

BUY NOW! SAVE NOW!

JUST IN TIME FOR HOCKEY PLAYOFFS AND BLUE JAYS BASEBALL GAMES



*Open Daily 9a.m.-9p.m. Saturdays 9a.m.-5p.m.

RICHARDSON'S * FURNITURE * EASY *
* TELEVISION * CONVENIENT *
* APPLIANCES * BANK *
465 MAIN ST. MILTON 878-2336 * PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

ATTENTION: RESIDENTS OF OAKVILLE, BURLINGTON, MILTON, HALTON HILLS!!!

WILL HALTON BE YOUR KIND OF REGION?

To make sure it is, you are urged to watch for DISPLAYS in shopping malls, libraries and town halls throughout the Halton Region.

And, you are especially invited to attend one of 14 OPEN HOUSES on "Choosing a Future for Halton". (Watch for notices in this newspaper for time and place of the OPEN HOUSE nearest you!)

Call us for a report explaining our program:

Burlington & Oakville Residents: 639-6793 ext. 252
Milton & Halton Hills Residents: 878-5571 ext. 252

THE DISPLAYS April 4 - May 18
THE OPEN HOUSES April 19 - May 12

PAT McLAUGHLIN
Chairman, Planning Committee
Halton Region

REMEMBER:
WILL HALTON BE YOUR KIND OF REGION?