



THE NEW REGIONAL headquarters has been the subject of criticism and some ridicule because of the massive blanket of green that the building forms. Some refer to the building as the

"Jolly Green Giant" but the architects who designed it feel the color is both fitting and appropriate for the building.

Landfill issue before OMB January 8 is hearing date

The battle over Halton Region's plans to develop a regional landfill site in Milton will go before the Ontario Municipal Board Jan. 8.

Both the region and the Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group are confident of victory. But regardless of the OMB decision it is almost certain that the loser will take the appeal directly to the provincial cabinet in an effort to have the OMB overruled.

The region has been dealing with the landfill problem now for almost five years and the battle over Site F (the Milton site at Tremaine and Britannia Rd.) is three years old. Regional Chairman Ric Morrow has said he is confident that the region's selection will be endorsed by the OMB once all of the information and documentation is tabled before the board.

Tremaine-Britannia Citizens' Group president Stu McFadden said his group is equally confident of victory. McFadden said the group's solicitor, David Estrin, has suggested the group stands a better chance of winning before the OMB than they did before they went into the Supreme Court hearings.

They were successful in having regional resolutions quashed in court.

The region recently passed a resolution authorizing staff and consultants to consider a number of alternatives that could bring short term relief to the pending garbage crisis and extend the life of existing sites in Oakville, Burlington and Georgetown.

Consultants are considering use of a dry waste site in Milton as well as expansions of the three existing sites and use of the Natco property in Burlington.

Chairman Morrow said the region will continue with plans to pursue a resource recovery system in Halton. He said the council was waiting for the results of a marketing analysis study

that will form the basis of a decision concerning which type of plant should be built. Once that is decided the council will seek a meeting with Minister of the Environment George McCague to see what type of grants the province will be ready to provide.

But Morrow acknowledged that resource recovery is of secondary importance to finding a landfill site in the region's view.

The OMB hearing will involve several firms of lawyers, engineering consultants, hydrogeologists and experts in a number of fields.

The Region's lawyer Dennis Perlin will work along with three firms of outside law firms that the region has engaged. The Citizens' Group will be represented by David Estrin, a specialist in environmental law and the group has enlisted the aid of a number of experts.

The town of Milton will oppose the application for a landfill site and will use the firm of Leitch, Saul and O'Connor. They will be backed up by the consulting engineering firm of Proctor and Hedfern and a hydrogeological firm of Ecologistics Ltd.

The choice of a landfill site is expected to cost the region in excess of \$500,000 before any development is considered.

Both the region and the Citizens' Group have already incurred extensive legal costs.

Milton Mayor Don Gordon said the town consultants and

Milton OKs redevelopment

Milton's downtown core received a boost towards redevelopment when council approved a site plan for \$1.5 million office complex.

The proposal from Wrentham Developments calls for construction of a two-storey 200,000 square foot office building behind the post office and town hall.

Architect responds to critics of headquarters

The choice of color for the new regional headquarters building has attracted a lot of criticism from regional councillors, staffers and citizens passing by the building.

Many feel the brilliant green colored siding is hard on the eyes and does little to endear the building to the ratepayers.

The building has been dubbed as the "Jolly Green Giant" around regional headquarters because of the color applied to the sprawling building.

The building is rarely discussed without some comment made about the color. But architects from the firm of Shore, Tilbe, Henschel, Irwin and Peters take issue with the color that has been selected.

The following is the response to such criticism and the rationale for making the choice that was made.

"A common criticism of Canadian, and for that matter, North American cities, is their general drabness and lack of color. The Toronto-Dominion Centre is singled out most often perhaps because it is black concrete with its inherent greenness and lack of vitality, seems almost to carry the butt of much criticism. In contrast, the new Royal Bank Tower, with its shimmering gold, has attracted a positive reaction

from many people. Architects have been criticized for their sterile interiors and buildings. "Do you have any colors other than white or black?" is a frequent comment. People seem to have little hesitation to use color in their clothes, their cars, and in their homes. Color is personal, but it produces a positive reaction with people moods of excitement, happiness, joy, restfulness, and many others are created with color. What about the use of color in architecture?"

"Historically, there are countless precedents in the history of architecture. The cave paintings of Spain and France still produce excitement with their bright colors and forms, even after thousands of years. The temples and sculpture of Egypt were highly polychromed. The civilizations of Crete used bright reds and blues in their temples and civic buildings. Greece produced the highly-colored Parthenon in orange and green, along with its colored sculptures. A monument in the history of architecture China produced the great Imperial Palace complexes, with tiled roofs and walls in bright Chinese red.

The Middle East found all palaces, religious and government buildings covered in bright blues in blues, yellows and greens.

Who can ever deny the power and impact of the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, or the Friday Mosque of Isfahan? The bright-colored buildings in the urban fabric provided focal and punctuation points befitting their important role in the community life. The multi-colored houses in villages and towns around the Mediterranean are still a photographer's delight.

"We can also look to the more indigenous architecture of Canada and Ontario to find examples of color. The power and color of the bright grain elevators standing against the flat prairies in western Canada, were praised by Le Corbusier in "Vers Une Architecture", the architect's bible, first published in 1923. The red stations marked every Canadian town as the railway expanded across the country. The farm barns, sheds, and even houses are positive events in the Ontario landscape, as we find yellows, reds and greens used in walls and roofs.

"This brings us to a specific case in point the Halton Regional Administration Building and its color, both externally and internally. The site of the building is a flat, featureless, 10-acre site in the Green Belt area. No buildings, other than extensions to the administration structure, will ever be built adjacent to this building. Therefore, it will stand in an isolated position, and the form and the color of the building are positive on the site. The metal paneled cladding system is a perfect vehicle for introducing a factory-applied color to the building. The colors of the Halton Regional Crest serve as the basis on which the color scheme is applied. These colors are green, gold and blue, on a white background.

"The insulated external metal panels for roof and walls are green on the exterior, and white on the interior. The external color and form then produce a positive and distinctive statement in the landscape, befitting the building's importance and uniqueness to the region. The blue of the crest, reflecting the relation of the Halton

Region to the lake, is found in the pool liner of the reflecting pool. The gold is used as a strong accent color on the interiors, contrasting with the white walls and ceilings. The base or flooring on which the building sits, is the strong red "earth" color of the red clay of the Region, used in brick, crushed brick tiles, and carpets, both externally and internally.



LORNA SAYERS, left, part of Operation Identification, marks a stereo in her own home just south of Acton on Tuesday. Sister Lynda was on hand to make sure the identification was correct. The project is sponsored by the Halton Regional Police, College and University students were hired for the summer to mark valuables of home owners with their social insurance number, to help trace goods if ever stolen. The group is working in Acton this week. They have completed Georgetown and will head down to Milton once Acton is finished.

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Rabies suspected in Georgetown

A red fox, thought to be rabid, has been spotted by several residents in the Noble Court, and Main Street South area of Georgetown. The fox may have tangled with at least two dogs, who at present are under quarantine.

Residents are alarmed, and are keeping their dogs and children close to home. They are doubly concerned about dogs who may have been in contact with the fox, but the owners remain unaware.

To help get the facts about rabies straight, this newspaper spoke to Dr. J. Tattersall, of the Health of Animals Branch, of the Federal Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

He advises anyone who thinks their dog has been in

contact with a rabid animal to lure the dog into a confined spot, without touching the dog. He explained if the dog has the rabid animal's saliva on him, and anyone touching the dog has an open cut, it is very possible rabies can be contracted.

He emphasized the rabies virus will not penetrate unbroken skin, and pointed out it is the bite of the animal that breaks the skin and introduces it into dogs. He said the decision to give the 14 needle immunization treatment to someone deemed a high risk, is always made by a medical doctor.

Dr. Tattersall made it clear there is no risk to other members of the family who do not touch the dog.

Answering one of the concerns about children going barefoot in an area where a rabid fox travelled, the veterinarian said any danger is remote, unless the child had an open cut on the foot, and even then said it was not too probable. He explained the rabies virus is very fragile and has a short life span, especially on an exposed area such as grass, or sidewalks.

Dr. Tattersall told what to do if the family pet is involved with a suspected rabid animal. He said it should be reported immediately to the Health of Animals Branch in Brampton. The dog should be lured into a shed, garage or fenced area where it is isolated, without being touched. He said the dogs will show no signs of any kind at this point.

LDC defers farm bid

The region's Land Division Committee (LDC) deferred consideration of a separation bid from Thomas Farms Ltd. because the committee wanted more information.

A representative from Thomas Farms Ltd. told the committee the property, on the easterly half of Lot 32, 7th Line, is a farm and that a farmer is going to buy it.

LDC member Des Morrow, Georgetown, said he very much wants to see the report from the provincial Department of Agriculture concerning the application, and also to hear from the potential buyer.

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