

Do you want fluoride? do you want a vote?

So Acton people may express an opinion of fluoridation of the town water supply, a ballot appears in today's paper. These may be signed and brought or mailed (if possible) to the Free Press office on Willow St.

The ballot bears the same wording as that which elicited 600 replies after it appeared in the Milton newspaper, the Canadian Champion.

Although there has been little public reaction in Acton through comments to councillors or Letters to the Editor, the

Free Press was urged by a couple of people to publish the ballot anyway.

One woman who is opposed to fluoride had considered canvassing her neighbors, but is now depending on the ballot instead. She feels people are becoming more and more interested in natural foods and avoiding the addition of chemicals.

In actual fact, Lorna Clarke at the town office has heard many complaints about the iron in the water, rather than about the addition of fluoride. The region proposes to add sodium silicate to the town water to suppress the iron.

Halton Regional Council has passed a by-law which will mean the addition of fluoride to Acton's water supply. The Free Press invites readers to express their opinions.

Please mail or deliver this form to reach The Free Press, Box 120, Acton, before next Tuesday, October 24.

1. Are you in favour of a fluoridated water supply for Acton? Yes No
2. Are you in favour of a plebiscite in Acton to decide on the fluoridation of the town's water supply? Yes No

Remarks (if any)

Signature(s)

Address

Elmore Dr., Acton

Close road allowance despite Riders' Assoc. plea

"Closing the road allowance on Elizabeth Drive leading to the sand dunes to stop the kids riding minibikes on the road would be exactly the same as closing the arenas to stop kids playing road hockey," contended Dave Armstrong, president of the Halton Off-Road Riders Association, at administration committee this week.

He claimed the youngsters would ride on the road more and in the park, if the access to the private land behind the road allowance is fenced.

Despite the plea the committee stuck to its decision to fence the accesses and have a gate at the park.

Armstrong said he was told a Halton Hills councillor was seen driving his child's minibike down the street without a helmet.

Laughter greeted this comment. He said the club is trying to come up with a solution in Georgetown. He said they have some land pointed out in Acton. This piece of land is being used and the landowner

does not object. "With the best of intentions council is closing it off."

Armstrong said they are prepared to talk to the 78 people in the area whose children own bikes, and are willing to post signs at the club's expense. He suggested the youngsters could be asked to push their bikes into the private property, and told the police can confiscate their bikes for riding on the road.

Councillor Roy Booth pointed out the primary concern of council was the use of the road allowance, causing a nuisance to neighbors. He said after hearing both George Van der Eyken and Peter Papillon the committee decided to close both accesses and put a gate at the park access.

Councillor Peter Marks said there had been no complaint about the use of the land out back, but simply about the use of the road allowance. He pointed out there is a sand dune which is used for a jump on the road allowance, by the mini bikers. He said the town

should be concerned about kids riding on the roads.

Armstrong sympathized with the home owner beside the road allowance. "I can well understand his problem if kids are roaring up and down by his house," he suggested a gate allowing hikers and cross country skiers but barring motorcycles could be discriminatory.

Ronald Farrington, a resident of the area, said the noise is the real problem for the people, but added they are also worried about young children riding without licences.

Van der Eyken said it has become a nightly routine for him to ask riders to go out to the bush, but instead they ride up and down.

Mrs. Van der Eyken said they have two very young children who are kept awake by the bikes 20 feet from the bedroom window.

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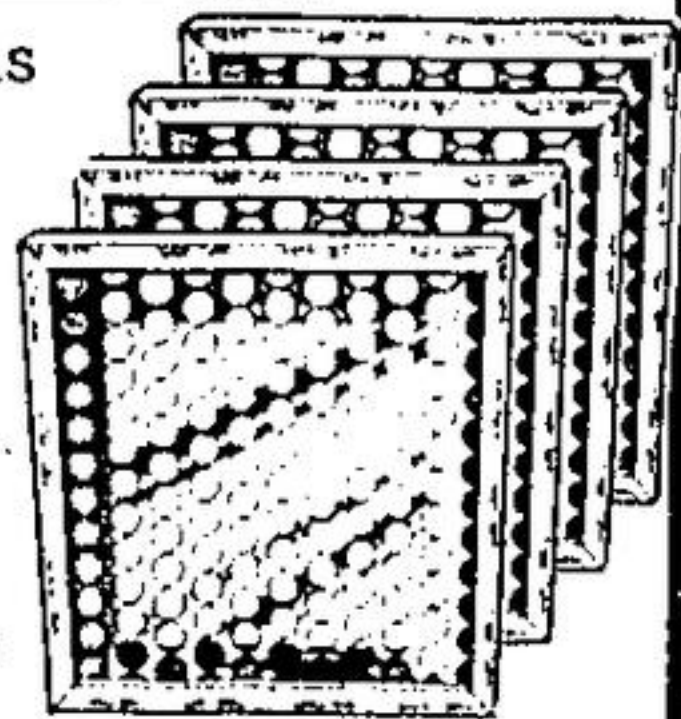
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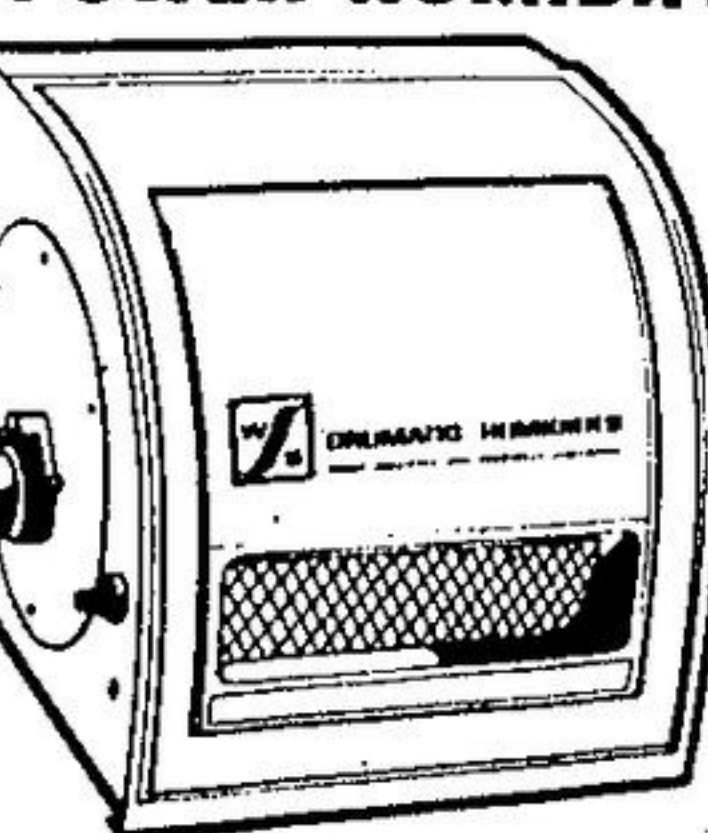
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YOUNG ROSS PEARSON seems quite pleased with the bargain he got at the YMCA's Ski and Skate Exchange.



Withdraw objections require storm sewers

Storm sewers will be required and houses will be allowed adjacent to Beardmore and Co. At an Ontario Municipal Board hearing, Wednesday morning, an agreement was worked out between Beardmore, Halton Hills and Graystone Manor Estates. The Ontario Municipal Board hearing had been called since Beardmore's objection to the restricted area bylaw which would permit the single family housing development planned for Main St. S. The bylaw was passed by council last December. Beardmore was the only objector to the

bylaw. The Ministry of Housing will be asked to require a storm sewer system to handle the surface runoff of the development, to include 18 single family houses. Beardmore representatives had felt that inadequate drainage could result in

water runoff problems. The agreement made the planned Wednesday morning hearing no longer necessary. After the proceedings began, R.L. Steele, Halton Hills solicitor, asked for a discussion with representatives of the developers and the company. Beardmore withdrew their objection to the restricted area bylaw at this point. OMB hearing chairman H.H. Lancaster explained the OMB decision will be based solely on the withdrawal of objections by Beardmore, not on the merits of evidence since none was heard, so the company would not lose any further legal right to oppose the development if the storm sewer condition is not met.

The hearing was adjourned and a decision on approval of the bylaw will not be given for at least 30 days. Graystone Manor Estates will now apply to the Ministry of Housing with its new draft conditions, and the matter will likely come back to council for approval.

Welfare expenditure rises dramatically

In the first three months of this year the number of welfare (general assistance) beneficiaries rose by 4.3 per cent in Halton. But general assistance expenditures rose by 43.7 per cent. General welfare assistance is short-term aid administered by the region, although the program is funded 100 per cent by the province.

An average of 1,375 people received general welfare assistance during January, February and March, 57 more than received aid during the same period last year. A total of \$454,155 was paid out this year to that date, an increase of \$138,052 over 1977.

Provincially, most municipal

ities with populations in excess of 20,000 experienced an increase in welfare caseload. The highest rates of increase were among employables, with single females showing a 38.4 per cent rise and single males 27.7 per cent.

The most noticeable increases were in Kirkland Lake, Cornwall and Sudbury; the largest rates of decline in Thunder Bay and Keewatin-Kenora.

Of the assessed population in Ontario, general assistance beneficiaries made up an average 1.6 per cent. This ranged from a high of 4.2 per cent to a low of 0.4 per cent. Hamilton administrative district, of which Halton is a

part, reported 2.3 per cent of the population in receipt of general assistance. (The figure for Halton alone is not given.)

In the units considered, which make up nearly the entire caseload in Ontario, more than \$134 million was paid out in general assistance for the year ending March, 1978, an increase of 14.8 per cent over the previous 12 months.

Welfare information is provided in the Quarterly Statistical Bulletin issued by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The report was given to the Regional Health and Social Services Committee.

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Cab fares hiked in Halton Hills

It is going to cost taxi users in Halton Hills more to keep a cab waiting.

Halton Hills council Monday approved a rate increase from \$8 per hour to \$12 per hour, or 20 cents a minute, for a cab waiting while engaged.

Other rates for cabs remain unchanged at 80 cents for the first tenth of a mile and 10 cents for each tenth of a mile thereafter.

Senior citizens also get a 10 percent discount upon presentation of an old age security card.

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