



## ACTON MEWS

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# Morrow steps down as regional chairman

Fulfillment and satisfaction are two qualities Ric Morrow takes away with him as retiring chairman of Halton Region.

In the space of two short years he saw five major decisions made by regional council.

The establishment of Site F as a landfill location, building of a regional headquarters, creation of a business development department, an official plan and uniform water rates are landmarks of his tenure.

Taking each in turn, Site F was and continues to be the most controversial.

Morrow said when he was elected chairman, he wanted the region to make a decision on locating a regional landfill site for its waste.

Prior to his election, he saw three years of procrastination. Last year, the region settled on Site F.

Although the matter is scheduled to go before the Ontario Municipal Board again early in the new year, Morrow said he is confident the region's case is well prepared.

"The homework has been done," he said.

Site F is approximately 240 acres at the corner of Britannia and Tremaine Rds. in the southwestern section of Milton.

Morrow said it was the best site of the many the region considered.

It is one which fulfills all of the requirements laid down by the Ministry of the Environment for a site capable of handling wet and dry garbage.

Morrow said he had no illusions about the unpopularity of the decision.

Governments tend to favor things which are not objectionable, he said. However, in this case, a tough decision had to be made and council made it. All that follows are the legal technicalities of securing provincial approval.

For the problem of garbage is a province-wide concern. When Halton was formed five years ago, there were seven landfill sites, one for each municipality.

Morrow said Milton's was full and now ships its garbage to the site in Georgetown.

Three other sites have since been closed. This places a strain on the existing ones. The landfill site in Oakville is an example.

The city said five years ago the site wouldn't be expanded. Now because Site F has been delayed, the life of the Oakville location appears it will be extended.

Morrow said he didn't deny garbage is controversial. "No one likes it," he said. However, it isn't going away.

He said Halton generates 200,000 tons a year.

Incineration and recycling can't handle it, he said—not unless the taxpayers are willing to shell out \$4 million for a special plant.

Landfill is the only feasible solution and Site F is the best location, the experts have found.

"Council made the best decision on the best advice available," he said. "Nobody anywhere likes landfill but nobody anywhere likes taxes."

Emotions have run high during debate.

Morrow said at one meeting, he feared things were going to get out of hand and made arrangements to make sure they didn't.

"One of the exciting things about politics is convincing enough people to make a responsible decision," he said.

A second landfill for Morrow was council's decision to build its own headquarters at the corner of Highway 25 (Bronte Road, and the Queen Elizabeth Way).

He said the building will give the region a sense of identity, save costs and give taxpayers their own municipal building.

It is a structure which is completely paid.

Halton received \$2.1 million for the sale of the Halton County building in Milton to the province and took approximately \$500,000 out of this year's operating budget to cover the projected \$2.6 million cost.

Morrow said he had originally voted against the decision to sell the county building.

But the vote to rent two floors in the Abbey Life building in Burlington was approved and the region has spent most of its time there.

Beginning last Friday, it began moving.

Although the building is not yet finished, Morrow said moving in is a good way of getting the contractors to finish the job.

This newspaper has learned many of the staff are unhappy with the move



OUTGOING CHAIRMAN Ric Morrow looks up as he decamps from his office. Halton Region moved from its Burlington office into its new building at the corner of Highway 25 and the Queen Elizabeth Way on the weekend. Morrow is stepping down at the end of this council's term, after a municipal career which spanned a decade.

# Morrow stresses regional assets

One of the things a regional chairman learns is to look at the region as an entity rather than its individual parts.

This has been one of the experiences for retiring Halton chairman Ric Morrow. His two-year-term brought this home, he said.

No longer did his former riding of Halton Hills draw his first loyalty. He said the region came first.

Although five years of regional government in Halton have gone by, there are still critics.

Answering this criticism, Morrow said these people who criticize regional government aren't keeping themselves informed.

"They haven't read the reports," he said. He said he believes the regional system of government is the best method of handling the mushrooming residential, commercial and industrial growth in the area.

"A regional government has the necessary support staff to handle this kind of growth."

Prior to the region's formation each of the seven communities — Oakville, Burlington, Acton, Milton, Georgetown, Esquesing and Nassagaweyn — had their

own governments.

Morrow said the situation was not only inefficient but costly and wasteful, as well as ineffectual in handling new problems.

Regional government has centralized expertise and managerial skill for handling current problems and planning for the future.

"There are a quarter of a million people living here," Morrow said.

Too often, he said, people see things done which they take for granted.

Most people see the bags picked up but don't give a second thought to where it goes.

Yet there are only three sites left in the region where it can go — and they are filling rapidly.

That is why Site F in Milton was chosen.

Morrow said it conformed to the regulations established by the Ministry of Environment.

It is the first site that has been planned as a landfill site, he said.

Police, sewer and water are other responsibilities assumed by regional government.

Because of the growth in the area, a single community is no longer able to cope with the cost of providing these without heavy debenturing.

To provide efficient service, regional government has provided savings to taxpayers, Morrow said.

While critics have said costs from regional government are higher than what they were under the county system of government, Morrow said they are less.

Regional policing is more effective than its predecessor, he said.

# River Run uncertain

The fate of a financially troubled town house development in Georgetown is uncertain.

River Run, a 139 unit town house development, located near the banks of the Credit River between John Street and River Road, was first proposed about nine years ago.

On May 15 of this year, officials of the Company and local politicians attended a ground breaking ceremony and afterwards drank toasts to the success of the project.

Yesterday (Tuesday) two workmen were erecting a fence across the road to the abandoned site.

No trespassing signs were up, the sales trailer had been removed and construction has been at a standstill since late in September.

Some of the townhouses, which were to sell for about \$45,000 with AHOP (Assisted Home Ownership Plan), are all but completed and others are in various stages of completion.

As finally approved by Halton Hills council earlier this year, the development was to have 89 units in one phase and 50 units in a second. The project was hailed as a welcome addition to the housing stock in Georgetown which has a chronic shortage of low cost housing.

The project was originally proposed by Garthdale Investments Ltd. of Toronto and shortly after it was approved was taken over by a Toronto company called Abode Communities Ltd. which has four developments named Abode One, two, three and four respectively.

The financial difficulties of Abode One Ltd. came to light in the middle of September when workmen on the site had difficulty cashing their pay cheques.

Then more financial difficulties were uncovered after an investigation into the activities of the partners of the company was launched last month by the fraud squad of the Metro Toronto police force.

Mel Mandelbaum, a credit analyst with the Bank of Montreal, said the bank holds a collateral first mortgage on the property. "DeCarlo has had problems," Mandelbaum said, "but apart from that we can't comment further."

According to one of the Georgetown creditors of Abode One Ltd., the Bank of Montreal will be putting up the development for sale to the highest bidder.

Just when or how the problems of the development will be overcome is uncertain now but it is believed that Garthdale Investments Ltd. is attempting a rescue operation.

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**PRIVATE MUST SELL**  
 Only \$33,500.00. This 3 bedroom Townhouse has a nice size kitchen, spacious dining room, living room, fully brood roomed, nicely decorated. Full basement, walkout to private yard. Please call: 853-0114

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## REAL ESTATE

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 \$10,000.00 down. Located on quiet court only 100 yards from Highway No. 7. Unbelievable value, spacious rancher on a beautiful landscaped lot, floor to ceiling angelstone fireplace, bright kitchen with walkout to large cedar deck overlooking in ground pool. Huge master bedrooms with 2 pc. ensuite, unique living and dining area, oversized double garage. Just minutes from shopping and GO train.  
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 2 acres, treed, secluded, 20" insulation, heat pump. Come and see this different home. Ready for occupancy soon.  
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 Good high land. Reasonably priced.  
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## Church Services

**CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 Churchill Rd. N.  
 Minister The Rev. J. L. McFadden B.A., B.D. and Mrs. Eleanor McFadden, B.A.  
 Box 731, Guelph, Phone 821-3215  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 11:00 a.m. Service of Worship  
 The church on the hill is an inter denominational congregation ministering to the needs of the community  
 Everyone Welcome

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH ACTON**  
 Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie B.A., B.D. - Minister  
 Mr. E.A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 11:00 a.m. Church School for Nursery, Kindergarten and Grades 1 to 8  
 11:00 a.m. Public Service of Worship. Guest Preacher: The Rev. Gerald Renne of Acton.

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR**  
 1872 - Anglican - 1978  
 Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Dr.  
 Rev. Leonard Ewing Rector  
 Director of Music Mrs. Frank Oakes  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 TRINITY XXIV  
 9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist  
 10:30 a.m. - Choral Eucharist  
 10:30 a.m. - Church School and Nursery

**ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 80 Mill Street East, Founded 1842  
 Pastor: Rev. Das Sydney B.Sc., M.Div.  
 Pastor's Phone 853-1835 Church Phone 853-0690  
 TUESDAY 7:00 p.m. - Visitation  
 WEDNESDAY 10:00 a.m. - Morning Bible Study 7:30 p.m. - Young Peoples  
 THURSDAY 6:30 p.m. - Deacon's Meeting 7:30 p.m. - Choir Practice  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA TRINITY CHURCH ACTON**  
 Rev. Chas. Bnaton B.A., B.D. Dr. George Elliott M.A., Ph.D. Director of Music  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship  
 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
 Baby Fold and Toddler Care  
 Everyone Welcome

**EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**  
 731 Church Rd. N.  
 Pastor - Rev. B. Rannick  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 9:45 a.m. - Christian Education  
 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship  
 7:00 p.m. - Evening Service  
 TUESDAY 7:30 p.m. - Family Night  
 WEDNESDAY 10:30 a.m. - Ladies' Power Hour

**MONDAY**  
 8:00 p.m. - Mission Circle  
 Women's Day of Prayer Program  
**SALVATION ARMY**  
 Gospel Service will be held in the United Church, Acton every Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. throughout the fall. Everyone welcome.

**MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 177 Maple Ave., Georgetown  
 Pastor, Edwin H. Mitchell  
 Sunday, November 5, 1978  
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Pastor Mitchell  
 Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - Prayer and Bible Study  
 "The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada"

**THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER**