



DONALD MCDONALD has recently been appointed publisher of The Acton Free Press succeeding David Dills. He has been Business Manager of Dills Printing and Publishing Ltd. for seven years.

Don McDonald chosen publisher

Douglas Bassett, President of Inland Publishing Co. Limited, is pleased to announce the appointment of Donald McDonald as publisher of The Acton Free Press, effective immediately.

Mr. McDonald has been associated with The Acton Free Press for over seven years, having accepted the position of business manager following a 13 year stint with the Toronto Dominion Bank.

The Acton Free Press was recently purchased from its previous owners, Dills Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., by Inland Publishing Co., Limited, effective November 13.

Mr. McDonald, well known in Acton for his work in the Rotary Club and with the Scouting movement, said he is very proud to be chosen publisher, succeeding David Dills. "It is really an honor to be chosen the fourth publisher in the 103 year history of The Acton Free Press. Dave has left large footsteps to follow in, and is someone I consider worthy of emulation."

Mr. McDonald began his new duties as The Acton Free Press publisher on Thursday.

Slow growth worries planner

Halton Hills' slow-moving population growth has sparked concern from Halton's planning director E. R. Cumming.

Commenting on the fact the town's population increased by 58 people or 0.01 per cent between 1977 and 1978, he said, "Halton Hills' lack of growth causes the most concern with an absolute increase of only 58 people."

"It may actually be losing population, given that a municipality should grow by a minimum of its natural in-

crease, presuming in-migration and out-migration balance," he said.

"In Halton Hills this should represent a minimum growth of 300-400 people," he told the Halton Planning Committee last week.

Cumming said "Population of the Georgetown Urban area has declined from 17,599 in 1975 to 17,393 this year.

Between 1977 and 1978, Georgetown has lost a further 41 people."

"As with Milton, the lack of available sewage capacity

and resulting restriction on growth are responsible for the delay of growth in the Georgetown Urban Area."

Milton, however, continues to be the fastest growing community in Halton.

Between 1977 and 1978 the population of the town went from 22,095 to 22,706, a percentage increase of 2.8.

Cumming said, "Milton for the past four years has had the distinction of growing at a faster rate than other municipalities."

Burlington's population

rose to 108,354 from 105,714, a percentage of 2.4.

Oakville's went up to 69,881 from 68,572, a percentage rise of 1.9.

Halton Hills was the smallest of all, registering no more than 0.01 per cent increase or 33,993 people to 34,051.

Between 1971 and 1978, Halton Hills' population has gone from 29,676 to 34,051, an increase of 13 per cent.

This last year has been its smallest increase.

70s when the population went from 29,676 in 1971 to 31,060 in 1972 and 32,178 in 1973, a net increase of 2,502 or 8.0 per cent.

Since then the increases have dwindled. Only 1,873 people moved between the five-year period of 1973-78 according to statistics submitted in Cumming's report.

Halton's total population at this point in time is 234,892 almost a quarter of a million people.

Seven years ago in 1971, it had 190,230 people, a difference of 44,662. Thus the

percentage increase in the region is 19 per cent.

The region's growth coincides with those experienced in the neighboring regions around Metro Toronto of Peel, York and Durham, by 174,404 citizens.

Peel, Halton's neighbor to the east, has a population of 421,618. Most of these, 397,304 or 94 per cent, reside in the Mississauga-Brampton area.

Peel increased 27 per cent or 90,985 people from 1974. The year 1974 was the time when regional government was instituted.

Durham has a population of 265,538, 30,646 more than Halton.

There are 213,657 people living in York which is 21,235 less than Halton.

The growth has been at the expense of Metro whose population grew only 0.1 per cent in the last five years while the four regions went up by 18.

Provincial statistics show Metro's population actually declined 53,681 from last year to the current 2,994,171.

The Acton Free Press

One Hundred and Fourth Year.—No. 21.

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1978.

Eighty-Eight Pages.—Fifteen Cents.

Seniors' housing finally underway



Work has begun on the senior citizens' apartment building on Elizabeth Drive.

According to Sam Carr, of the Ontario Housing Corporation, the construction firm of J.P. Ducharme of Dashwood, Ontario arrived on the site about two weeks ago and is currently clearing the land. He expects it will take one year to complete the \$979,420 building. "I expect fall occupancy" he told the Acton Free Press.

The building will have 52 units, on three storeys, Mr. Carr said. The structure will face Fairy Lake and be situated on the curve on Elizabeth Drive. There will be some local subcontractors, but he could not readily name them.

According to Christa Hale, also from the OHC, her office will start making offers to various people on the waiting list once the project is scheduled for completion.

No McKenzie recount

Councillor Pat McKenzie, defeated by seven votes in last week's election, will not seek a recount, he told Halton Hills council at the final meeting, Monday night.

McKenzie was beaten by Ross Knechtel, a newcomer to the political scene who took one of the two area council seats in Ward One, Acton.

McKenzie said he had served for 12 years in municipal politics, and first met outgoing mayor Tom Hill that long ago. He said he had taken a strong stand on local issues and claimed he would rather lose by seven votes than sacrifice his integrity or be obligated to anyone.

"Why should the funeral home be exempted from paying for parking? Why should the seven lots on Mill Street not be sold to benefit all?" he asked.

McKenzie in his parting words to Halton Hills council said he hoped the library question and Focal Properties problem would be resolved, and told incoming

regional councillor Ed Wood he would do what he could to help him. McKenzie served as regional councillor, but decided this time to run for an area council position. He said he had enjoyed working with the mayor. "Sometimes I can't hear you, not because you speak too quietly, but because it's too loud," concluded McKenzie.

Councillor Peter Marks, who did not seek re-election, briefly thanked council and staff for their help and their

Rev. McKenzie accepts new post

The Rev. Andrew McKenzie of Knox Presbyterian church will be leaving Acton after 22 years, and serving the congregation in Perth.

The announcement came Sunday during the regular church service. Mr.

McKenzie had been guest preacher in the Perth church a few weeks ago, and last week was "called" by the congregation. He decided to accept the offer feeling a change was due.

The family likes Perth and (Continued on Page 2)



Santa comes to town snow or shine Sat.

Santa Claus officially comes to town this Saturday when the annual parade in his honor travels down Mill St.

Over 16 local groups have been striving to make the "World of Disney" come alive in town, according to Rick Coe, one of the Y's Men organizing the event. In addition, there will be three bands, the Acton Citizens' Band, the Georgetown Legion Pipe Band, and the Salvation Army band from Cambridge. Also participating will be the Georgetown Majorette and Drum Corps.

Judging of the entries will be done by Halton Hills councillor Les Daby, local artist Laura Dittich and former N.H.L. player and local farmer Pierre Pilote.

Heading up the parade will be none other than Mickey Mouse. Joining him will be some of his friends, Snow White, Cinderella, Three Little Pigs, Peter Pan and Captain Hook with his band of cutthroats along with many other Disney characters.

Bringing up the rear, and sure to be the centre of attention, will be Santa Claus.

The parade will be starting at 1:30 p.m. and will proceed from Eastern Avenue, west

on Mill St., to Park Avenue, to Knox Ave. where it will disband.

Parade participants may enjoy a cup of hot chocolate at the Scout hall following the parade. This is put on by the Scout and Guide mothers Association.

Following the parade, Santa will be available at the Acton Y to take orders for Christmas personally or just to meet the children of the town.

Parade winners will be posted in the bulletin board in front of the Y building as soon

as available with a special trophy going to the float accumulating the most points.

Parade committee members are: chairman, Richard Coe, Dave Hunter and Jim Rivett, of the Y's Men; Linda Coe and Ann Perry from the Y's Menettes; and Larry Frizzell from the Acton Volunteer Firefighters, who are marshalling the parade.

Dress warmly, and stay clear of any floats or animals during the parade.

Christmas B.I.A. bus

The business people of the Business Improvement Area will again sponsor a Christmas bus, to make shopping at home more convenient in December. The bus will operate from December 13 to December 23 inclusive, except on Sundays.

Tyler Transport is arranging for the bus, which will have the same route as last year. The routes and regular times will be published in the Free Press later.

Inside this week:	
Songs of the swan	Page 4
Sight of the beavers	6
Bazaar time	8
New Rockwood clerk	10
Grandma goes hunting	11
Sabre surprise	B1
Rockwood Trail Ride	B4
Small claims advice	B5

Fisher, McMahon

Two resign from library board

One member of the Halton Hills library board has announced his resignation and another is expected to before Dec. 7.

Mike McMahon, who was appointed to the library board a year ago by the separate school board, has announced his resignation effective Dec. 1.

Betty Fisher, who was appointed by the Halton school board, cannot sit on both the library board and the school board. Fisher was elected Nov. 13 in Wards one and two. Under the Public Library Act, a member of the appointing body cannot sit on the library board.

That brings to five the possible number of new members to the board. The terms of three other members—George Lee and Norm Elliott of Acton and Ken Riley of Georgetown—have expired and they need to reapply.

McMahon said in an interview yesterday (Tuesday) that he has other professional commitments that would conflict with his attendance at library board meetings. McMahon is a teacher at Georgetown and District High school.

"Rather than be an absentee trustee, it's better I resign," he said, adding that he feels the demands on the

time of trustees has increased tremendously.

McMahon said he was "personally disappointed" with the time he spent on the library board but feels that the board is heading in the right direction in its exercise of defining its goals and objectives.

The library board, "can come to grips with the library situation by defining where the board stands and where the members stand," McMahon said. With a basic set of priorities, what board members want will be brought to the table, he added.

"From my experience, it is not misunderstanding, but people had different motives or ideas of what the library should be."

The library board is currently meeting with William Kreisel of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation on the goals and objectives of library boards and how to implement them. "With Mr. Kreisel, I think they'll become unified of purpose," he said.

A statement of policy will help the continuity of the board, he said. "We seem to be going from one problem to another without any definite statement to stand by."

The Halton Hills library board has gone through a growth experience from two small boards to a town-wide board part of a regional library system, he said. For the board to continue, it needs a definite set of goals and priorities that would also create an understanding between the people of Halton Hills and the library board, he said.

Betty Fisher indicated in an interview yesterday (Tuesday) that she measured her accomplishments on two levels—personal and as a board member.

On the personal level, she was pleased that a program for children who are reluctant

to read has been established in a Georgetown school and is in the planning stages for an Acton school. That was a matter she put in her letter of application to the board of education when she was seeking the appointment to the library board, she said.

"As a board, though, 'we have achieved nothing,' she said.

"We have spent so much time thinking about what we'll do, we've done little to upgrade service."

Fisher said she was not belittling the library board trustees, "who have tried

Continued on Page 2



THE FEDCHYSYN family suddenly found itself enlarged by five last week after Lorraine found four abandoned puppies and one adult dog at the side of the road on the townline. Husband Roman, son Michael and Lorraine are all on the lookout for good homes for the lovable canines.