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## Region urged to pass equalization

The Region of Halton has been advised to confirm equalization of water and sewer rates and implement them as planned on Jan. 1, 1980.

Michael Loudon, a professional engineer and an expert in the field, had been hired as a consultant by the region to review the equalization package proposed by the region and report back to the administration and finance committee last Wednesday.

In a 14-page report with several appendices, Mr. Loudon said the rates, as passed Oct. 3, should be confirmed and the 15 per cent residential discount should be built into the proposed rates.

He said his review showed a 15 per cent discount to be "the fairest" percentage to both residential and industrial-commercial users.

Although it was suggested residents should get a 20 per cent break, Mr. Loudon said this would be unfairly weighted against the industrial-commercial users.

In terms of sewer use, he said domestic consumption and industrial consumption are split roughly 50-50 but in the total use package, residences account for 64 per cent of the total revenue with the industrial-commercial community contributing 36 per cent of the revenue.

This corresponds with the 1979 system of charging by a mill rate.

"It is estimated that 70 per cent of the mill rate sewage revenue in 1979 will come from customers classified as residential.

"This is even higher than that estimated from the proposed sewer rates," Mr. Loudon said.

In terms of the sewage expenditures for 1980, Mr. Loudon broke down costs and found residential users will pay 69 per cent of the cost with the rest being picked up by industrial-commercial users.

Mr. Loudon said he supported the 15 per cent residential discount because water used for lawn water, filling swimming pools, washing cars, and watering gardens will never show on sewer meters, while almost all water used by industry is returned to the sewage system.

"Whether the 15 per cent domestic discount can be demonstrated on an actual cost basis is unknown.

"There is no doubt that it is fairly representative of the actual sewage discharged by homeowners.

"However, there is a considerable amount of infiltration which enters sewers between the customer and the sewage plant.

"This can amount to 15 per cent to 35 per cent or more of sewage flows.

"Since over 75 per cent of sewers are related to residential development, and since infiltration is a function of both sewer length and size, it could be argued that at least part of the 15 per cent residential non-sanitary-water sewage would be offset by infiltration," he said.

Mr. Loudon also recommended a billing procedure be developed which could provide the capability of calculating sewer charges from sewer rates so that flexibility for the future could be built into the billing format.

Committee members did not make this recommendation, asking only that a billing procedure be developed and brought back to committee for review.

## Strikes averted

Ontario's community college teachers have turned down a two-year contract but it does not appear a strike is in the offing.

The teachers, including those at Sheridan College, voted 68 per cent to reject the contract offer but 61 per cent against taking strike action.

The college is offering teachers a 6.5 per cent increase in the first year and a 5.5 increase in the second year of the contract.

The union wants a \$800 first year increase across the board as well as a 6.5 per cent increase in the first year. They are seeking an eight per cent hike in the second year and a cost of living allowance.

In other related news, the full time workers at Halton Centennial Manor will have their contract dispute submitted to arbitration.

**FARM AND CITY**  
More than half of Canada's good farm land is located within a 160 km radius of the country's 23 largest cities.

## Raftis will seek funds

Regional chairman Jack Raftis will see Ontario Community and Social Services Minister Keith Norton, personally, to try to get money necessary to upgrade food services in Halton Centennial Manor.

Two weeks ago regional health and social services committee met at Centennial Manor to see what Administrator Jack Charlton called a "deteriorating" kitchen and a former laundry room the Manor wants to turn into an arts and crafts area.

The kitchen needs \$186,000 to bring it up to standard, Charlton said.

The application for funding had been made in May and nothing was heard until recently when the Ministry turned down the kitchen plan completely and said the laundry idea would be placed in 1980-1981 Ministry budget for consideration.

The letter from the Ministry to that effect did not sit too well with members of the committee, who accused the Ministry of "foot dragging."

At last week's regular council meeting, a recommendation passed aimed at securing the funds for both projects as soon as possible.



Shown being sworn in recently as the parliamentary assistant to Federal Transport Minister Don Mazankowski, Halton MP Otto Jelinek will be in the committee which will be receiving proposed new legislation on the transportation of dangerous goods. He was on the scene of the Mississauga train derailment and said the new laws will not allow a similar accident to happen again.

## Lawyers opposed to paying more money to legal aid

The verdict is unanimous: many Halton lawyers could not easily afford to pay \$500 under a proposal that would see Ontario's 14,000 lawyers pay a set fee toward providing justice for the province's poor.

Halton Law Association president Robert Lush, Halton Legal Aid Director David McKenzie and Oakville town councillor and freshman lawyer Bill Perras agree that with the numbers of lawyers in the market today and with the public calling for quotes, young lawyers in Halton have trouble making ends meet.

However Perras feels the proposal to spread the burden of legal aid among all lawyers is a good idea, in part because it would most benefit young, struggling lawyers who do the lion's share of legal aid work.

Lush and McKenzie condemn the proposal. McKenzie on the grounds that lawyers shouldn't pay for a clearly-needed expansion of legal aid. "As Legal Aid director I would welcome more money, but speaking personally as a lawyer I don't think it should be at my expense," McKenzie said.

At present the 4,800 lawyers who do legal aid work defending poor people give back 25 per cent of their fees under the plan as a professional contribution toward the justice system in the province.

Clayton Ruby, a Toronto criminal lawyer and a member of special benchers' committee examining legal aid financing, said recently he didn't think it would be "outrageous" to ask for \$500 a year from every Ontario lawyer.

"Ruby said many lawyers feel the whole legal profession should help carry the charitable burden now shouldered exclusively by the 4,800. He noted that legal aid work accounts for 80 per cent of some lawyers' income, meaning they give away 20 per cent of their earnings as a charitable contribution. Other lawyers may contribute little or nothing.

"My immediate reaction," said Lush, "is to say many of those 4,800 would not have any income at all if it were not for legal aid."

McKenzie feels the proposal probes to the depths of what legal aid is all about—whether it is a right or a privilege.

Ontario Legal Aid was started 12 years ago. Prior to that all lawyers were expected to donate some of their time to charity cases.

Perras feels there are two sides to the question: those lawyers who want to help and those who don't. The trend is for young lawyers to do legal aid work for awhile, and when they're established stop doing it as much.

The view that there's a division in philosophy is echoed by Toronto civil lawyer Ian Roland, who said Ruby's proposal would benefit the poorer lawyers who did a lot of legal aid work and hurt only those who were "so well-to-do that the \$500 isn't going to concern them."

The proposal maybe less relevant to Halton. According to Lush and McKenzie very few lawyers in Halton make much of their livelihood from legal aid (although 906 applications for legal aid and 307 referrals have been processed in the first six months of 1979 in Halton).

## Church Services

**CHURCHILL COMMUNITY**  
Rev. J.L. McFadden, B.A. B.D. and  
Mrs. Eleanor McFadden, Box 731, Guelph, 821 3215  
Sunday, Nov. 25, 1979  
11:00 p.m. Worship Service  
The church on the hill is an inter-denominational congregation ministering to the needs of the community.  
Everyone Welcome

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR**  
corner Willow St. & St. Alban's Dr.  
Rev. Arthur Trube B.A., M. Div.  
Rector  
Director of Music Mrs. Frank Oakes  
Sunday Nov. 25, 1979  
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. Morning prayer  
9:30 a.m. Pre-Confirmation Class  
10:30 a.m. Church School & Nursery  
Mid-Week Holy Communion  
Wednesday Morning at 10:00 a.m.  
A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA TRINITY CHURCH ACTON**  
Rev. Charles Beaton B.A., B.D.  
Dr. George Elliott M.A. Ph.D.  
Director of Music  
Sunday, Nov. 25, 1979  
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
Baby Fold and Toddlers Care  
Everyone Welcome

## Halton ready

Halton Region is ready to put its resources behind any municipality if a disaster should occur in the region like the tanker car derailment in Mississauga.

Bill McCreary, secretary for the region, said it would be up to any municipality involved to put its disaster plan into effect.

This would involve, at the municipality's request, Halton putting all its resources into play.

Although no official region-wide disaster plan now exists, Mr. McCreary said each town or city is capable of handling any emergency.

"Part of it went into action Sunday Nov. 11 when the southeast corner of Oakville had to be evacuated," he said.

## Repair dam

Work is expected to commence on repairs to the Paper Mill Dam in the Georgetown area if regional council gives its approval today.

The total cost to repair the dam is \$247,500 of which the region's share of \$6,800 which will be rated back to Halton Hills.

## Labor study

A Halton Region survey to find out the type of labor force represented by its residents is expected to be released soon.

Bill Marshall, regional business development director, told the administration and finance committee Wednesday the survey sent to almost 10,000 homes in Halton had resulted in a 17 per cent response.

The questionnaire was to be filled out anonymously by residents, stating the type of work they are qualified to do. This information in turn has been compiled so the region can show prospective business firms interested in locating in the region the type of labor force on tap.

**TITLEABLE**  
Canada has a total area of over 9.1 million square kilometers. However, only 11 per cent or about one million square kilometres, is capable of any form of agricultural use including rough grazing.