



Anthony Smith

Acton man's firm can't export to Cuba United States says

by Gord Murray
A small businessman, who lives in Acton, would like to know who is running Canada after his Mississauga firm was denied an export permit because Washington objected to the company sending a product to Cuba.
Anthony Smith, 14 Doby Road, has lived in Acton for nearly five years and since 1969 has been involved in a family business, Vector Holdings Ltd., Mississauga, serving as vice-president.
The firm wholesales and distributes machinery, hand tools and educational instruction equipment to the federal government, educational institutions and sometimes to

foreign nations through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and United Nations Educational Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
In the past the firm has purchased products and sent them to foreign countries like Peru, Jamaica, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Cuba through CIDA and UNESCO without any problems. Previously Smith's firm has imported educational equipment from the United States for the Canadian Commercial Corporation and then shipped the goods on for export to Montreal and other ports, and sometimes the products ended up going to Cuba.
A couple of times this firm has been asked to

supply United States manufactured educational equipment by UNESCO and they were exported to Cuba.
Smith explains until he received a visit from Canada Customs, prompted by a request from Canada's Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Vector Holdings was unaware export permits were required when shipping goods to nations other than the United States. The firm had only been following UNESCO shipping instructions.
The Canada Customs audit showed the firm had made an honest mistake and didn't know it needed an export permit to ship to Cuba.
The Canada Customs official advised Smith

obtaining an export permit was purely a formality so Vector Holdings decided to apply for one the next time it won a contract to supply a piece of American made educational equipment for export. Smith pointed out Canada Customs did not advise him that there would be any problem obtaining an export permit for Cuba, even though the federal official knew the Mississauga firm has exported to the Caribbean in the past and that was what caused the audit in the first place.
Early last year UNESCO again asked Smith's company to acquire an American manufactured electrical discharge machine (they aren't made
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Bert Hinton offers Give town house, wants park named Hinton Park

Longtime Acton resident and veteran politician Herbert H. "Bert" Hinton has offered to make a gift of his home on Park Avenue adjacent to Prospect Park.

Halton Hills council revealed Mr. Hinton's offer Monday night and issued a press release and advertisement requesting citizen comments on the proposal.

"In return for this gift, which would be subject to a municipal tax free life tenancy, Mr. Hinton has requested that a memorial plaque be placed at the site in honor of his late wife, and also that the park be renamed from Prospect Park to Hinton Park," council's statement said.

Mr. Hinton has led a very active public life, including being a former Warden of Halton County, Reeve of Acton, Halton Board of Education trustee, chairman of the board of governors of Sheridan College, a past-president of the Acton Fair Board and was president of the Acton Chamber of Commerce in 1962. Mr. Hinton is the 1980 president of the Chamber of Commerce. His late wife, Mary Elizabeth (Jackson) Hinton was a school teacher for many years in Acton and passed away in 1976. Mr. Hinton, 67, was an Acton merchant for 50 years and came to Acton from



Bert Hinton

Toronto as a boy in 1924. The town release said the municipality was approached by Mr. Hinton

"to indicate his desire to make a gift of his home and land" which is to be used for "future park purposes."

"Mr. Hinton has indicated that the former Town of Acton and its residents have been the avenue through which many of his and his former wife's life enjoyments have been realized, and now wishes to show his appreciation in this fashion," the council statement read.

Council will consider Mr. Hinton's offer at its meeting on February 18. "Any citizen wishing to submit considerations on this matter is invited to do so by contacting the

Clerk's office." The release also states public submissions will be brought to the attention of the council to assist in their deliberations. All submissions will be considered confidential by the municipality.
Council issued its release following a behind closed doors discussion.

In an interview Monday night, Mr. Hinton said council was following his wishes and noted if there are "substantial or serious objections" to his proposal "I wouldn't want it to proceed." He felt he was acting in a "responsible" manner in
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The ice on Fairy Lake has been great the past few weeks and young and old alike have been enjoying the fun in the brisk winter air. This group of skaters are, from left to right, Shelly Patenaude, Dean Wegman, Kevin Cargill, Darrin Cargill, Jason Wegman and Stacey Patenaude.

Photo by HARTLEY COLES

Yaworsky fund tops \$2000 mark

The Yaworsky trust fund surpassed its goal by \$1.

Early last month Jackelene Yaworsky, 28, and her daughter Jennifer, six, died in a tragic

car accident in Wabash County, Indiana, and family friend Gayle Jarrett, Tyler Avenue, started a fund-raising drive to help Mrs. Yaworsky's husband, Eugene, pay for the

family medical expenses in the United States.

By the time the trust fund closed Thursday \$2,001 had been contributed. Mrs. Jarrett had set a goal of \$2,000 for the

fund. Mrs. Jarrett reported \$484 was raised from the raffie of two dolls, one named Angela and the other Eva Sanson, after an area resident who wrote a moving letter to

the Acton Free Press in tribute to little Jennifer. The dolls were won by Roy Short of Erin and Jane Taillefer, Acton.

Another large portion of the amount raised,

\$500, came from the Acton Lions Club, and Mrs. Jarrett said the remainder was raised through the generosity of local merchants and residents' private donations.



Karen Doherty, with a little help from her friend, seeing eye dog Glenn, is working in the Acton area as a rehabilitation officer for the Halton-Peel

Branch of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Photo by FRED LOEK

Blind teacher joins CNIB staff in Halton

by Eric Elstone

For the first time blind people in Acton and area have the services of a rehabilitation teacher who lives in the region.

Karen Doherty has been working in Halton and Peel regions since the start of this year. She has started teaching here after working in the same field for a year in Toronto. Miss Doherty's home is in Milton.

Before Miss Doherty transferred to the area, Peel-Halton was divided up so it was serviced by teachers from Kitchener, Toronto and St. Catharines.

Miss Doherty, who is herself blind, driver Mary Day and Miss Doherty's guide dog Glenn, visit 28 clients on a weekly basis. There is one blind person in Acton area who receives instruction from Miss Doherty.

In Halton-Peel there are 530 blind people registered with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. "To get someone to accept blindness is the hardest part," Miss Doherty said in a recent interview. Blind people must try to examine their situation realistically.

Most of the rehabilitation teacher's clients have suffered blindness within the last five years or so.

Six clients are learning to read and write, on a braille typewriter. Braille is a system of

communicating for the blind in which letters are represented by raised dots.

"With braille type you can always make sure you've got it (a message) right," said Miss Doherty.

A number of senior citizens at Halton Manor, in Milton, also receive guidance from Miss Doherty, as well as learning many crafts.

Daily home chores—cooking, vacuuming, washing clothes—come under the subject of

living skills; something else Miss Doherty teaches.

The blind are taught how to organize their homes so they can get the most use out of the house and live independently. In the kitchen, for example, jars may be set aside in one cupboard and cans in another. The idea is to make the blind self-sufficient.

"Many people are not afraid to cook, but they are afraid of the heat (from a stove) or of

pouring something out of a cup," said Miss Doherty.

"I won't teach anything I can't do. I'll direct them to an expert." The easiest topics in life skills for someone to learn is how to use a stove—after the dials are marked.

Being blind enables Miss Doherty to judge the effectiveness of new products designed for the blind. "Because I'm living in the same situation, I can gauge if certain adaptations will work, or I can advise someone if something has failed."

"Blind people really can do things just like anyone else. It sometimes takes just a little extra effort, that's all. They're just like anyone else."

Part of the rehabilitation teacher's job is to decide if a client has developed enough confidence. "Learning to do things confidently comes with time."

On the road towards a person accepting blindness, the biggest barrier to cross is in getting someone to learn to touch.

In many ways being a teacher of the blind has the characteristics of any other service profession. "Sometimes you get too close to a situation. Sometimes you have to say: 'I am one person, I can only do so much.'" Miss Doherty says the blind must be thick

inside

A former Acton resident, Gail Vukovich, has pleaded not guilty to stabbing charges in Iowa. Details on page 3.

NDP Candidate Doug Black wants to extend footwear import quotas to help Acton leather firms like Beardmore. See Page 9.

Two Liberal stars were in Halton last week. Details and pictures on page B6.

Turn to page 10 for details of a big fire in Rockwood Friday.

The Acton Free Press talks with a groundhog who predicts six more weeks of winter. Turn to page 14.

A new Acton chamber of the Eastern Star was born Saturday. More on page 14.

Reporter Eric Elstone talks with Acton-Esque member of the Halton Board of Education, Betty Fisher, about her first year in office. See page 7.

The Acton Library is much more than just books. Turn to page B for a feature on the library and its wide range of services.

It's heart month and the campaign for funds is underway. See page 3.

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Free Press wins award

The Acton Free Press has won an award for the Best Front Page in circulation class three in the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association's (OWNA) Better Newspaper Competition.

The award for the Free Press was one of 23 captured by the Inland Publishing Co. Limited group of suburban community newspapers. Class three is for newspapers with circulation from 3,001 to 4,500.

The award will be presented at the OWINA's annual convention to be held in Toronto March 6-8.

Free Press sister paper, the Georgetown Independent, was judged Best Overall in class six, circulation from 10,001 to 16,000 as well as taking top spot for the Best Editorial Page, Best Sports Pages and Best Classified Advertising.

Another sister publication, the Milton Canadian Champion, was picked as best overall in class five, for papers with circulation between 6,501 and 10,000. In addition, The Champion won Best Composition and Layout, Best Editorial Page, Best Sports Pages and shared the Environmental Award with the Minden Times. The Milton publication also won the coveted President's Award for the publisher who promotes his community best.

Inland newspapers took the top three spots for Best Overall in class seven, newspapers with circulations 16,001 and over. The Mississauga News was first, Brampton Guardian second and Oshawa This Week third. The News also won awards for the Best Sports Pages, Best Photography and the Best News Story. Oshawa This Week was judged to have the best editorial page and the Best Business and Finance Story. The Guardian was chosen as having the Best Classified Advertising in class seven. Another Inland newspaper, the Oakville Beaver, won Best Composition and Layout, Best Local Advertising and Best News and Features in class seven.