

Bylaw for rest homes approved

Halton Hills now has a lodging home licensing bylaw, which will cover establishments such as rest homes.

Monday night after another round of discussions, council finally passed the bylaw, changing the licensing fee from \$100 to \$10 a bed to a maximum of \$100.

Mary Gurney of the Rest Home Association of Ontario urged the licence fee change, noting \$100 for small establishments was a little steep. She had canvassed some Acton rest home operators and found they felt \$10 a bed would be fair. She noted Kingston charges a flat fee of \$5, Ottawa \$10 and Windsor \$25, but allowed some centres like Hamilton charge \$200.

She was informed Halton Hills proposed flat rate of \$100 was set after a survey of municipalities in this area. The old bylaw was too limited and didn't address the issue of level of care, Gurney complained. She said she and some Acton rest home operators had met with town staff Monday afternoon and were disappointed to learn the municipality felt it couldn't go any further with the bylaw than fire, safety and building regulations.

The Rest Home Association wants the province to bring in level-of-care legislation and failing that, looks for action from regions and municipalities.

She urged Halton Hills push the region to develop regulations governing level-of-care requirements, stating the town needs to put a "bomb" under the region to create interest. She added many other municipalities are coming up with similar level-of-care regulations. The region is as limited as the municipality when it comes to legislation for rest homes, Councillor Dave Whiting said. Halton does set standards for rest homes with which it has purchase of service agreements.

Whiting noted the region and town want the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to push Queen's Park to change legislation so rest homes can be directly governed.

He and Booth urged Gurney and Acton rest home operators go to the region and explain how municipalities can directly govern rest homes. Mayor Peter Pomeroy said other municipalities might have tougher bylaws than Halton Hills, but questioned their legality in court.

Katherine Kelly said the meeting with staff didn't accomplish a thing. She wondered why after several years of satisfactory fire and health department inspections of Acton rest homes, the town was now passing a bylaw. Mrs. Kelly said there shouldn't have been inspections in the past if the town had no legislation.

She said the new legislation concerns lodging homes and there is a big difference between a lodging home and a rest home.

She said she was beginning to suspect her real complaints were with the region and health department, not the town.

Pomeroy said the town was passing a bylaw after the region expressed concern about safety standards at Cher

Rest Home, Main St. North. The region informed the town of its concern after rejecting a request from the rest home's operators, Brian and Travina Cherwoniak, for a purchase of service agreement. He predicted now that municipalities in Halton have bylaws governing rest homes, the region will soon come up with more stringent regulations.

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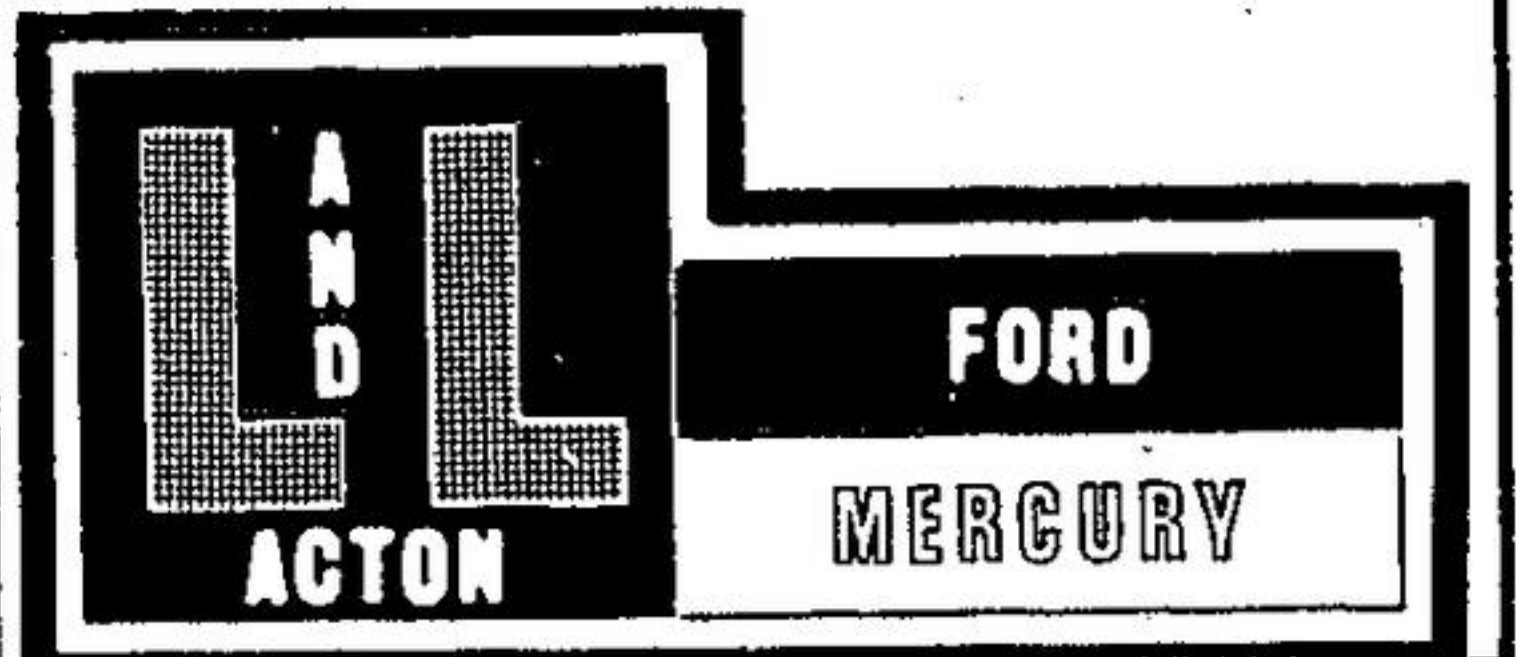
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Fine weather graced the Acton Legion's Family Fun Day Sunday. Dozens of families took part in the indoor and outdoor fun. Some youngsters probably got their first snowmobile rides during the winter carnival.

AHS band bound for Huntsville concert

Acton's High School band will be part of the music action when a mighty medley of folk tunes issues forth from Huntsville tomorrow night.

The band's tour starts Thursday with a concert at McKenzie-Smith Middle School. Huntsville high school students will be treated to a Friday concert by the Acton band. A slide

show is also planned as part of the concert to introduce Acton to the hosts. That afternoon there is skiing in Hidden Valley. Band members return Saturday. However, they will be seeing more of the Huntsville students in May when both bands plan public concerts here.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

INFORMATION CENTRE Highway 25 Improvements from Regional Road 9 to Speyside

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications is presently preparing contract drawings for improvements of Highway 25 within the above mentioned limits. A key plan of the area is shown below.



General Information

The Ministry proposes to up-grade the existing two lane highway, which will include the following work:

- 1) Reconstruction and widening of the existing pavement to 24 feet. Portion of the existing pavement will be recycled to save bituminous materials.
- 2) Improvements to the existing shoulders and roadside ditching as required.
- 3) Construction of a truck climbing lane on the escarpment section, for which right of way widening will be required.
- 4) Improvements to sideroad intersections.
- 5) Improvements to drainage where identified.

This is a follow up meeting to the one held at the Speyside School on September 2, 1980. Interested residents or persons may discuss these proposals with representatives of the Ministry, who will be in attendance at the Information Centres, at the time and date indicated in the schedule below.

Schedule

Date: Thursday, February 19, 1981
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Place: Speyside Public School (Highway 25 and Equeusing Road 17)

If you are unable to attend the Information Centre but wish to obtain information before or after the meeting, you may contact:

Allan Sulevella, Senior Project Manager,
Ministry of Transportation & Communications,
Planning and Design Section, Central Region,
5000 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario,
M2N 6E3
Telephone No: (416) 224-7588



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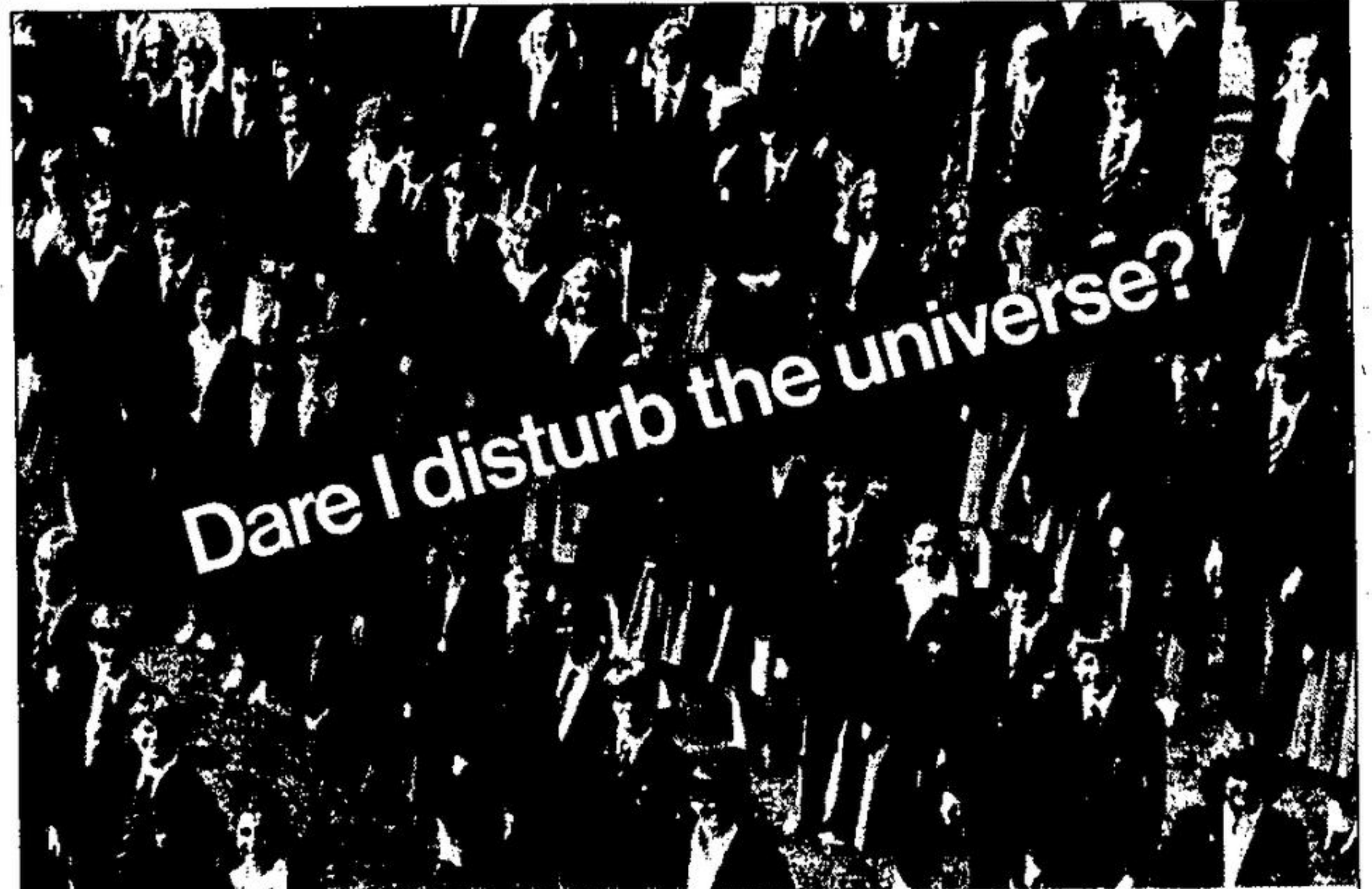


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