

**CANADIAN ODEON THEATRES
GEORGETOWN 3**

1 **2ND WEEK**
POLTERGEIST
Eve's at 7 & 8:20 - mat sat sun at 2

2 **2ND WEEK**
ROCKY III
Eve's at 7:05 & 9:15 - mat sat sun at 2

3 **"E.T." STAYING FOR A 12TH BIG WEEK**
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Inventory of rural Ontario

A small army of people are working their way through rural Ontario taking inventory of agricultural land use and tile drainage.

The \$1.4 million survey, funded by the province's Board of Industrial Leadership and Development (BILD) and Employment and Immigration Canada, will be carried out between now and spring of 1983.

"These studies will provide detailed analyses of Ontario's agricultural land base," said Dennis Timbrell, Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food. "They will generate important data as the basis for planning and decision-making on a wide range of agricultural issues."

Information for the tile drainage portion of the inventory is being collected through personal interviews with farmers. Farmers will be asked to describe the extent and location of existing drainage systems. All of the province will be surveyed with the exception of Russell, Ottawa-Carleton, Gengarry, Stormont, Dundas and Grenville counties, which were surveyed under a recent project.

To determine agricultural land uses, two-person teams will travel the countryside by car. The crews use aerial photographs as a guide to locate and note crops and other land uses.

The program will provide 173 people with temporary jobs lasting 11 to 36 weeks.

Report from Queen's Park

by Julian Reed
M.P.P. Halton-Burlington

Ontario's new Human Rights Code was proclaimed on the 15th June, 1982. At a dinner honoring the occasion, the Premier asked that we "compare the Ontario of today with the Ontario that existed when the Human Rights Code was first created."

The truth of the matter is that the Human Rights Code failed to keep pace with social and demographic changes which occurred in the two decades which followed its original enactment in 1961.

For example, no provision was made for "protecting" handicapped persons from discrimination, and the only such protection which existed was to be found within the Handicapped Employment Program of the Ministry of Labour, and guaranteed human rights.

Acknowledging both the obvious need for remedial human rights legislation, and the fact that 1981 was proclaimed internationally as the Year of the Disabled, the government introduced its bill "To Revise and Extend, Protection of Human Rights in Ontario."

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and beyond your wildest dreams
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Some of the highlights of Bill 7, introduced on the 24th April, 1981, were as follows:

- The circumstances under which discrimination is prohibited were extended from basic situations of advertising, access to public places, accommodation, and employment, to virtually all activity between citizens in the public domain, including particularly the prohibition of discrimination in the form of harassment.
- The number of prohibited grounds of discrimination are extended from eight grounds to include: (a) Handicap, (b) Marital status with certain exceptions in the case of accommodation, (c) Record of offences in the case of employment, (d) Age of 18 and over and in the case of employment, under 65, (e) Family status with certain exceptions in the case of accommodation, (f) Receipt of public assistance in the case of accommodation.
- The Bill would bind the Crown and have primacy over other legislation after a 2-year transitional period.
- The Commission is empowered to recommend for consideration special plans or programs.
- Boards of Inquiry are empowered to make orders respecting access for the handicapped after a finding of discrimination has been made.

The Liberal Party supported the bill in principle, considering it to be, in many respects, an enlightened piece of legislation, and due to constructive opposition, the Bill was substantially amended and improved.

For example, Human Rights Officers investigating complaints could no longer compel production of documents, but were authorized to request that such documentation be produced for inspection. Officers investigating a complaint no longer had the power to call upon police to assist, thus removing the criminal taint from what is essentially a conciliatory procedure.

The vicarious liability of an employer for an act of employee has been limited to situations where an employee acts in the course of his employment, and harassment provisions have been exempted from the vicarious liability provisions of the same sections.

In addition, the upper limit of "age" protection has been eliminated in all areas except employment, and the Minister has asked the Ontario Manpower Commission to study the question of eliminating the 65 year age qualification on respect of employment and to make appropriate recommendations.

Provisions dealing with harassment on the ground of sex have been clarified.

There are aspects in which the legislation does not, in the Liberal view, go far enough: with respect to "reasonable accommodation" for the handicapped, with respect to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of language and political belief, and with respect to a contravention of the Act becoming a cause of action for which a remedy in Court is sought.

We also believe that there should be a provision making the Ontario Human Rights Commission accountable to the Legislature, in the same manner as the Ombudsman, thereby removing any taint of partisanship or ministerial involvement.

On the 16th June, the Toronto "Globe and Mail" commented, in an editorial that "it is a far better bill than the one the Government originally proposed — although, in an area as difficult as the balancing of human rights, even the improved version gives us cause for concern... the Government and its appointees must take pains not to secure one man's rights by riding roughshod over those of another."

Grossman favors health councils

District health councils will continue to have an important role to play in planning Ontario's health care system, according to Larry Grossman.

The Minister of Health made a flying visit to the Halton District Health Council last week carrying that message of "good will for all."

"I came here to re-affirm, both publicly and privately, the important role I see for district health councils," he said in a press conference following a two-and-a-half hour closed door session with members of the local body.

Mr. Grossman said the Halton District Health Council has established an "excellent reputation" during its years of operation as his chief advisors about the health care needs of this area.

In Halton, he said, the health council has raised several concerns about hospital expansion plans, mental health services and the needs of the elderly.

"In the future, he said, he hoped to be able to give "more explicit and direct answers" to the concerns raised by the council over health care in Halton.

"We hope to be able to prioritize the proposals that have come in to us and hopefully bring them into line with Ministry priorities," he said. "We'll also try to let people know which proposals aren't likely to ever be funded in the immediate future."

Mr. Grossman demonstrated his "explicit and direct" approach when asked about expansion plans for Milton District Hospital.

The hospital's plans, he said, are currently being "reviewed" by his staff.