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Region supports dual approach to promotion

With far less money, property and municipal staff than Burlington, Halton Hills simply can't afford to launch its own business development program, Regional council was told last week.

Councillor Mike Armstrong difference the underlined between the two municipalities in defence of a dual approach to business development endorsed 17-5 by council Wednesday.

Support for a joint effort by the Region and those of its member municipalities able to handle their own industrial promotion came readily despite another plug by Burlington Mayor Roly Bird for split responsibilities.

Burlington intends to continue handling its business development affairs internally, Bird said, whether or not the Region maintains its own business development department and charging the city for its services.

City council last month stopped short of demanding a rebate on its annual contribution to the Regional business development program after its representatives Regional pointed out that the other municipalities would never support such a request.

Thus, Bird sald, Burlington ends up paying twice for industrial promotion, while patiently waiting for Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills to realize the benefits of internal business development and follow suit.

Bird asked council to delay its vote on the bylaw setting up a dual approach to business development so that Regional staff can arrange to let the area municipalities handle promotions internally if they wish. Let the Region continue handling basic sales and promotion on behalf of the municipalities who need it, he said.

Calling Bird's deferral motion "a delay tactic," Armstrong contended that Burlington and Regional staff should have no problem avoiding the duplication of services that Bird and others call inevitable.

Bird's deferral was rejected in a recorded vote 13-9. In a vote approving the new bylaw and its dual approach, all four Halton Hills councillors present at the meeting were among those who voted in favor. Armstrong, Jake Kuiken, Dave Whiting and Mayor Russ Miller were among the majority in the 17-5 vote. Councillor John McDonald was

Board <u>briefs</u>

School gym

Stewarttown School is one step closer to its new gymnasium. The trustees approved the Elementary Capital Expenditure Forecast for 1985-1986, at Thursday's board meeting. Construction is expected to begin in March, 1986 with a cost estimated at \$1,050,000.

Language Arts review The Halton Board of Education is revamping its Language Arts programs in the curriculum starting this school year, according to a report submitted by Dean Fink, superintendant of schools. New emphasis will be put on consistency across the region, grammar, spelling, handwriting, and standardized achievement tests. The impact of French immersion on the English program will also be studied this year.

Textbooks approved

The Halton Board of Education trustees approved 67 secondary school textbooks and 18 elementary school texthooks for use by students this year. The books are not on the Circular 14 list of approved textbooks for student use issued by the Minister of Education. The books were instead selected by principals in consultation with the teachers. The secondary school books are mainly French and English literature novels while all the elementary books are French language books. These subject areas are not covered by Circular 14. Only one novel. The Clan of the Cave Bears, for use by Grade 12 students at Oakville's T.A. Blakelock secondary school has been questioned and is currently under a Board review.



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