

Regional Councillors Censured

Halton Regional Councillors agreed that two members of the council should be censured for their actions in dealing with a "confidential" report which was released to the press and sent to Queen's Park.

At their meeting Wednesday, the councillors were told that a report prepared by the department heads was released to the press by Coun. Jack Ruffis, chairman of the works committee and sent to Queen's Park by regional chairman, Allan Masson.

The report, requested by the administration and finance committee and the public works committee, discussed the reasons why five contracts for water and sewer projects were allowed to expire in the region.

Regional solicitor Noel Bates and regional director of public works Bob Bailie prepared the report, noting that the main reason was poor liaison between the region and the municipalities. However, the report was

released to three members of the press during the works committee meeting last Wednesday. Coun. Ruffis explained that he felt the "truth should be reported."

"I didn't feel that anything in the report was confidential," said Coun. Ruffis, while explaining his actions. "The press were present when Mr. Bates was questioned about the report, and so I felt it would be better if they had the whole report and could write the facts."

During the works committee meeting, he told the press that contracts could cost tax payers an additional \$1 million for the work.

Many of the councillors at the meeting yesterday were upset because of the report. Mayor Anne MacArthur of Milton, one of the areas affected, explained that "we heard a two minute report by Mr. Bates at the works meeting, yet newspapers carried a full report before we even had a chance to see a copy."

"Parts of this report are simply not true," she added. "We're in the process of preparing a document now in Milton and I say that you should hire a better Sherlock Holmes."

Mayor MacArthur was speaking about four projects in Milton, Forest Grove Sewers, Alliance Beaver Sewers, Kelso Park, and sewers for Milton's Main Street. One other contract had expired, Bronte Creek Park, water and sewers for Burlington.

Mayor Barrett of Oakville was very upset by the report and claimed it tried to "shift responsibility for what will cost the tax payers an additional \$1 million."

"How long are the areas going to bang their heads against the wall?" he asked. "I'm bitterly disappointed if this is what the staff does. It's a disgusting attempt to shift the blame for a job they didn't do."

Mayor Barrett added that it was time to tell the regional staff, "who's running the region, we councillors have a responsibility to run it."

"We want the co-operation of the staff," he said. Burlington Mayor, George Herring, asked regional chairman Allan Masson what he planned to do about the report. But Mr. Masson said that he had no "recommendations as yet."

"I had hoped today that you would have said something," said Mayor Herrington. "Either to demote, discharge or some fashion of punishment."

Coun. Pat McLaughlin and Ernle Sykes admitted that a mistake was made, but the problem was not who made the mistake but how it could be remedied in the shortest possible time.

"The report criticizes the regional staff, the area staff and the council," explained Coun. McLaughlin. "Let's accept the criticism and stop this petty fighting and get back to running the region."

Coun. Ernle Sykes added, "We should be trying to solve the problem not fight about it." In a motion, council decided that both Coun. Ruffis and regional chairman Masson should be censured for releasing the report before council discussed it. Mr. Masson admitted to sending the report to Queen's Park.

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Economy Is Strong Says Turner

Finance minister John Turner believes that Canada's economic future is improving but would improve more if the Liberal budget was adopted.

Mr. Turner, speaking to residents (yesterday) during a luncheon meeting in Georgetown, noted that the Liberals' projections for 1974 was for a "real growth in this country of five to five and a half percent."

"This is the strongest growth, that is real growth and not inflated growth of an economy of any country in the world," he explained. "There will be at least 300,000 new jobs in the country this year."

He added that the real problem "in terms of limiting the capacity is a problem of shortages, a shortage of material, money and labor, both skilled and unskilled."

Mr. Turner said that the problem began in 1973 when many of the major countries in the world were expanding and had a greater demand than supply.

"We bid prices right through the roof," he explained. "We doubled the price of wool, cotton, tin and most of the metals and foods like coffee, tea and sugar."

Continuing, Mr. Turner pointed out that the oil countries quadrupled the price of oil from \$2 to \$10 a barrel and except for Germany and the Netherlands, everyone in the world is suffering worse than us.

"Now, it's up to the government to balance the two forces of supply and demand," he added. "To do this, we are trying to increase our productivity."

In reviewing the past year, Mr. Turner explained that the government eliminated the capital gains tax on farm lands to keep people on the farm, hoping to increase productivity.

For industrial increases, he noted that the manufacturing and processing taxes were decreased. "For the first time, there were 110,000 new manufacturing jobs available."

"Canada is the largest trading nation on a per capita basis in the world," Mr. Turner explained. "There is no way we can put up barriers of any type or we deprive ourselves of the available markets."

Mr. Turner wondered how the conservative government would control the price of imports. "About one-third of what we consume is imported so how do we control the prices," he asked.



FINANCE MINISTER John Turner (centre) accepts a gift of appreciation from

Miss Elizabeth Robson, President of Halton and Halton East Liberal

Association, after a speech delivered at St. George's Anglican Church, on Guelph

Street yesterday. Halton Liberal candidate Dr. Frank Philbrook is pictured at left.

CAMPAIGN TRAIL LIBERAL

BLAKELOCK HIGH SCHOOL IN OAKVILLE was the site last Saturday evening of a Liberal rally complete with balloons, fanfare and speeches by Halton candidate Dr. Frank Philbrook and prime minister Pierre Trudeau who explained the new Liberal housing policy.

Candidate Philbrook visited Georgetown last week to attend the blood donor clinic, the racquet club meeting, the Rotary club auction and the luncheon for federal finance minister John Turner.

Dr. Philbrook was busy last week throughout Halton region canvassing, main streeting and visiting door-to-door. He will be in Milton and Oakville tomorrow, Oakville on Friday, Acton on Saturday and back to Oakville until Tuesday.

NDP

NDP CANDIDATE ARCHIE BROWN filed his official nomination with the returning officer last Monday. He kicked off his campaign by taping a program at Oakville's cable television station. Wednesday, candidate Brown held an informal discussion with the life skills class at Sheridan College.

Thursday Mr. Brown will be at the Milton high school speaking to students and answering questions, and Friday General Wolfe high school in Oakville will be the arena for residents of the area to raise questions about the election issues.

CONSERVATIVE

CANDIDATE Terry O'Connor stated in Oakville last Monday that the principal issues of the election were inflation, strikes in essential services and the unemployment insurance commission.

O'Connor spent last week door-knocking, polling and meeting residents in Oakville and Milton. He dropped in at a wedding anniversary in Acton, a horse show in Erin and at a Portuguese celebration in Oakville.

Mr. O'Connor will be travelling throughout Halton this week and will be available for questions at the all-candidate meetings.

NOTES: An all candidates meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. Thursday June 13 at Milton high school, at 9:15 a.m. Friday June 14 at General Wolfe school in Oakville, at the Oakville Rotary Club at 8:00 p.m. Monday June 17, and at the Robert Little school auditorium in Acton on Tuesday June 18.

Committee Fights Land Use Policy

The general administration committee Monday criticized the Ontario Government's land use policy in the Toronto Centre region (T.C.R.) plan.

Coun. Iac Morrow questioned two ministry of housing representatives whether the T.C.R. was still in effect or had been changed. He noted that Halton Hills was designated for a 40,000 persons, a low growth centre.

"Are we going to develop homes or not, in this area," he asked. "If we are, then we'll have to use the agricultural land surrounding Georgetown."

Coun. Morrow told the representatives that he understood that the T.C.R. plan was changed for Halton Hills making the area a high growth area.

"We need to know where we stand," he continued. "If we would have left us alone, we would have satisfied the needs and provided an adequate amount of developed land."

Other councillors in the committee agreed with the complaints. Coun. Dick Howitt felt that some emphasis was lost for preserving agricultural land in the T.C.R. plan.

When the plan was set up, there was a heavy emphasis on preserving agricultural land," he added. "Now, the thing is up in the air and we need answers."

Peter Martin and Bob Holmes, attended the meeting to explain the ministry's new program of financial assistance for housing projects, based on the conclusions of a special task force.

Mr. Martin explained that the T.C.R. was released "prematurely."

"It never took into account the idea of new serviced land for development," he explained. "What's happening at the moment is a re-evaluation of it."

However, Coun. Howitt pointed out that the official plan of the former Township of Esquewasing was "based on the T.C.R. plan."

"You know that the province made it clear that the T.C.R. was the basis for the Esquewasing plan," he continued. "Now, I'm confused. Is Esquewasing to remain rural agricultural, green-belt with only four or five estate-type developments," he asked. "We have at least 25 developers right now that can begin construction of estate-type housing if you want houses."

Mr. Martin explained that estate housing was not included in the province's program for financial aid. "This pertains only to serviced land, and estate developments are beyond the scope of the program," he added.

Mr. Holmes noted that Halton Hills has "the ball in your court and now you can do something about it."

Morrow Criticizes Road Budget

Two councillors told the works committee Monday that their budget for road repairs was parochial and unfair.

Coun. Ric Morrow prepared a letter for presentation to the committee Monday. He noted that Georgetown residents paid approximately 55 per cent of the bill but received less than 30 per cent of the work.

"I submit that this budget is a rip-off of the former Georgetown residents," he commented. "If we are concerned about being fair, then this budget must be drastically revised."

The letter was presented in a special meeting of the general administration and works committees. Coun. Roy Booth presented it in Coun. Morrow's absence, and noted that he supported it.

However, Coun. Len Cox, chairman of the works committee felt that the budget was for the benefit of Halton Hills and not individual wards. "The budget is not parochial," he said.

"It's silly to have four wards sharing a budget equally when one ward might have only 40 miles of roads to service and another have 125 miles," he said, quoting "Ballpark figures."

If we are in fact concerned about being fair, then this budget must be drastically revised to reflect to a greater degree an objective distribution of the tax dollar.

A copy of the letter is printed below.

To The Mayor and Members of Council: Gentlemen: For some time now we have been attempting to prepare budgets for Halton Hills, and in doing so we have always made strong reference to the budgets of the former municipalities in 1973. There has always been a concerted effort to do that which is fair. I believe that the proposed capital works projects follow none of these principles and is grossly unfair to the residents of former Georgetown. Explanation is as follows:

Total Major Capital Works		
1. Sargeant Road Storm Sewers	\$120,000	
2. Stewarttown Road	7,200	
3. Acton Boulevard	26,000	
4. 8th Line	93,000	
5. 9th Line	56,000	
6. Church Street Storm Sewers	25,200	
7. Guelph Street (Georgetown)	44,000	
8. Wellington Street Storm Sewers	82,000	
9. 5th Line	66,000	
10. 6th Line	15,000	

When we consider that former Georgetown pays approximately 55 per cent of the bill and will receive less than 30 per cent of the work and even much less when we consider that the \$44,000 for Guelph Street is 90 per cent paid for by the Province; then I submit that this budget is a rip-off, nothing more and nothing less, of the former Georgetown residents.

This will be (according to the budget) the first year in many years that no major road reconstruction will be taking place in former Georgetown. There are many streets such as Baylawn, Rexway and Sargeant, just to name a few, which sorely need reconstruction and the residents of these streets have been patiently waiting with the knowledge that the Town has a program and would get to their street. Now the program has ended and an unfair portion of their tax dollar is being directed to other areas.

If we are in fact concerned about being fair, then this budget must be drastically revised to reflect to a greater degree an objective distribution of the tax dollar.

R. Morrow Councillor

Home Grants

Two ministry of housing representatives began a series of meetings with Halton area municipalities Monday in Halton Hills, to explain the province's new program for housing financing.

Peter Martin and Bob Holmes explained to the general administration committee that the plan included co-operation among the province, developer and municipalities.

"The ministry of housing felt that they must speak for housing in the province," commented Mr. Martin.

"There is a great need for housing affordable housing. And, depending on the type of dwelling, the province will supply grants for between \$450 and \$600 per unit to the municipality."

Mr. Martin noted that the fund is titled the "Housing Action Facilitating Fund."

"The target is to provide homes for specific income groups, not just for one type of people," he explained. "The province's role is primarily financial."

Speaking about the freeze, Mr. Turner noted that no definitions were used to describe the type of freeze. "They're calling it a flexible freeze, which will be retroactive," he said.

"I stuck to my guns about industry incentives, and no major union is against these incentives because they know it's their jobs against the American jobs," he said.

In a short note to Mayor Tom Hill, who welcomed the Finance Minister by complimenting about the lack of provincial and federal funds for municipalities. Mr. Turner said municipalities "are the responsibility of the federal government."

"Out of the \$24 billion I'm responsible for, we'll transfer \$6 billion to the provinces," he explained. "That's one quarter of the taxpayers dollar and it's up to the province to fulfill a need."

Other benefits of the budget included incentives for the small businessman and improvements for people on fixed incomes.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ACTON OPP WERE involved in a high speed chase along highway 25, south of 17 sideroad. Police report that the chase began at 1:25 a.m. Monday and ended soon after when the car they chased landed in a ditch beside the road. Wayne Paul Froehlich, RR 2 Rockwood will appear in court July 17.

THERE WAS A two car collision on Weber Drive last Friday, June 7. The accident occurred on the south bend of Weber Drive and Duncan Drive. The car driven by Mrs. Claire Grigg, 154 Mountaineer Road South, Georgetown, received \$350 damage, and the car driven by Carl Paluszkiwica, 21 Rosefield Drive, Georgetown received \$200 damage.

SIMON JOYNSE, SON OF Mr. and Mrs. Derek Joynes of Georgetown, and a student of Milton High School, placed third in the 1,500 metre race for juniors at Centennial Stadium in Etobicoke, Friday. His time was four minutes, 2.2 seconds. Simon has just been named athlete of the year at the Milton school.

HALTON HILLS council agreed to a resolution last Tuesday to hire two summer students for work in town offices. The students will work in the treasury and clerk's offices for two months, beginning on July 2, 1974. They will earn \$75 per week.

THE WEEK OF June 16-22 will be proclaimed senior citizens' week in the town of Halton Hills. The council agreed at their meeting last Tuesday to issue the proclamation.

THE TREASURER was instructed by a resolution from council last Tuesday to issue a cheque for \$4,420 to the Regional Government for sanitary landfill charges for the Acton and Georgetown sites.

A RECEPTION IS BEING HELD on Saturday, June 15, at Robert Little School, Acton, for Mrs. Jane Gamble, retiring from the school after 23 years service. Students, former students, parents, teachers and friends are invited to come to the resource centre and enjoy a cup of tea, visit with Mrs. Gamble and sign the guest book.

TERRY O'CONNOR, M.P., for Halton, sent the following telegram to the Governor General Jules Légaré, at Government House: The people of Halton Hills sincerely wish you a speedy and complete recovery. We look forward to your resuming your much appreciated service on our behalf.

Trudeau At Oakville Rally



Residents of Halton Region got a chance Saturday night to hear first hand a new Liberal housing policy which was introduced last week by Prime Minister Trudeau.

Speaking at a packed Oakville high school auditorium, Mr. Trudeau said his party is telling Canadians not to purchase homes right now, but rather, wait for the next two years until the market comes down.

If his party retains its control of Parliament, he said, the Liberals will pass legislation allowing Canadians to set aside \$10,000 for salaries tax free if it is to be used for purchasing a home.

"If you can't wait, we'll ensure available money for a low down payment if you are buying a moderately priced home," he said.

Mr. Trudeau appeared at the rally in support of Halton Liberal hopeful Dr. Frank Philbrook.

HOUSING PLAN The Trudeau housing plan will make mortgage money available for Canadians earning \$4,000 to \$15,000 annually. Mr. Trudeau also promised to direct builders and contractors to construct more moderately priced homes.

"For every person earning \$4-\$15,000 per year we're saying you will have a monthly interest reducing grant," he said. "To undo the effect of the 11 per cent federal sales tax on building materials will cost the federal treasury \$800 million."

However, the prime minister noted that \$500 is "a good average" per family and "we're giving it back to people who are buying or the first time a moderately priced home."

"This does help a great many Canadians, but the houses don't spring up like mushrooms," he added.

Mr. Trudeau saved some of his speech for an attack on the Conservative wage and price controls promoted by PC Leader Robert Stanfield.

PRIME MINISTER Pierre Trudeau addressed a crowd

"Have they told you how it's going to work?" he asked of the policy. "Ask them how they will keep the price of food down," he said. "Either there is no lid on the price or control of food, or if there is a freeze, how will they avoid the American problem when it doesn't pay farmers to produce food?"

LIBERAL POLICY Continuing on inflation, the prime minister said his party doesn't have the perfect answer but the policy is to help those who need help the most.

He also told the crowd that Liberal policies increased both the agricultural and industrial

of 3,000 persons at Liberal rally held at Blakelock High

productivity and created 430,000 new jobs last year. "We increased production, our economy is increasing eight per cent per year—we're producing more."

Mr. Trudeau told the audience that the Liberal policies are beginning to work. He explained that family allowances were increased along with old age pensions and guaranteed annual incomes.

"Have the PCs told you how price and wage controls would keep down one third of the goods we import from other countries?" He asked "There's one third of the cost of living."

School in Oakville last Saturday night.

He explained that nobody is asking for perfect solutions. "It is the ability of Canadians to understand that there are conflicting interests," he added. "We must have faith that Canadians will compromise and make concessions."

Prime Minister Trudeau referred to Liberal candidate Dr. Frank Philbrook as a "true Canadian." He called him a candidate with "faith of humanity, a lust for life" and someone who "gets involved."

He believes in Canada," Mr. Trudeau said.



O'CONNOR OPENS ACTON OFFICE

P. C. Terry O'Connor opened a campaign office in Acton last Thursday at 4 Mill St. If people require election information they can contact him at the office at 833-0250.

Mr. O'Connor wishes to remind Acton residents that the town is classified as an urban polling centre this year so therefore persons must have their names on the

voters lists to be eligible to vote. If you want to check to see if your name is on the list Mr. O'Connor suggests you phone his office.

Acton Canoists

On 6-Day Trip

About 20 persons left Acton High School Tuesday for a six day canoe trip covering about 60 miles in Killarney Park.

Three staff members joined the students of the environmental science course in outdoor education on the trip. The trip includes a two mile portage with the students and staff carrying supplies for one week. The students recently completed a study unit on the area, dealing with park legislation. They will return late Monday.

FOUR FIRES

The Georgetown Fire Department reported four fires last week. At 11:04 a.m. Friday June 7, there was a bush fire on the tracks behind Moore Park.

On the same day, at 12:49 a.m. there was another grass fire, this time at the 15 Sideroad on the Eighth Line. Towards midnight, on Friday, a car caught fire at Sims Gate, at Delrex.

The fourth fire was at 2:54 p.m. Monday. A brush fire was reported in the ravine behind Georgetown and District High School. The Fire Department had little difficulty putting these fires out.

SPLIT PROPOSED

Halton region may become a three-way split in provincial elections if recommendations by the Ontario electoral boundaries commission are accepted.

The commission proposed that the riding which is split into Halton East and Halton West be re-divided into Burlington, and Halton and Oakville, a total of three seats. With other recommendations including two new ridings in Peel and three in metro Toronto the number of seats in the Ontario legislative increases to 123 from 117.

One major problem produced by the recommendation is a split in Burlington. The southern section of the city will belong to the Burlington riding while the north will be part of Halton. Both Halton West MPP George Kerr and Halton East MPP Jim Snow are opposed to the recommendation labelling it "silly". They would rather see Burlington as a single riding.