



KHISTA MANTO, a Brownie with the 9th Georgetown Brownie Pack earned the toadstool, a mark of distinction in the Brownies. At the ceremony, which took place April 20, were Brown Owl, Mrs. Sheila Pantling, (left) and Mrs. Pat Bartkowiak, district commissioner for Georgetown East.

Education now a \$73 million business

Having prepared Halton taxpayers for the worst with initial predictions that their 1976 education bills could possibly be up 14 mills, the Halton Board of Education unveiled its finalized budget last Thursday night and although it was up sharply by an average of 9.7 mills, Halton it wasn't as bad as they had forecasted.

But it was bad. Last year the increase in the cost of education for Halton Hills

taxpayers was in the area of four to six mills. This year it will range from 9 to 11 mills. The board hastily pointed its finger at the provincial government for the larger than usual increase. In 1975 the provincial government, the board noted, provided grants of 57.7 percent and 62.06 percent for elementary and secondary schools in Halton respectively.

This year the grant for elementary education in

Halton has dropped to 53.5 percent or \$19,053,089 and for secondary education, \$20,767,422 or 56.32 percent of the total costs.

Expenditures at both levels, Bill Lawson, chairman of the Ad Hoc committee on finance, pointed out, are within the ceilings established by the ministry of education.

To keep them within the limit the board has had to carefully review its initial

budget which, in its first draft, was \$75.9 million. The final education expenditures will require \$73,082,964.

The amount to be apportioned between the municipalities for elementary school purposes amounts to \$15,741,373, which represents 44.2 percent of the costs compared to 41.29 percent in 1975.

The apportionment for the secondary schools amounts to

\$14,979,297 representing 40.62 percent of the costs, compared to 34.81 percent of the costs in 1975.

"The largest part of the 'shift' to increased municipal support of the board," said Lawson, "has been caused by the reduction in provincial grant support."

Total expenditure for elementary schools is \$35,612,941, an increase of \$3.9 million over 1975, resulting in a

cost per pupil per year of \$1,169.94.

Total expenditure for secondary schools, including the trainable retarded, is \$38,873,089, an increase of just over \$5 million, resulting in a cost per pupil per year of \$1,794.75.

Trustee Tony Goodyear of Burlington attempted to show the board where they could cut an additional \$2.4 million from various areas of the budget ranging from repairs to furniture and equipment to a two percent cut in the board's administration and supervision staff, but the board voted his amendments down.

Curb request leads to works dispute

A spirited delegation from Cameron St. in Acton appeared before the works committee Monday evening to complain that a lack of curbs on both sides of the street was flooding homes there.

They were told that plans for

the street to receive an asphalt surface, as had been requested in a petition by Cameron St. residents had been delayed until the work's committee road tour which took place April 15.

When Colin MacColl the

spokesman of the residents heard that no curbs were to be installed and that the flooding was a situation which had been there forever he said: "In other words you're going to wash your face and leave your neck dirty."

Councillor Ern Hyde suggested to Mr. MacColl that a sidewalk could act as a curb and help drain the water but to this Mr. MacColl replied, "We want curbs on both sides. We don't want sidewalks."

Town engineer Robert Austin advised the committee that the cost of a sidewalk was substantially the same as a curb. Sidewalks cost \$7.50 per foot and curbs cost \$7 per foot, he said.

Councillor Joe Hurst said that Cameron St. was part of the urban area of Acton and should have storm sewers which, over 300 feet in length, are subsidized by a higher level of government. Cameron St. is approximately 700 feet long.

After lengthy discussion the works committee asked Mr. Austin to provide for the next meeting a report on the total costs of putting in curbs, curbs and sidewalks, storm sewers and all combinations thereof. The committee will decide then what to do and so advise council.

Tempers flared after Mr. MacColl and his delegation left the meeting. Councillor Hyde,

who got into a heated argument with Mr. MacColl, criticized Mike Armstrong, the chairman for not maintaining order.

Armstrong took exception to Councillor Hyde's remarks and at one point left his chair and offered to give up the position. Then Mayor Tom Hill entered the room and a semblance of order was achieved. By the end of the long meeting, Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Hyde seemed to have mended their fences and were as amicable as ever.

\$1000 loan turned down

A \$1,000 loan to Mrs. Pat Thornton and Mrs. Glenda Barton to aid in establishing a co-operative nursery school in Hornby has been turned down by town council.

The interest free loan had been approved previously by the general administration committee.

Leading the opposition to granting the money, Councillor Ern Hyde questioned council's use of public funds as loans to private organizations.

Mayor Tom Hill pointed out that nursery schools were a responsibility of the region's social and family services department and not a municipal one.

Lights are on the blink

The traffic lights at the intersection of Mountainview Rd. and Guelph St. in Georgetown are "out of whack", Councillor Ern Hyde told members of the works committee Monday evening.

The green light is on for only 13 and a half seconds he learned from town engineer Robert Austin. The entire cycle at the intersection is 45 seconds.

The alternative was to have only red and amber flashing at the intersection. Whatever was the problem, Mr. Austin said he felt sure it was being taken care of as fast as possible.

Resignations accepted

The following resignations and appointments have been approved by the Halton Board of Education:

Resignations: Mrs. Kathy Woods and Mrs. Kathy Hoss from M.Z. Bennett; Mrs. Judy Leather from Glen Williams; Mrs. Margaret Murray from Robert Baldwin; Mrs. Krysis Robinson from M.Z. Bennett.

The resignations will take place as of August 31.

A leave of absence has been granted Dr. Paul Tamblin from Acton High School.

The transfer of Mrs. Ione Hicks from Glen Williams to Pineview and Mr. Stan Hutchinson from Joseph Gibbons to Robert Baldwin have been approved.

CORRECTION

Page 2 of Circular "CHAMPION" DELUXE GAS LAWN MOWER. The illustration is incorrect. The description and price as published.

Page 7 of Circular "LLOYDS" 7-FUNCTION "MINI" CALCULATOR.

The regular selling price should be \$14.88 and the Saving \$1.04 Off Reg. Price. The description and selling price is as published.

We apologize to our customers for these errors.

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