

Job situation hopeless, high school students say

As the end of the school term draws near students are beginning to scan the want-ads.

In a random survey of students at Georgetown District and Acton high school students viewed the job market as "pretty hopeless."

Without transportation or previous work experience their prospects are limited.

"How do you get experience, if no-one will hire you without it?" asked John Clenden, a Grade 12 student.

The students who have secured jobs for the summer, generally worked for those firms last year. Some students will be working for their relatives or friends.

Graduating students are worried about the lack of positions. Students are faced with taking what is available, not what they prefer.

Five Grade 13 students have made plans to work in the Yukon on a diamond drill. Clare Stewart, Doug Lamb, Gary McIlvray, Glen Bodnar and Mike Stankovics will sleep in tents, work two week shifts of 12 hours days.

Several students are working part-time at Zellers, and will continue throughout the summer.

Employers sometimes contact the school guidance office, and news of such jobs will be passed on to students. Canada Manpower leaves registration cards in the guidance office, although "no-one has been in yet from Manpower," guidance counsellor Mary Patterson said.

A number of students felt Manpower can offer them nothing in the way of assistance in job hunting and say they will not go to the

office to register.

Dave Jones, a counsellor at Acton high school, says the student services office passes on job information whenever it is available.

One job opportunity advertised at its office is work as a junior agriculturalist. Students will earn \$11 per day plus room and board working on a farm. The drawback for many students is the long hours involved.

Mr. Jones explains that only people from non-farming backgrounds are accepted. He also points out that the number of students who can get this type of work will depend on how many farmers will be willing to accept student help.

The Experience '77 pamphlet published by the Ontario Government lists only three programs which might be available to local students, he says.

Interest-free loans are available again this year for students over 18 who can devise some form of self-employment and need the finances to begin a venture. Junior conservationists are being hired at the Halton museum near Milton, and some students will be hired to develop recreational opportunities for children and adults in Ontario Housing projects in Guelph.

Acton high school students face as bleak a job picture as those in Georgetown.

As one boy put it: "Everyone is laying off or cutting back. No one is hiring."

"I've been everywhere - three times over. There's nothing," said an Acton girl.

See stories page 2

10,000 jobs available through Experience 77

Ontario Experience 77 offers young people more than 10,000 employment opportunities in a wide range of public service positions.

"The program has been slightly upgraded since last year, creating positions in each of the ministries. Students should apply immediately because we expect the employment rate to be high among students," Julian Reed, Halton-Burlington, MPP said.

Information about Experience 77 and application forms are available in his

office in Milton, or anyone interested can phone his office at 878-1729.

About 1,800 positions have been created in culture and recreation, 250 jobs in social services, 1,300 jobs in educational nature and there are 53 other summer programs.

Reed's experience with students in past summer programs is "they earn their money. Students can't float along, they have to work hard."

Last year 42.1 per cent were

high school students hired for the programs in Experience 77, 10.3 per cent for community colleges, and 47.6 per cent hired were university students, said Cindy Greeniaus, information officer for the program.

"Students started phoning months before the program even started," she said. "It is impossible for me to know how many students have applied this year for each ministry interviews and hires the students separately," she said.



JUST FAKIN' IT!

Bob Wakefield and Don McMillan performed mime before a capacity audience at the GDHS annual talent showcase Wednesday evening. The high school students have been studying theatre arts and per-

Council approves \$7 million five-year capital forecast

Approval in principle Monday was given to a capital works budget of more than \$7 million.

The budget represents priorities for major work to be carried out by council over the next five years but does not include approval of any projects associated with boards or commissions such as the library board or hydro commissions.

The largest change in priorities is the transferring of the \$375,000 debt service allocation for expansion of town municipal offices in 1978 from the 1977 budget.

Council members acknowledged that no commitment has been made to such a project but in light of recent reports on space deficiencies, should the matter be reconsidered the budgetary approval would be included in the capital project for scrutiny by the Ontario Municipal Board.

The 1977 capital budget, which still receive individual budget approval later this spring, is \$1,657,050.

Council plans to finance these projects through \$688,275 in operating revenue, a like amount in subsidies, \$16,000 in reserve funds and \$284,000 in debentures.

Council has given priority to the construction of the Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena soccer

field; the construction of wash-room and storage areas at the Acton Arena; reconstruction of Cedarvale Community Centre and the Acton firehall reconstruction.

Ward 1 Councillor Peter Marks called the action to include the municipal offices expansion project in the 1978 budget as "protecting our options." He said no approval of the project has been given, nor has financing been approved.

The five-year forecast is sent to the Ontario Municipal Board which oversees the direction of municipal government spending. Approvals will eventually be received for 1977 projects, but this approval does not extend into any other year in the forecast.

Projects for boards and commissions will be discussed March 21.

Terra Cotta Inn hosts exhibition

The Terra Cotta Inn is hosting an exhibition and sale featuring works of local accomplished artists, on March 19 and 20 from 11:30 a.m. until 9 p.m.

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Janice Smith will be selling her art work in silver. She is a member of the Metal Arts Guild, teaches silver for the Georgetown Arts and Crafts, is studying at George Brown College. Her work has been accepted in the Merton Gallery and Gallery House Sol.

Jo Wallerson will display her paintings. She is studying printmaking at Sheridan, and has studied painting at Sheridan and Ecole des Beaux Arts. Her artwork has been accepted at Juried shows.

Lotte Zonnenberg an artist and petersmith has exhibited her work at the Ontario Science Centre and Burnhamthorpe Library. She has attended the Chicago school of Art, University of Western Ontario and Sheridan school of Design.

Agnes Olive potter and printmaker was accepted by the Ontario Arts Council as "Artist in the School" for the Halton board of education. She has exhibited her work in several juried shows.

McKenzie-Smith name proposed for school

The new middle school in Acton this September may be named the McKenzie-Smith middle school if Halton board of education passes Thursday a proposal made by over 400 Acton citizens.

Kathy Sandford, who wrote the proposal, says in her letter that Acton has a tradition of naming schools after educational leaders in the community.

Garnet 'Pat' McKenzie retired as principal of Acton public school in 1973 and now is an area and regional councillor for Halton Hills Ward 1.

W.D. Elmer Smith was principal also of Acton public school and of M.Z. Bennett school. He died shortly after his retirement in 1973.

Robert Little public school bears the name of the man who served as Acton public school principal from 1903 to 1972 and who was the first inspector of schools in Halton County from 1872 to 1885.

M.Z. Bennett public school, opened in 1957, was named after Miss Minnie Z. Bennett who was principal of Acton public school from 1920 to her retirement in 1939.

What's Inside Today

Page 3 - High school students prepare to take a break
Page 14 - Acton Sabres fight for survival
Page 17 - G.L.T.'s latest play is reviewed by an adjudicator and a Herald staff writer.

Site F approved with limits

Halton Region has approved the use of Site F as a central waste disposal location, but restricted its use to a six year period with annual review.

The 11-10 decision Wednesday came following a five hour special council meeting in which the entire program for landfill and waste disposal was reviewed for the benefit of nearly 100 spectators and members of council.

M.M. Dillon consultant Wally Wells told council the rumor that Site F would eventually encompass 2,500 acres of prime agriculture land is wrong. Ten year projections place the amount of land required at about 250 acres and 20 year projection at about 485 acres.

In the final recorded vote, council also instructed its property agent to begin purchasing of land in the area up to a maximum of 250 acres.

Oakville Councillor Carl Erikson, who seconded the amendments said he did so in case Site F was approved and "I can live

with the restrictions." He voted against the proposal to use one central location instead of a multi-site proposal.

All Halton Hills councillors with the exception of vacationing Mayor Tom Hill supported the use of Site F.

Coun. Mike Armstrong said later he voted in favor of the proposal although his intention Wednesday was to voice opposition to the use of the location.

He said the Georgetown landfill site will be phased out within about a year while the two sites in Oakville and Burlington have a life expectancy of about 18 months.

Halton Hills Ward 2 Councillor Russ Miller reacted with concern over a condensed report prepared by Burlington Councillor Ben Ciprietti which proposed extensive use of quarries and multi-sites in each of the four area municipalities.

Escarpment Planning area and hydrogeological testing of the area would likely result in abandonment of the proposal.

Chairman Ric Morrow, in a departure from what he felt was his duty to remain silent, cautioned council he was speaking for 200,000 people, and said a decision must be made for future garbage disposal.

Council also approved the start of negotiations for a transfer site, "front-end" operation, as a first step toward resource recovery.

Four delegations appeared before council to voice opposition to approval of Site F.

Brian Penman of Milton council suggested a multi-site concept and questioned the preservation of farmland against use for waste disposal.

A Milton farmer Craig Reid sought a bond from the municipality that lands in his vicinity would not be polluted nor would his water supply be contaminated.

William Green of Burlington, a retired farmer said there are several "badland" areas of Halton which would be improved by waste disposal as a method of landfilling.

Environmental activist William Johnston called the Ciprietti Report a red herring which could have prevented council accomplishing something constructive.

He, with support from public works committee chairman Jack Ruffis said the Ciprietti report was an indictment against multi-site concept and a document totally in support of use of Site F.

Mr. Johnston added that the Ciprietti report was as full of holes "as a Liberian (oil) tanker."

Council also learned nearly \$250,000 had been spent on landfill studies and preparation since Halton county began looking into the matter in 1972. Mr. Wells said

Continued on Page 2

Growing concern among teachers

Growing concern among Halton region's 200 Secondary school department heads is adding to the deterioration in relationships between the areas teachers and trustees.

According to a board policy statement passed April 26, last year, and reaffirmed at a meeting of the Board held Feb. 9, trustees will force the re-organization of nine Halton secondary schools and dismiss more than 80 department heads by Sept. 1977.

In addition another 120 department heads are left with no guarantee that their positions of responsibility are secure.

The situation is compounded by a board challenge to an OSSTF embargo set up to prevent forced implementation of the chairmanship model.

That action by trustees has moved the problem into the courts and an arbitration hearing with no decision on the legality of the federation's action likely for some time.

Meanwhile, trustees are reluctant to discuss the larger issue of reorganization for fear of jeopardizing their case.

But for department heads who might seek a headship elsewhere rather than be demoted anxiety grows. By Provincial statute they will have to submit their resignation to the board by May 30 or be locked into their contracts and possible demotion for another six months.

For others who have financial commitments on the basis of expected incomes they can only wait out the decisions as lawyers argue fine legal points over something that is in no way related to education.

Acton water consumers face 30-50 % rate hike

Acton water consumers will be faced with between 30 and 50 per cent increase in water rates sometime this spring.

The increase has been necessitated by a deficit operation in the water area, but the size of the increase has resulted from approval of a \$204,000 pump-house project on Fairy Lake.

Two weeks ago Regional Council approved the project subject to a report from Halton Hills indicating whether it is in a position to support the financing of the project. The project was initiated by Acton prior to regionalization.

"It appears that Halton Hills does not have the funds to defray all or part of the cost of this project," regional treasurer Don Farmer said.

The approved water budget for 1976 in Acton was \$99,792. "This one cost would result in an increase of 23.7 per cent

over the budget of last year," he said adding that the repayment would be about \$23,300 per year.

"If I were asked to make some very preliminary estimates of the impact of this and other cost on water rates in Acton," he said, "I would forecast an increase in excess of 30 per cent and with this expenditure I would have to forecast an increase in water rates of more than 50 per cent."

Present water rates vary from a minimum charge of \$2.88 per month for a small residential service to \$54.92 per month for commercial use. Consumption charges range from 45 cents per 1,000 gallons for up to 5,000 gallons to 30 cents per 1,000 for all water used in excess of 150,000 gallons per month.

Pay rise bylaws stalled on first, second reading

Two bylaws each granting pay increases for Mayor Tom Hill and council members were dealt with in quick order Monday as opponents gained a two week delay.

First and second reading of bylaws calling for 10 per cent increases in salaries were tabled to allow Mayor Tom Hill to return from vacation and Coun. Russ Miller who left the meeting on council business to return.

Major concern for the bylaw raising Mayor Hill's salary to \$12,100 from \$11,000 is lack of a cost of living adjustment which Ward 1 Coun. Peter Marks said should have been included in the legislation.

Clerk-administrator Doug Pritchard commented that committee members had directed such action be included in the prepared bylaw.

"Councils across the province, including Halton Hills, are rather adamant about cost of living clauses in agreements with unions and here we are doing it to ourselves," Coun. Peter Morris said. "It seems rather contradictory."

Both bylaws will be discussed at council's regular March 21 meeting.

Coun. Mike Armstrong joined forces with Councillors Walter Biehn, Les Duby, and Morris to oppose any thought of raising council salaries to \$5,940 from \$5,400.

He called the action "unjustified," saying members were giving a public service and "I don't believe salary should enter into it."

Former Acton mayor Les Duby said it behooves members of council to contribute something in public service. He opposed the 1974 salary because the job is not "bread and butter", and is in excess of the salary he received as Acton's chief magistrate for 11 years.

Divisional Court overrules ICG

Interested Citizens Group (ICG) of Halton Hills will appeal a decision last week of the Divisional Court which ruled evidence of alternate routes for a 500kv transmission line cannot be heard at hearings of necessity.

Lawyer Dick Howitt said Monday he is uncertain if the hearings of necessity for the route between Limehouse and Milton would be resumed April 4 by Donald Meyrick, the hearing officer.

If they are ICG lawyers will ask for an adjournment provided the court of appeal has not yet delivered its verdict, Mr. Howitt said.

Only one of the three judges at Divisional Court felt that the ICG should be allowed to cross-examine witnesses on alternate routes.

Mr. Justice Horace Krever held that every party to the inquiry had the right to present such evidence and that hearing officer D. Meyrick was in error.

30 applications needed for seniors projects

Halton Hills is seeking 30 additional applications from area senior citizens for accommodation at Ontario Housing Corporation units in Acton and Georgetown.

Council approved advertising for applications Monday following a meeting earlier in the day between Ward 1 councillors and officials of the ministry of housing and OHC.

Gordon Hickery, a ministry official, told the Acton meeting

there are now 103 applications from Halton Hills—71 from Georgetown and 32 from Acton. But of this number usually 30 per cent don't move into the accommodation.

There has been speculation that units in Georgetown which are in final stages of design and approval would be completed and the proposed project for Acton would be shelved for an Acton area senior citizens to move to Georgetown.

Mr. Hickery said his ministry is loathe to release funds for a project in Acton when accommodation exists in Georgetown.

Coun. Les Duby said the meeting resolved one factor: Halton Hills is made up of two urban centres. He said the ministry has been "burned" on similar projects in Ottawa and Windsor where applications did not result in complete renting of the accommodation.

Sites at Elizabeth Drive in Acton and Guelph and Durham Streets in Georgetown have already been purchased. Construction if started by October could result in occupancy in spring, 1978.

Mr. Hickery said that applications usually increase by 30 per cent once the building is opened, but he required approval of his board of directors based on a report from the Halton Housing Authority saying there is enough applications.

The project involves 22 units in Acton and 89 units in Georgetown.

Red Cross needs queried

John Wickens, president of the Red Cross Society in Georgetown, has been asked by finance administration committee to attend a meeting to explain the society's needs.

The Red Cross, currently in an office at Cedarvale Community Centre where they pay \$40 per month rent, wants to move into the building vacated on James Street by Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service which now are in the old firehall on Chapel Street.

Treasurer Ray King said rent on the now vacant ambulance building "is in the neighbourhood of \$300 per month," but he was uncertain how that amount had been established.

Coun. Roy Booth suggested that if the town purchase Chapel Street School for \$125,000 from Halton Board of Education, the Red Cross offices could be accommodated there.

JUST ABOUT!

Council just about, but didn't, voice opposition to granting a liquor licence for a still-to-be renovated downtown Georgetown restaurant Monday.

Coun. Mike Armstrong raised objections that the application had been made by Cellar Restaurant for a licence without the municipality as much as seeing plans for the establishment.

The restaurant is to be renovated in the now vacant former Bank of Montreal building on Main Street.

Mr. Armstrong withdrew his motion calling for objection to the licence after council said such an objection might be detrimental at a later stage of the licensing process. Several members of council said the restaurant would be a "viable asset" to the downtown area.