Hydro starts route

Halton Hills property owners along the Bradley-to-Milton hydro corridor route can expect negotiators to call on them this month.

Ontario Hydro says appraisals of individual properties are underway and negotiators will begin calling on owners in mid-February.

Woodlet evaluation is also in progess on lands where the owners have granted approva-

Ontario Hydro has applied to the Ontario Municipal Board for official plan and zoning bylaw amendments in Halton Hills and for a development control permit from the Niagara Escarpment Commission. No dates have been set for

hearings. Hydro reports 218 tower foundations are completed in the Bradley-to-Colbeck section of the corridor and expects 44 more towers to be crected this month if weather allows.

This would make a total of 127 towers completed. Conductor stringing at the

230 kV crossings on both sides of Hanover is done and no further stringing is to be done on any part of the line until early May.

Work on gate and culvert installations continued in Egremont and West Luther townships during January and construction is expected to begin this month.

Crews were installing tower foundations in East Luther Township last month and it is expected that 35 footings would be completed by Jan. 31. Tower assembly crews are working in the area of the Fourth and Eighth Concessions, Installalion of gates, culverts and access roads will continue in East Garafraxa township this

month. Ontario Hydro reports that agreements have been reached with 70 per cent of the property owners in the northerg section of the corridor and appraisals on individual properties have been completed in the middle section between Colbeck and Limehouse, Negotiations are now underway with each landowner in that

By the end of January only 10 of the 220 acres of forest to be cleared in the northern section of the corridor were still outstanding and this should be completed by spring.

In the middle section approximately 150 of the 330 acres under contract for selective cutting was completed by Jan. 31 and the rest is expected to be finished by May 1.

1977 budget ends one per cent off

Halton board of education's expenditures in 1977 came within one-quarter of one per cent of the budgeted amount, which is a credit to the finance department headed by Bruce Lindley, the board was told Thursday.

Trustee Fred Armitage, chairman of the finance committee, said the board had budgeted \$81,944,216 to operate the school system. Actual expenditures totalled \$81,748,159 or \$196,057 less than

But because revenue to the board was up \$1,937,248 an amount of \$2,133,305 is considered overlevy which is to be returned to the municipalities as a reduction to the 1978 levy, he said. But this sum includes supplementary taxes received by the municipality which reduces the overlevy for 1977 to \$968,250.

The cost of teaching elementary pupils, of which there were an average daily enrollment of 29,383 (97 fewer than in 1976), was \$1,343.70 per year each. In the secondary panel average enrollment was 20,701, down 151 from 1976, and it cost \$2,008.84 per pupil per year. In the trainable mentally average enrollment dropped by 12 to 153. Cost per pupil per year

was \$4,454.05. Provincial grant ceilings, which are on ordinary expenses and not on special programs were \$1,232 in the elementary panel and \$1,747 in the secondary panel. Actual expenditure in the elementary panel in 1977 was \$1,142. But in the secondary panel where, "... we have lost our cushlon," Mr. Armitage said, actual expenditures were \$1,752.

Region

A proposal which would have frozen all staff positions in Halton Region has been tabled pending a report from the

administration. The region's administration committee tabled the proposal Wednesday but did pass two other proposal by Oakville Coun. Carl Eriksen

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