

Fluoride opposed, Milton use ended

Halton regional council has rescinded its earlier decision to fluoridate the municipal water supply in Milton as a result of a public outcry from the proposal. Acton, however, will still join Georgetown, Oakville and Burlington in having its water treated.

the Canadian Champion, a Milton weekly newspaper, drew more than 600 responses from Milton residents, the overwhelming majority of whom voted against fluoridation.

Milton Coun. Jim Watson brandished the survey results last week when he urged council to over-turn its

earlier decision to add fluoride to the water supplies in Milton and Acton. A total of 93.1 per cent of the Miltonians who responded to the survey are opposed to the idea, he reported.

In a recorded vote Sept. 6, council had agreed to follow the advice of Dr. Samuel Green, dental director for the

Halton health unit, and include Milton and Acton along with the region's three other urban centres already being fluoridated.

All three Milton representatives on regional council voted against the proposal, which was aimed at reducing dental problems and health care costs.

He argued last week that council must follow its best instincts, which in this case indicated an endorsement of the fluoridation proposal because it is the best interests of all Halton residents. Some 66 years of studies have shown that fluoride treatment of municipal water supplies leads to a "substantial

reduction" in dental problems among the general public, he said.

In the second recorded vote held on the issue, only Coun. Planché and his colleague from Oakville, McLean Anderson, voted to uphold council's previous decision. The remaining 21 councillors in attendance agreed to let Milton citizens abide by their

Region pays tribute to board members

Halton regional council last Wednesday paid tribute to George Gray and Stewart Cramp, the two citizens who were appointed by the provincial government to the now-disbanded regional board of health.

In July, new provincial legislation witnessed all responsibility for the Halton Health Unit turned over to regional council's health and social services committee. The services of Mr. Gray and Mr. Cramp were, as a result, no longer

required. Regional chairman Ric Morrow, noting that both men had served "with dignity and respect" presented them with cufflinks, bearing the regional coat of arms.

"I'd just like to say it was a real pleasure to serve the

region, and particularly in association with so many diligent and interested councillors," Mr. Gray commented. "Unfortunately, I don't think the general public is aware of the extent of your efforts on their behalf."

The Georgetown resident

added that during his term of service he conducted a comparative survey of regional boards of health across Ontario, and found that the Halton board compares "excellently" in terms of personnel, funding and costs and services provided.

Mr. Gray commended former board chairman Dave Coons a Burlington councillor, and Dr. Joseph Chamberlain, Halton's medical officer of health.

An eight-year veteran of the Halton county and Halton reg-

ion boards of health, Mr. Cramp affirmed that Halton has made "a great deal of progress" over the years. He commented that the health unit is "perhaps understaffed" and could benefit from a unified council approach to improvements.

No reply received on region's brief

Halton regional council has had no reply from Queen's Park as to its recommendations for changes in Ontario's Bill 151, the legislation that established regional government in Halton, and Oakville Coun. Carl Eriksen wants to know why.

In a letter to regional chairman Ric Morrow, Coun. Eriksen pointed out last week that it has been more than four months since Mr. Morrow asked that the province's former treasurer and minister of intergovernmental affairs, Darcy McKeough, for an audience concerning the Halton recommendations.

Council agreed last week to have Mr. Morrow contact Mr. McKeough's successor in the ministry of intergovernmental affairs, Thomas Wells, and inform him that Halton is still waiting for a chance to formally present its recommendations.

Mr. Morrow intended to personally present the minister with a copy of the report prepared by Halton's Bill 151

review committee. He was to be accompanied by Queen's Park for the presentation by the mayors of the region's four member municipalities.

Council last heard from the province in early July, when Mr. McKeough, who is now retired from the cabinet, acknowledged receipt of Halton's list of proposed amendments. He indicated then that his staff was reviewing the proposals and that he would contact Mr. Morrow once their work was completed.

Correction

Last week's Herald report on Coun. Pat McKenzie's decision to reconsider his candidacy in the forthcoming municipal election identified Roy Goodwin of Mill Street, Acton, who is seeking the Ward 1 regional council seat, as a former deputy-reeve of Esquesing township council. Mr. Goodwin was in fact, deputy-reeve of the former Acton town council. The Herald regrets the error.

Ursel named council head

Ralph Ursel of Georgetown has been acclaimed as the first president of the Halton Hills Arts Council.

Formed in September, 1976, to co-ordinate the efforts of local culture-oriented groups in setting up community projects, the Arts Council has been directed thus far by a steering committee, of which Mr. Ursel was chairman.

Representatives of about 10 groups endorsed Mr. Ursel's acclamation as council president at last Tuesday night's annual meeting. Mr. Ursel, a teacher at Georgetown district high school, is an accomplished pianist who has accompanied, and sometimes directed, a variety of local musical productions.

Joining Mr. Ursel on the Arts Council's first executive are Yvonne Kathwaroon as vice-president, Brenda McNeil as secretary and Betty Fisher as treasurer.

Noting that the Arts Council already has two successful community events to its credit - Summerfest '78 and the series of concerts by Camerata - Mr. Ursel expressed confidence last week that the council can serve "a very definite need" in Halton Hills, but more support, he added, is needed.

Mr. Ursel stated that the Arts Council was hoping another community organization would undertake the staging of a second series of concerts similar to the recent Camerata chamber and classical music events, but thus far there have been "no takers".

As for Summerfest, all local arts groups will soon be contacted by council members to survey their interest in participating in the second edition of the highly-successful event next summer, he said. Consideration is being given to the hiring of a "headline performer" for next year's festival of the arts.

LETTERS RCAF reunion

To the editor of The Herald: The Year of the Iroquois will be the theme of this year's RCAF WWII Squadrons Reunion, to be held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on Saturday, October 28th, 1978. The theme honours 431 Iroquois Squadron, RCAF WWII.

Over 300 members are expected from Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and as far away as Australia, as WWII Squadrons (which includes all ranks and trades), gather for the annual get-together to rekindle old friendships, refight old battles and remember old department comrades.

Reunion organizer George T. Sutherland, is anxious to hear from any ex-airforce types who are currently "missing on civvy street" who would like to participate. He can be contacted at (416) 486-0311 or by mail at 30 Edith Drive, Suite 1201, Toronto, Ontario M4R 1Y8. George T. Sutherland.

Thanks for story

To the editor of The Herald: Thank you for the informative article on the Cistercian Monks, and their progress in our community. We were wondering how they were making out? Now we know all about it. Thanking you, Best wishes, Catherine Graham.

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