

Wards one and two-- School Trustee



Bert Hinton

B.H. (Bert) Hinton, (School board trustee - Wards one and two), of Park Avenue, Acton is a retired retailer. He is widowed and has three children. Mr. Hinton did not wish to reveal his age.

He has spent one term on the Halton Board of Education, was chairman of Sheridan College's Board of Directors and spent 10 years in municipal politics the town of Acton including a term as the reeve. He was also Halton county warden.

Mr. Hinton feels he has a very successful term in office and his constructive criticism has made the board conscious of budgets and empire building. He is very concerned about special education and the quality of education in general. He feels the parenting education program suggested to the board at last meeting should be ignored at this point since the board needs a lot better information that it got in the report. He doubts it is as simple as the report makes it sound. It could turn out to be another just innovative idea, he said.



Betty Fisher

Betty Fisher, (School Board trustee - Ward one and two) 34, of Delrex Boulevard, Georgetown is a housewife. She is married and has three children.

She has been a member of the Halton Hills Library Board since January and has recently become an executive member of the Halton Hills Arts Council.

Mrs. Fisher is mainly concerned about the expense of education and feels there are many ways in which better quality education can be had for a smaller price. She feels support staff could be placed in classroom instead of in consultant roles. This would lower the pupil-teacher ratio. The consultants and co-ordinators would be reduced in pay to equal that of other classroom teachers and thus money would be saved. Reducing class sizes would allow teachers to be more thoroughly assess individual work and give individual help.



Pam Sheldon

Pam Sheldon, (School board trustee - Wards one and two), of 15, Sideroad in Halton Hills is a free lance journalist and a housewife. She is married and has two children. When asked her age Mrs. Sheldon said she was old enough to be a trustee and young enough to know what the educational system is all about.

Mrs. Sheldon has sat on the Ward 1 and 2 Recreation Advisory Board, was secretary of the Speyside Area Ratepayers Association and a founding member of Speyside Parents Education Group.

Mrs. Sheldon feels trustees should do more towards keeping taxpayer aware of trends and shifts in education so they can deal with the system as it is now as opposed to the way they remember it in their own school days. She is opposed to twinning and says she will fight future twinning plans or closure plans since schools should be a part of the community in which the students live. She is also concerned with the pupil-teacher ratio.

Tennis court use is questioned

Halton Hills has 13 fewer tennis courts than provincial ministry of culture and recreation standards suggest, but Coun. Pat Patterson wants to know who is paying for those it does have and whether or not the town's non-urbanites have equal access to their use.

The ward 2 councillor announced his intention to "get the facts" about tennis court use in Wards 1, 3 and 4 at Monday night's finance and administration committee meeting where the recorded minutes of the Halton Hills Tennis Association's Oct. 3 meeting and a report on court use by recreation director Glen Gray were examined.

At its meeting, the Tennis Association learned that 25 per cent of court time during prime use hours (evenings and weekends) is allotted to non-members. Association members discussed providing more prime time court time to members of the general public, as well as establishing a "pay as you play" system as an alternative to joining the Association.

SINGLE GROUP
Coun. Patterson complained that a single group "has control over prime time" at the courts, leaving those residents who live outside the urban areas with little access. He noted that the courts at Prospect Park in Acton and Gordon Alcott Arena in Georgetown cost taxpayers across Halton Hills \$32,177 and offer an ongoing revenue.

"I don't have all the facts, but I intend to get them," Coun. Patterson advised the committee. "We can't have the rich versus the poor in Halton Hills, but that's the way it is". Coun. Hoy Booth warned

Coun. Patterson that he was "opening a large can of worms", which at its most extreme could lead the town to install coin-operated turnstiles at all its parks entrances. Charging local groups for the use of "closed buildings" is as far as the town can carry such a suggestion, he said.

Coun. Peter Marks, a respected local tennis player, assured Coun. Patterson that Halton Hills courts are open to everyone "almost any night of the week". The clubs themselves, he said, are responsible for the general maintenance of courts and the installation of wind-screens and lights.

Coun. Patterson recalled that the Tennis Association had noted in the minutes of a previous meeting that the construction of courts in Norval would not be a good idea.

NO RIGHT?
"They've got no right to say what should be built down there," he asserted. "Somewhere along the line these recreational expenses have got to be cut".

Committee chairman Russ Miller noted that the Association's Oct. 3 minutes that members had expressed dissatisfaction with the town's maintenance of the courts in light of the fact that the Association pays the town \$200 a year to help finance regular clean-ups.

Mr. Miller suggested to Mr. Gray that the Association should consider undertaking the upkeep of the courts itself and pocket its \$200 contribution.

He further urged the Association and Mr. Gray to pursue the idea of having a "user pay" system at the courts for non-members. The concept has worked well at the Glen Williams ball park, he observed.

In response to a request last month by Coun. Patterson, Mr. Gray prepared a report on the financing of Halton Hills' tennis courts in Moore Park, Prospect Park and at Gordon Alcott Arena. Mr. Gray cited provincial government standards that suggest a town of Halton Hills' size should have at least 21 individual courts at seven locations.

PLAN GUIDES
Facility Standards Manual suggests that "standards are, at best, guides for planning," Mr. Gray noted. "No one standard can be applied to every community. They must be adapted to locally expressed needs, to local values and interests and to local financial capabilities".

Mr. Gray reported that Alcott's four courts, Prospect Park's four courts (initially three) and Moore Park's two courts were financed primarily from Halton Hills reserve funds and revenue funds, with additional money coming from government grants and, in the case of the Acton courts, donations.

No figures were given for the construction costs and financing of two courts in Joseph Gibbons park in Georgetown.

Wards three and four -- School Trustee



Barry Sheperd

Barry Sheperd, (School board trustee - Wards three and four), 33, of Mary Street, Georgetown is a packaging specialist in industrial engineering with Kodak, Canada. Mr. Sheperd is married and has two sons.

Mr. Sheperd has spent eight months on the Halton Board of Education completing Don Long's term when Mr. Long was asked to resign because he had missed too many meetings and violated education ministry guidelines for trustees.

Mr. Sheperd said he has been doing a lot of learning since he joined the board and he is reasonably happy with his accomplishments. Declining enrollments is an issue, he feels, and it will require a firm, common sense approach. He doesn't go along with "ridiculous cuts in the education system just to make cuts". This could lead to sacrificing the quality of education. Since playing with the pupil-teacher ratio could dramatically affect costs he believes in keeping the ratio the same at this time in order to maintain the board's restraint policy. He also favours parenting education.

Ward three Regional Councillor



Roy Booth

Roy Booth (Regional councillor - ward three), 43, of Moore Park Crescent, Georgetown is a free lance artist and full time politician. He is married and has four daughters.

Mr. Booth served one year on Georgetown council, two terms on Halton Hills council and one term on Halton Regional council. He was appointed to the Niagara Escarpment Commission by regional council last year. He is also a regional appointee to the District Health Council. He is Halton Hills appointee to the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Board and the Georgetown Business Improvement Area committee. He also served on the board of directors of the Halton Children's Aid Society.

Mr. Booth listed campaign issues as being Focal's project, allocation of capacity in the expanded sewage treatment plant, the Georgetown library, and the use of lot levies.



Ernie Sykes

Ernie Sykes, 63, of Stevens Crescent in Georgetown is a baker. He is married and has six children.

Mr. Sykes spent three years on Georgetown council as well as being the town's reeve in 1973. He became the first regional councillor for Ward 3 after regional government was formed.

Mr. Sykes is concerned with the unresolved regional issues such as the landfill site, road proposals, resource recovery and sewage treatment. At the local level his concerns include the Focal controversy and the central park system. Having been involved with these issues since 1971 he feels he can "work to bring them to fruition for the best interest of Halton Hills."

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Monty Hyde

Monty Hyde, (School board trustee - Wards three and four), 34, of Dawson Crescent, is a Georgetown lawyer. He is married and has three young children.

While Mr. Hyde has no previous political experience he has been a director of the Halton County Law Association for four years, a director of the Georgetown BIA for two years, a director on the squash club since it began and a director on the Halton Hills Legal Clinic.

Mr. Hyde said he has no particular beefs with the system. He is running more because of his genuine interest in the educational system and declining enrollments. He questions some of the courses in the system and the quality of education when universities complain about the abilities of graduates. Determining the best way to handle such matters will require a reassessment of the system, he feels. He also feels the system may require restructuring to avoid increasing per student costs while enrollments are declining.

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Consumer Week

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