New regional headquarters an appropriate battleground

Area taxpayers would be well-advised to take the time and visit Halton region's spacious new headquarters on Highway 25 just north of the Queen Elizabeth Way in Oak-

All the dizzying innovations of modern architecture are there to overwhelm the unwitting spectator. Sight lines roll, surfaces soar, floor levels descend in graded asymmetry.

The whole building, from its lime green plate exterior to its carpeted concrete interior, is majestic chaos, a financial question mark to newcomers who are all too well acquainted with the operative phrase of our times: economic restraint. You have to either love it or hate it.

The vast hall allotted to regional council is a story in itself. Here. 24 council members sit along a raised, semicircular dais like so many lords conducting some ancient European inquisition. They face an amphitheatre of tiered speciators' seats, while, high above the two ends of their lengthy bench, representatives of the media view the whole scenario from curiously elevated and depressingly isolated corner towers.

TOTAL CONTRAST The council chamber is a total contrast to the relatively small room utilized at the region's previous headquarters in a private office building in Burlington. The difference in size itself, though more accommodating for guests at the new building, poses problems · for all involved. The most apparent example is perhaps

the seating arrangement. In the old council chamber, Halton Hills Coun. Mike Armstrong had merely to turn to his immediate right in order to

Hinton still

undecided

on recount

Halton board of education trustee Bert Hinton, who was

ousted by challenger Betty

Fisher in the November 13

election, has not yet decided

whether or not he will ask for a

Mr. Hinton was narrowly

defeated by Mrs. Fisher, by a

margin of 30 votes, for the

trustee's seat in Wards 1 and 2.

The third candidate for the

seat, Pam Sheldon, was 90

Candidates have fourteen

days from the day the clerk

declared the election to ask for

a recount. If the recount does

not result in a win for the

person who made the request,

he or she must pay a fee for the

Dr. Leonard Landry

is moving to

10 Mountainview

Rd. S.

votes behind Mr. Hinton.



Paul Dorsey

Herald staff

confer across a twofoot aisle with planning committee chairman Pat Mc-Laughlin of Burlington, Less than three feet further along from Coun. McLaughlin sat Mayor Tom Hill.

Now, assuming the seating order will remain unchanged with the incoming council. Coun, Armstrong will need binoculars to keep an eye on Coun. McLaughlin or new Halton Hills Mayor Pele Pomeroy, so far removed is his place at the council table from the opposite end

Another Burlington councillor underlined the problem with a grin last week when the 1977-78 council met for the first and last time in the new chamber. Jack Raftis slowly waved his hand to and fro to colleagues on the far side of the table as though he were extending a long-distance farewell to friends aboard a departing ocean liner.

SEASONED VETERANS The metaphor may not be entirely unfounded. When the new council meets for an informal get-together Nov. 29, there will be 12 new members. fully half the council, including both seasoned veterans of municipal politics returning to the scene, like Oakville's Terry Mannell, and totally untainted rookies like Ed Wood of Halton Hills' Word 1.

Regional council is unwieldly at the best of times, as its departing chairman Ric Morrow and his predecessor Allan Masson will testify. Observors can thus expect an initial period during which learning the rules and getting acquainted with one another will take precedence over decisionmaking among council mem-

Once procedure, personalities and political stances start to fall into place, council can get down to the business of running the region. Its first task, however, will be a formidable one: the selection of a new chairman to replace Mr.

After five years, regional council has yet to fully dismantle the political barriers separating north and south Halton and at times dividing even the individual municipalities. Despite repeated pleas by Mr. Morrow and others to regard Hallon as a single community, councillors - understandably to an extent - continue to pursue

parochial objectives on behalf of their home municipalities. The anticipated selection of

a Burlington or Oakville native to fill Mr. Morrow's shoes as chairman could serve to intensify the inherent distrust of regional government shored by many north Halton citizens. There are, of course, several south Halton councillors who sincerely keep the interests of the region as a whole foremost in their minds, but there are others who keep a pot full of reservations about regional government simmering on the

Adding fuel to the flame is the memory of council's recent decision - something of a victory for Halton Hills council-. lors - to implement uniform water rates across the region. Oakville councillors in particular believe the move will cost their constituents dearly and were, at least initially, prepared to appeal the decision before a higher authority.

back burner.

Milton councillors, mean-

white, are reluctantly prepared to wrestle with regional officials before the Ontario Municipal Board over regional council's intention to establish a major landfill site on prime farmland in their municipal-

Together, the two issues came dangerously close to creating serious and irreparable rifts among regional councillors during the last term. Though largely removed from the new council's jurisdiction, both will undoubtedly continue to exercise an eeric kind of control over the voting process - regardless of the issue at hand . in the months to

The enormous size of the new council chambers may then be appropriate. .Councillors will clearly need lots of room to thrash out the details of highly contentious issues if that ocean liner called regional government, to overwork the metaphor, is ever to reach hame port.



Phil Sykes entertained members of the Lions Club and entertainment by its members in addition to Mr. Sykes' their guests at the Lions' annual Senior Citizens' dinner and fun night. The club provided their guests with a roast beef dinner and

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MUNICIPALITY

Election of Members of the French Language Advisory Committee for Secondary Schools

Notice is given that meetings of the French-speaking ratepayers will be held by the Halton Board of Education on Monday, December 11, 1978, to elect six Frenchspeaking ratepayers to an Advisory Committee of the

The Committee will also include representatives from the Board of Education. The Committee's purpose will be to make recommendations to the Halon Board of Education on ways of meeting the needs of French-speaking students

Two of the members will be elected by the French speaking ratepayers residing in Halton Hills and Millon Three of the members will be elected by the French

One of the members will be elected by the French

Suite 203 Georgetown, Ont. AS OF NOV. 1st 78

NOTICE TO FRENCH-SPEAKING RATEPAYERS OF THE REGIONAL OF HALTON

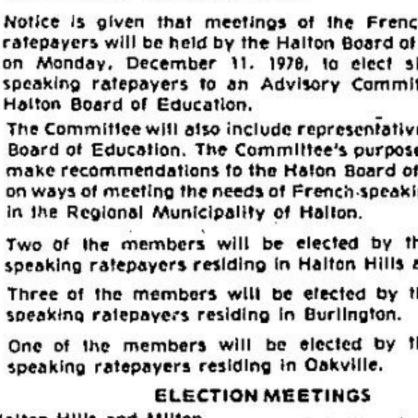
Halton Board of Education.

in the Regional Municipality of Halton.

Central Administration Building Burlington, Ontario

D.G. Morton Chairman

E.S. Lavender Director



Halton Hills and Milton Oakville Monday, December 11, 1978 Monday December 11, 1978 8:00 p.m. Georgetown District High School G.E. Perdue High School 70 Guelph Street 124 Margaret Drive Georgetown, Ontario. Oakville, Ontario Monday, December 11, 1978 8:00 p.m. 2050 Guetph Line Burlington, Ontario



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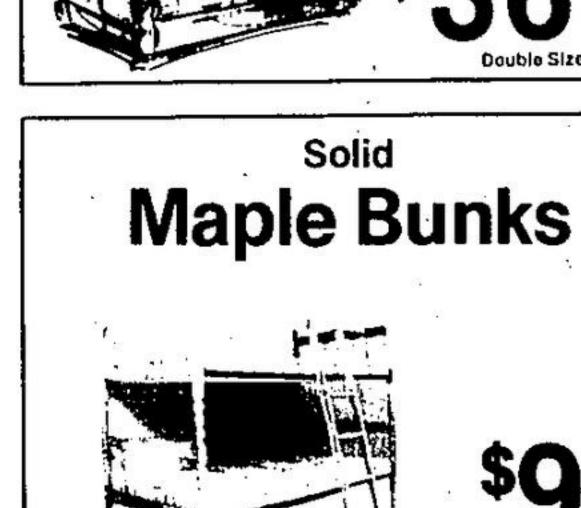
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