

# It's time to reconsider LACAC plan

Halton Hills needs a LACAC. That's a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee and it would go a long way to making sure that the heritage of this widespread community is preserved so we don't dissolve into yet another blah suburb.

The LACAC idea is not new to Halton Hills, it has been brought to council before by members of the Esqueping Historical Society including new town councillor John McDonald, who was then acting as a private citizen.

Town council blocked the proposal and some supporters of the LACAC idea say they misunderstood the powers of the committee.

A LACAC would be only a recommending body with no real legislative power.

LACAC members are appointed by council. They are supposed to operate with virtually no budget and the expertise needed to run the committee should come from the committee members. This would mean that lawyers, architects and people with a healthy knowledge of local history would be likely nominees for the committee.

The main duty of the group would be to prepare an inventory of buildings in the town that are architecturally or historically significant.

The committee would then present the list of historical sites to the town council. It is up to the town council to pass bylaws delating a building, or parts of a building, historically or architecturally significant. In some cases only the facade, or some rooms in a building are designated.

The LACAC cannot impose the designation.

And neither can the town council.

Making the designation law is done in a similar manner to an official plan change. Council must publish notice of the plan to designate and inform the building's owner. If there is no objection, the designation can then become law. However, if the building owner or any other person objects to the designation, a hearing will be held by the Conservation Review Board, a provincial group. The hearing will be held in a manner similar to the town's public meetings and will be well publicized with the public invited to attend and speak.

The review board's decision is then passed on to council who can either accept or reject the recommendation.

Once a building is designated historically or architecturally significant, the owner cannot tear down the building or alter it without the consent of council.

Since history and heritage are shared commonly it seems fair that the public have some say in its preservation. Once we lose a piece of history or outstanding architecture it is lost for ever and we and our ancestors, are poorer for it. Surely the town council has a role in seeing our history is preserved.

We suspect that in many cases owners of a building may not be aware of the significance of their property until informed by the town council.

We would feel better knowing that a group charged with cataloguing historical sites in Halton Hills exists to ensure that our heritage is not haphazardly, and unthinkingly destroyed.

It's worth noting that the Ontario Heritage Foundation says in most cases buildings declared historically significant increase in value.



# Peel region educator's report most provocative of the year



Queen's Park  
By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau  
Of The Herald  
TORONTO — The following are excerpts from the year's most provocative report on education, by Peel Region director of education John Fraser.

Observations:  
"Almost all our educational resources are dedicated to training people for more education at higher and higher levels."

"It is as though we are oblivious to the fact that virtually all students will want a job sooner or later..."

"Technology courses, commercial courses, or those programs that lead to the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills are somehow seen as being not quite as good or of as great a value as the study of literature, pure mathematics, and other subjects that stress theoretical concepts."

"The gifted students in our country are not encouraged to devise ways and means of manufacturing a better washing machine."

"The mismatch between skill development, or lack of it and jobs, is in part due to the lack of realistic understanding of the work place."

"We are educating quite well the committed, university-bound student, for higher levels of education."

"The school environment and the work place environment, more often than not, differ radically."

"Many of our students tend to be psychologically unprepared for the work place."

And recommendations:  
"An open-ended leave policy, be adopted that would allow teachers to assume employment in the world of business or industry..."

Administrators and consultants "qualified to teach, do in fact teach for not fewer than five consecutive days per year."

BE USEFUL

"Might it not be more desirable to protect, with absolute tenure and very high salaries, outstanding teachers, while others serve out a period of time in differentiated roles, demonstrating superior competence if they have it, before attaining the rank of teacher?"

"If students opt for spares they should be required to perform socially constructive tasks in the school (such as) cleaning graffiti from walls and desks, picking up paper..."

"All teachers should, in fact, be guidance counsellors."

And much, much more in the same vein.

The 238-page report contains 34 recommendations, all written in plain English without the usual educational jargon. And unlike most educational documents it was put together in only four months, using very few people, and quite inexpensively.

SOME DOUBTS

It leaves me with one major nagging doubt.

Fraser blames the school's tendency to exalt the abstract and theoretical over the practical and mundane as a reflection of the attitudes and value systems of society.

Possibly true, but it may also be a distortion based on a problem peculiar to the teaching profession.

Your average teacher, or educational guru, was born, went to elementary school, secondary school, graduated, went to teacher's college or university, graduated, and began teaching school.

If one has never left the unreal confines of academia how could one be expected to understand how the real world functions and teach it?

Thus my scepticism that many teachers would opt for a leave that would give them a chance to work in a business world for a while.

# United Way would be good for region

We welcome a suggestion heard last week that regional officials should meet to discuss the possibility of forming a single United Way organization that would serve all of Halton.

It is somewhat ironic that the suggestion should come from Roly Bird, the mayor of Burlington, a city with its own long-established United Way support, rather than from one of north Halton's municipal officials, who must be all too aware of local fund-raising problems.

Mayor Bird's proposal, endorsed last week by Halton regional council, would see the regional chairman convene a meeting of Halton's four mayors to investigate possible ways and benefits of

establishing a region-wide United Way.

According to specific figures presented by Mayor Bird, Haltonians are not realizing anywhere near their full charity-funding potential. With a region-wide United Way to co-ordinate the fund-raising efforts of Halton's many charitable health and social services organizations, he reasoned, the groups themselves might benefit from generous funding increases, while contributors would be funneling their donations through one umbrella agency and could appreciate a better return on their charity dollars.

In theory, the idea is all the more appealing in these times when social service groups are straining under the weight of annual operating expenses that it seems can never be fully accommodated by their corresponding budgets.

North Halton charities would perhaps benefit most from a regional United Way, since their counterparts in the south already rely directly on local branches of the co-operative fund-raising group. After expanding on their limited outside assistance, the north Halton charities might see substantial increases in their public contribution components.

It almost goes without saying, though that north Halton agencies must retain the option of carrying on their personal fund-raising activities without outside assistance if they so desire. No doubt some groups among them might prefer to continue relying on established methods of soliciting local donations, methods that appear in some cases to be firmly rooted in the grass roots style and spirit of the smaller communities found in the north.

# English Canada still paranoid about Quebec's policies



Ottawa Report  
By Stewart MacLeod

Ottawa Bureau  
Of The Herald  
For a while there, I thought we English-speaking Canadians were finally getting over our paranoia about Quebec's involvement in foreign affairs.

There hadn't been a word uttered on the subject for months. Quebec cabinet ministers were taking the odd trip abroad and we didn't even send trained analysts along to see whether they attracted warmer handshakes than their federal counterparts. We didn't panic when a stray foreign cabinet minister found his way to Quebec City and was greeted by Rene Levesque. And there have been

several instances in which Quebec delegates actually held talks with foreign countries.

Admittedly, there was a little furor over the departure ceremonies for French Premier Raymond Barre, but we sort of dismissed that as bad manners by Levesque, not a serious attempt to flex Quebec's international muscles. Generally speaking, over the last few months, there were encouraging indications that we were

gradually growing out of the paranoia that reached a peak when Levesque was made a grant officer of France's Legion of Honor.

Those were horrible days for our paranoia. Simma Holt (L-Vancouver-

Kingsway) said that the behavior of French leaders was "unforgivable." And Maurice Dionne (L-Northumberland) suggested that separatist leaders from Corsica and Brittany be invited to Canada to repay the French government for inviting separatists from Canada.

Not only was Levesque invited to France in the fall of 1977, he was treated in such a way that our paranoia reached

epidemic proportions. Why he was even invited to address the French National Assembly, an invitation that we managed to interpret as a slight to Ottawa.

Good Heavens, he was given a red carpet to walk on!

One journalist reported that French Premier Valerie Giscard d'Estang "smiled with understanding" in the direction of Levesque. And, somehow, we managed to interpret that as an endorsement of Quebec independence.

Anyway, as I was saying, I thought we were graduating from this persistent paranoia. But then, with a resounding thump, came the new edition of the Paris telephone directory. And, naturally, some enterprising Canadian checked the listing of the Quebec delegation in France.

Horrors! As the Ottawa Journal later reported in a page-wide headline, "Quebec's Paris 'embassy' jolts diplomatic circles." And as the Toronto Globe and Mail — just to name another — reported on the front page, "Quebec office is embassy — on paper."

CRISIS BIGGER  
At that time, some 18,000 soldiers had been reported killed in the Chinese-Vietnam border war, and all hell was breaking loose in Iran, but, by golly, we had a

bigger crisis to deal with.

We read that in the last Paris directory, published two years ago, the Quebec delegation appeared only as "Delegation Generale du Gouvernement du Quebec."

The Canadian Embassy was contacted immediately. And we were told that the matter was being looked into. In Ottawa, External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson was being searched out for comment. And

back in Paris an official of the French ministry for foreign affairs was offering us the reassuring news that the Quebec delegation was just that, a delegation. "It cannot have the status of an embassy," said the official.

Whew! Jamieson was later to add to that reassurance by declaring that "a page in a telephone book doesn't make you an embassy."

That was good news indeed.

But that didn't fully explain another problem the Canadian Press pointed out. It seems that the directory lists the Ambassade du Canada in standard-size type, while the Ambassade du Quebec has larger type on the opposite page.

Great Caesar, will our problems never end?

Finally, the Quebec government was called into the crisis. And inter-governmental Affairs Minister Claude Norin issued a statement to say that the government did not ask for a new listing. It was, he said, a decision by the editor of the telephone directory.

Now with all the loose ends tied up on that incredible crisis — except for the large type, that is — we can go back to little skirmishes like the Chinese-Vietnam war.

# Halton's History

From the Herald's files

TRUCK ACCIDENT IN NORVAL  
THIRTY YEARS AGO — A fire which broke out in the newly-built home on Ostrander Boulevard of Dr. W.C. Stiles, gutted the interior and did extensive damage to the property. The fire was first noticed by neighbors at 2:15 on Friday morning when after apparently smouldering for some time it gained headway and broke through the roof. In spite of the deep snow and a road block near the house where sewerage is being installed, the fire brigade reached the scene in record time and had the fire under control within half an hour. They were unable to save the roof from caving in, and little more than the brickwork of the house remains.

When a large tractor-trailer loaded with eleven tons of paper bound for a local paper mill skidded and jack-knifed across Highway 7 on the Norval Hill last Thursday morning, traffic en route to Georgetown was delayed for several hours. An estimated 500 cars, trucks and buses waited in Norval until the truck was swung off the road and the hill sanded. An early attempt with block and tackle to pull the truck from the ditch up-rooted a large tree to which the tackle was fastened and the falling tree tore down hydro wires and left the village without hydro until late afternoon. The paper truck was marooned until nine o'clock in the evening.

A new teacher will be added to the staff of Georgetown Public School next year. The board of education at its meeting last Wednesday, decided that rather than hire two new teachers as recommended in the inspector's report, one additional teacher would be hired and the present assembly room converted into a classroom.

HURRICANE FORCE WINDS

TWENTY YEARS AGO — Unusually high March winds gusting up to hurricane force did mass damage in this area Sunday. Television aerials were the storms' favorite target and some 65 fell in town before 75 mile per hour winds, according to claims which flooded local insurance offices the next day. The damage was not limited to aerials, with commercial signs, highway signs, roofs, windows and trees all feeling the force of the wind.

"Sock Thieves" are again plaguing the Beaumont Knitting Co. Ltd. in Glen Williams, and after two recent robberies, the mill owners have decided to engage a night watchman — an expensive, but necessary method of dealing with their troubles.

Mrs. Godfrey Collier, 11 Orchard Boulevard, is the Lions Shamrock Queen. Mrs. Collier was crowned Shamrock Queen at the annual Lions Club's St. Patrick's Day Dance held this year on Friday evening in the Rose Room, and it was an Irish Rose Room, thanks to an enthusiastic decorating committee, who underlined the 17th theme with large shamrocks and green trimmings.

TV SHOW FILMS LOCALLY

TEN YEARS AGO — It's getting to be a habit. Several on "location" shots of Georgetown have bobbed up in a couple of the Quentin Durgens series on the CBC-TV network. At least two district farms have been the site of filmed shows of farm life. Now it's a local industry, Smith and Stone Ltd., which will be featured on a future television program. A CBC crew has been here all this week, filming for a documentary on the plastics industry.

It's that time of year again — the time when countless boards of education across the province hold out pies in the sky for young and old teachers to replace resignations and fill new schools. And Halton County Board of Education is no exception. This year the board expects to have to hire about 145 teachers for both elementary and secondary schools to handle the influx of 2,000 new students.

Dr. Morton Shulman is a small man only in physical stature. When it comes to withstanding verbal abuse, he's a giant. The heckling was fierce last Wednesday night when he spoke to Halton Young Progressive Conservatives at the Holiday Inn in Oakville, but he grinned above it all and said, "Hecklers make a better meeting." Halton YPC member Terry O'Connor, in "thanking" the NDP member for High Park, described his speech as "witty, urbane, articulate — and largely hogwash." The loudest laugh came from Morly Shulman.

Congregations of Ashgrove and Hornby United Churches which officially become one a few months ago through amalgamation, worshipped together under the roof of their new church for the first time on Sunday. Hillcrest church is at the intersection of the 7th Line of Esqueping and 5 Sideroad near Pineview Public School.

TOWN HALL ORDERED CLOSED

ONE YEAR AGO — Acton's old town hall has been ordered closed by the industrial safety branch of the provincial ministry of labor. The order directing that the structure shall not be occupied until either the floor, roof or any other part of the structure can safely support the loads applied or likely to be applied was received by the town Monday. The first floor of the 96-year-old structure on Willow Street is occupied by a detachment of Halton Regional Police and a senior citizens' drop-in centre. The second floor is unoccupied.

Barry Shepherd, 33, was appointed school trustee for Georgetown by Halton Board of education, Thursday. Mr. Shepherd one of 11 candidates for the post, will take the seat vacated by Don Long who resigned because of business commitments. Mr. Shepherd ran opposite Mr. Long in the 1978 municipal election.

One of three men killed in collision with a runaway locomotive near Drumquin Tuesday morning was the engineer. A group of about 25 workmen from rail-building crews working on a rail spur were lined up at the side of a catering truck parked on the north side of Britannia Road when a locomotive left idling just south of Britannia Road apparently slipped into gear and began to move forward. The locomotive, with no one at the controls, crossed the road and plowed into three pick-up type vehicles which had been parked near the rail line.

the HERALD  
A DIVISION OF CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS COMPANY LTD  
103 Main St. South, Georgetown, L7G-3E5  
WILLIAM EVDOKIMOFF  
Publisher & General Manager  
MICHAEL HOLLETT  
Managing Editor  
LARRY N. MARTIN  
Advertising Sales Manager  
Phone 877-2201  
Second Class Mail Registered No. 0943  
AN AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER  
1978 Best News & Features  
1978 Best News & Features  
1978 Best Editorial & Layout  
1978 Best Composition Page  
Advertising is accepted on the condition that the advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of the publisher or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.  
National Advertising Offices  
1 Thomson Building  
43 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont.  
342 Cathcart St., Montreal, P. Q.