

Close vote

NEC rejects boundary reductions

By SIGNE BALL
Herald special
The Niagara Escarpment Commission narrowly defeated a motion Friday that would have reduced escarpment planning boundaries and eliminated the possibility of any further additions to the proposed planning area.

Commission member Ian McNair made the motion to set the boundaries in spite of both a planning staff recommendation and a recent letter from resources Development Secretary Rene Brunelle urging the commission to hear further from Coalition on the

Niagara Escarpment (CONE) NINE GROUPS
CONE, an organization of nine environmental groups, claims several environmentally sensitive areas were arbitrarily removed from the proposed plan as a result of pressure from local governments. The group is seeking to have approximately 12 such areas restored to the plan.

The commission's own interested group advisory committee has also recommended several additions to the proposed plan area, many of which are similar to the CONE suggestions.

McNair's motion would have overturned a February decision in which the commission agreed to leave boundaries flexible until revised planning policies are in place, and as close to the scheduled May completion date as possible.

Once boundaries are set out, only land contained within the plan area may be considered during the public hearings and review period. Thus, only applications for deletions from the plan area may be received by the hearing officer. Applications for additions cannot be heard.

ENOUGH TIME
In making the motion McNair

said enough time had been spent wrangling over boundaries and it was time constituents knew definitely whether or not they were included in the plan.

Member at large, Bob Bateman, argued that by setting the boundaries the commission would be "too mechanical, arbitrary and totally inflexible."

Any adjustments to the proposed boundaries would be minor in nature, he said.

McNair's motion, supported by Caledon commission member Alex Raeburn, was defeated in a narrow 7-6 vote. Following the vote commission members agreed there would be no more discussion of boundaries until the revised planning policy has been established.

Be 'Halton's ambassadors', industrial promoter says

Jim Marshall, President of the Ontario Industrial Development Council, in an address recently to a group of Halton industrialists, urged them to act as "Halton Ambassadors" and promote Halton as a good place to invest. Twenty-seven Halton manufacturers were among a group of fifty-five attending a seminar-dinner in Milton on March 1st.

The first "Halton Ambassador" seminar was arranged by

the region's department of business development. William Marshall, director of business development, welcomed the group saying that support and expansion of the existing business sector would be a key factor in the attraction of the 36,000 new jobs required throughout Halton by 1986.

The group, including Jack Raffis, Chairman of Halton Region and other political representatives heard John

Chinkard, Economist for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce forecast a slight improvement in Canada's rate of economic growth over the next few years. This improvement will help in the attraction of needed investment to Halton.

"Government will have to take steps to ensure that valuable lands along rail are not lost to residential use." This was the urgent message to the group by Fred Louks, industrial development officer for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Halton's favourable market location is strengthened by well-planned industrial usage of rail capability, he stated.

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Local couple adopts child, 2

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Nielsen of Limehouse have recently adopted their second foster child under the Foster Parents Plan of Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen have "adopted" Jean Penor of Haiti. Jean is two years old, and has three sisters, Villa Joseph, R. and Wilna and Willa Penor, both one year old. Jean's father, Lucien Moliere, is a day-laborer, and his mother, Lucienne Penor, is a petty trader.

Becoming a foster parent means a monthly contribution of \$19, which will provide assistance not only to the foster child, but to his entire family. The money is used to provide the family with a monthly cash grant or material benefits, free medical and dental care, free prescriptions, guidance and counselling from social workers, and other special programs. Foster children and their

brothers and sisters are encouraged to attend school, and where suitable, the children are provided with free vocational training courses; where practical, the parents may also receive vocational training.

The goal of the Foster Parents Plan is to help the family with the tools necessary for independence. The programs are adapted to the needs of each country, and have recently tended to be concentrated in rural areas where the entire community can benefit from such programs as mass inoculations.

People interested in becoming foster parents, or in getting more information on the plan, which is non-sectarian, non-profit and non-political, can write to the Foster Parents Plan of Canada, 153 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, or call, toll free, at 1-800-298-7171.

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