Halton CAS deserves more funding: report

Claims by the Halton Children's Aid Society (CAS) that unique servicing problems encountered in this region should qualify it for funding beyond provincial guidelines have been endorsed by a specially-appointed Child

Welfare Review Committee. If accepted by the ministry of health, the committee's findings could see the Halton society's \$200,000 deficit for 1979 reduced to \$20,000.

in a report released last week, the committee noted that the staff workload of the Hallon CAS is the third highest in the province, averaging 37.65 cases per worker compared to a provincial average of 26.9 cases per worker.

There has been a 300 per cent increase in the number of cases over the past five years, and yet the Halton society's per-capita costs are the lowest in the province, the report

The CAS originally asked the province for approximately \$2.1 million in 1979, but the budget was reduced to \$1.93

million by Halton regional council Another \$300,000 was trimmed by the ministry of community and social services, although the ministry was later persuaded to grant the CAS an additional

The results of all the budget chopping left the CAS \$200,000 short in its 1979 budget.

JANUARY DECISION? Hallon CAS president Mike Whyte said he hopes the ministry's decision on the report will be handed down by mid-January.

committee members.

would be needed to equalize

The largest single overrun in through the CAS's supplemen-

Mr. Whyte said the province

The report suggested that it's unfortunate the society should be placed in the kind of desperate financial situation it experienced this year.

Mr. Whyte noted that if the province accepts the report, the money the CAS will receive from the province will be very close to what was originally

The three-member review committee, chaired by Barry Lowes, former chairman of the Metro Toronto Board of Education, scrutinized the data carefully and came up with a very complete and reasonable report. Mr. Whyteand CAS executive director Ron Coupland said in a joint

press release Oakville lawyer Doug Black, NDP candidate in Halton riding for the February 18 election, and Harry Henderson. Oakville municipal treasurer, were the two other

The report suggests that CAS staff salaries, which were limited to a three per cent increase in 1979, should be increased by raises similar to those granted ministry staff. A 2.7-per cent increase

raises. Mr. Whyle estimated. The report said that the provincial freeze on CAS hiring was unfair and prejudicial to effective care provided by the Halton CAS, It suggested the freeze be lifted and that the CAS be permitted to gradually add more staff.

the CAS's budget is the cost related to children in care, according to the report. This figure cannot be regulated, it contended, and will be met tary budget estimates.

has already agreed that all child care costs will be met.

requested.

Acton Optimists to help out with cerebral palsy telethon

The Herald was honored Friday by a special visit from Dave Henderson (left), president of

the Optimists Club of Acton, who presented Herald publisher Bill Evdokimoff with a framed

certificate on behalf of the club recognizing the newspaper "for outstanding, complete and

impartial news coverage...and for the contribution of entertainment to our community through

newspaper publication and distribution." The certificate, gratefully accepted by the Herald staff,

Members of the Optimists Club of Acton will again be pitching in alongside hundreds of similarly charity-minded volunteers and dozens of international entertainment celebrities for the "Weekend with the Stars" telethon for cerebral palsy this Saturday and Sunday.

now hangs in the newspaper's front office.

Acton Optimists raised

\$6,000 last year when they set up a pledge station to serve north Halton and this year organizers have asked them to take calls for Acton, Cambellville, Georgetown, Guelph, Milton and Rock-

Peter Saxon of Pinwheel Corporation has offered the group his Mill Street office

for the event and extra telephones will be installed temporarily to facilitate the process for those pledging funds to the cause.

The "Weekend with the Stars" telethen will be broadcast across the province from 10 p.m. Saturday until 7:30 p.m. Sunday, originating in New York, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Toronto,

where such celebrities as Henry "Fonzie" Winkler and Frank Sinatra will be helping to raise funds for the physically disabled.

Money raised in this area through the telethon will be used towards a residence project near Kitchener-Waterloo to serve Halton, Waterloo and Wellington,

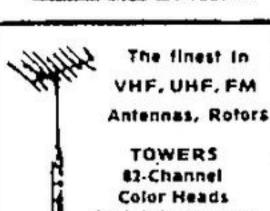
OMB gives the green light to Glen Williams garden centre

favor of a proposed retail garden centre to be built on Concession 10 in Glen Williams noting that objections raised about the project "might have been avoided had there been better communication between the objectors and the (town) planning department".

The basic objection to the project, according to the OMB. contended that the town bylaw enacted last March 19 to rezone the 2.3 acres site owned by Sheridan Nurseries does not conterm to the regional official

"We are satisfied on the





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The Ontario Municipal planning evidence and opinion would change the rural char- project is to be restricted to Board (OMB) has ruled in that the proposal conforms to acter of the area, the ruling 4,800 square feet, of which the official plan", the OMB

noted in its Dec. 12 ruling. "The policies of the regional official plan encourage minor commercial uses to locate in hamlets'

Another objection raised over the garden centre was that construction of the centre

"We have accepted the opinion of the planners that this type of retail commercial operation is part and parcel of the existing use and is compatthe to the surroundings", the ruling responded.

The total floor area of the

2.700 square feet will be rental space. The building will be 13 feet high, with glass and cedar siding construction, designed for seasonal type use. Parking will be provided on site for 47 vehicles in a concealed landscaped area reached by way of a private access road.



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