

CMA maps new course for economic survival

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

If Canadian manufacturers are to remain competitive internationally, they must join a quiet, but broad ranging "revolution" in the way they do business, the executive vice-president of the Canadian Manufacturers Association (CMA) says.

In a recent interview with The Herald, Georgetown resident Larry Thibault said Canada's economic security is bound to its ability to produce top quality, internationally accepted products at competitive prices.

To survive, corporations should conduct a top-to-bottom review of business practice, inside and outside the office.

So urgent is the need to find ways of boosting Canada's sluggish economy, the CMA published a reference paper entitled "How To Improve Industrial Competitiveness" in May.

While the demands for technology and new methods of corporate financing are addressed within the paper, Mr. Thibault pointed out that businesses are becoming more and more aware

of the "human element" and its close relationship to the ups and downs of productivity.

NEW RELATIONSHIP

"There has to be a better form of employee-manager relationship in which one understands that the standard of living a person enjoys depends on the company's success," Mr. Thibault commented.

"Often in the Japanese workplace, the manager is not seen as just another authority figure, but someone who is there to work in their 'quality circles'

as an advisor," he said. "The manager may set guidelines and objectives, but it's recognized that the guy on the production line may know how to make a product better or get the job done faster."

"The CMA isn't on a campaign to wipe out unions; rather the "quiet revolution" calls on workers and managers to co-operate for the common good of better productivity and company success."

In fact, CMA members, Mr. Thibault said, have noted that the tradit-

ional adversarial stance between company and union reps at the bargaining table is changing.

A CMA commissioned Gallup poll indicates that the average Canadian, quite possibly a member of a union, is well aware of Canada's productivity problems. Of 1,055 adults surveyed last August, 75 per cent of them agreed that Canada's low productivity is contributing to current economic difficulties.

While many European countries, like Japan, have already realized that

a healthy work attitude and regard for the company leads to increased productivity, this kind of commonsense is only beginning to find converts in Canada.

Mr. Thibault speculates that this is largely because, until recently, economic conditions here were relatively good and the need for change not that pressing.

GROWTH SLOWS

"But we haven't had real growth

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Council opts for brevity

Town council will ask the province's ministry of housing and municipal affairs to change a block of land from agricultural to residential near the Wildwood Road-Eighth Line intersection.

But rather than have the landowners, Meagan Developments Ltd., go through a lengthy official plan amendment process, council has agreed that the land use change should be made through a shorter, quicker method called a "minister's modification".

fore the land is approved for residential use.

OWN MERITS

In a lengthy dissertation before council Monday night, Mr. Key repeatedly called on council to respect official plan guidelines for carefully controlled growth in the area. Meagan Developments' proposal for 35 estate-type homes in the area should stand "on its own merits", he argued, and weather the official plan amendment process, however detailed it may be.

Among the issues the amendment process should look at, he said, are traffic concerns from new development, water supply, financial impact on the area and drainage from the proposed housing project.

He indicated that the town may be subverting the "spirit" of its official plan by encouraging development north of Glen Williams and away from the larger urban area of Georgetown.

Mr. Key pointed out that when the secondary plan for the hamlet was reviewed by council and the public, the Meagan lands were initially not included.

DRAFT PLAN
But Mayor Pete Pom-

roy argued that many of the concerns raised by the residents will be addressed when the developer submits a draft plan of subdivision. At that time, a number of studies will be required and no houses would be built until all the conditions set by council had been met.

Grilled by Coun. Mike Armstrong, Mr. Key said he is not opposed to new development, but his group wants to make sure it goes through the planning stage properly.

"We ask you to abandon the shortcut method," Mr. Key said. "I would like to see the developer move quicker, but want to make sure it's done right."

It's been difficult to determine what the minister's modification is, Mr. Key said, although the provincial ombudsman and Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed have tried to help.

Bert Arnold, Meagan's lawyer, said the developer intends to "abide by all the rules in the secondary plan."

While Meagan would pay for a traffic study, it would be up to council to set its terms of reference. Mr. Key argued that council should commission and pay for the study as part of the amendment process.



A SERENADE FOR HIS GIRL

It was a fine moment, indeed, when Strawberry Shortcake herself (Davleena Radigan) made her appearance at the Strawberry Social on the hospital lawn Sunday afternoon. She brought along her little

buddy (four-year-old Shaun Radigan) to keep her company, and play a few strawberry-pickin' tunes for the gathering. It all made for a fruitful day. (Herald photo by Gerry Timbers)

Kudos for firefighters

Kudos for the town's firefighters. A special resolution passed by town council Monday night praised the Georgetown and Acton brigades for their proficiency and expert service, especially highlighted during a particularly tricky blaze in Acton July 3 in which several firefighters were taken to hospital for problems associated with fighting the fire, the heat of the day and swarm of bees, which plagued firefighters throughout the battle.

Correction

In the July 8 Weekend Extra, it was reported Ron Atherley died from a fall out of a pickup truck. The deceased's name is David Atherley. The Herald regrets the error and apologizes for any embarrassment to the family.

Crossing guard

A school crossing guard is planned for the Delrex-Boulevard-Weber Drive intersection. On the recommendation of Halton regional police safety officer Rod Beaumont, council agreed that the area which serves George Kennedy School on Weber and St. Francis of Assisi on Duncan Drive, is heavily travelled by students and pedestrians. The extra school crossing guard was anticipated in the town's budget this year. The adult guard is expected to begin his or her duties in September.

Car stolen

A 1981 Buick valued at \$8,000 was stolen from Twin Windows on Georgetown's Mountainview Road, July 5. Halton regional police located the vehicle at 5:30 p.m. the next evening abandoned in a ditch on Sideroad 17 and Tenth Line. There had been \$3,000 damage to the front end of the car. Police are investigating and charges are to be laid shortly.

Name needed

The newly formed Halton Hills peace-through-disarmament group will choose a name for itself at a meeting next Monday, July 18 at 8 p.m. in Trinity United Church, Acton. All 35,000 citizens of Halton Hills are invited, in which case seating will be limited. For information call 877-1994.

Art in bloom

Like wildflowers, creative art is alive and blooming in Halton Hills. Just check at Forge Studio in Terra Coita. From July until September, 23 of the province's top artists have works on display. There are examples to please just about everyone's tastes: blown glass, pottery, silks, prints and water colors. The gallery is open Monday to Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Or, you can see the exhibits by appointment by calling 877-1312 or 877-9289.



BRRR

Does Mikey like everything? Well, Mikey, 4, of Guelph, wasn't so sure he liked the water in the Acton wading pool Sunday afternoon. It's fine while you're in, but coming out can be a shaky experience. Mikey found.

(Herald photo)

New fees for summer programs

So the kids have been home but two weeks and already you're looking forward to the start of school again.

Relax! The town's recreation and parks department has several ways to spell relief, without taking an enormous gouge out of the bank account.

The names of the programs carry as much charm and interest as the activities themselves. Youngsters can try Tot Lots on for size; but don't stop there: programs are geared to occupy and stimulate the minds of a wide age range of pre-teens.

For the summer activities centres program, the town's recreation department has made a more accommodating fee schedule. It's a kind of "pay as you play" scheme: Instead of enrolling youngsters in a week-long summer activities centre program at \$25, there are now two shorter, options available.

Parents can enroll kids for a week-long half-days option at \$15 or they can register youngsters on a day-to-day basis at \$5 per child.

That way, it's easy to fit

a summer activities centre program around family holidays and other commitments.

Discounts still apply for each additional family member registered. You

can register in person at the department's offices on James Street in Georgetown (40 Mill St. in Acton) or mail in the form found in the spring-summer brochure and on page B2 of this week's paper.

Summer activities centres are found at Acton's McKenzie-Smith and St. Joseph's elementary schools and at Georgetown's George Kennedy

School. Registration won't be allowed at the centre locations.

For more information about the new program rates and about the wealth of things to do for young people thanks to the rec department, call 877-5185 and ask for either extension 60, 19 or 63.

More rec department summer program news is found on page A5.

Man's death investigated

Efforts to revive a Georgetown man failed Saturday after he was injured in a bizarre industrial accident at Norval's Maple Lodge Farms.

Nick Bos, 41, of Stevens Crescent, died at 4:45 p.m. Saturday at Peel Memorial Hospital of cerebral anoxia. In layman's terms, that means a lack of blood and oxygen to the brain.

Mr. Bos had been working alone with a battery-powered hand-controlled tow motor forklift, mov-

ing skids from a storage rack.

For an undetermined reason, he was backed into a space and his head became trapped between the skids and the tow motor.

An inquest into the death will be held, Brampton coroner Dr. James Cairns announced Tuesday.

The inquest will determine the circumstances surrounding Mr. Bos' death. It will likely be held in the fall, Dr. Cairns said.

Winning's a SIN

Georgetown's Dalton Newcombe is listed among the top 160 prize winners who recently took part in a brain-twisting math competition sponsored by the University of Waterloo department of physics. The Georgetown and district high school student competed in the university's SIN test, organized by Dr. Phil Eastman. SIN, named in honor of Sir Isaac Newton, a scientific pillar of the 18th century's "Age of Enlightenment", asks twelve humorous but demanding physics problems. Demanding as they are, SIN problems and students' success with them, are used for selection into the university's physics program.

End-of-season 'CBC' session makes lilies talk of town

Except for the walls, the Halton Hills library-cultural centre art gallery is like an empty space waiting for a jungle to happen. That's just about what took place last week when the Coffee Books Conversation (CBC) club closed its meetings for the summer with a gala - repeat gala - lily show.

There's no such thing as a lowly lily, Bob Barber maintains. He and CBC host Norm Elson drove for miles Thursday afternoon collecting colorful lilies from members of the Ontario Lily Association.

Their eight hours of work resulted in row upon row of lilies - out-facing asiatics, down-facing asiatics, pendant asiatics - all plunked in dozens of water-filled wine and liquor bottles.

Most of us are familiar with the humble white lily which grows in the wild and as a cultivated plant, but some members of the Ontario Regional Lily Society really take their lilies seriously, developing a number of fascinating and bizarre hybrids.

The asiatics form one hybrid group and some of the names of custom-designed lilies are equally intriguing: Connecticut Yankee, Algoma, Lavish Lady Byam's Ruby, Nutmegger and so on.

LOCAL EXPERT

Mr. Barber's fascination with lilies was prodded by the late Isabella Preston, a Georgetown lily breeder. For 20 years, Mr. Barber's garden has sprouted all kinds of lilies which he says are generally easy to care for.

Some pointers you might want to keep in mind if you share an interest in lilies:

- they are best planted when the weather cools in September or October.
- lilies need a lot of drainage. Plant the bulbs about four to five inches below the ground (more or less depending on whether your soil is light or heavy) and tamp down the soil to remove any air pockets. Air pockets tend to collect water before it drains off.

-lilies like fertilizer which should be applied around the plants in early May and again in mid to late June. Fresh manure, a leaflet handed out at Friday's CBC lily show warns, can lead to fungus attack.

-a mulch or other ground cover keeps the roots cool, as well as control weed growth.

An invitation was extended for would-be lily enthusiasts to join the Ontario Regional Lily Society.

Meanwhile, in the midst of colorful lily splendor, CBC regulars were talking about plans for next season's Friday gatherings at the library.

Mr. Elson, who has hosted the informal sessions for about two years, is already wondering what sort of special attraction will open the CBC gatherings in the fall.

It will be tough to match this year's grand finale.



Norm Elson (left), host of Coffee, Books, Conversation (CBC) at the Georgetown library, decided to end the weekly sessions for the summer by holding a giant lily show. He and local lily expert Bob Barber spend last Thursday afternoon hunting down as many interesting varieties as they could find and came up with an outstanding lily show which ran over the weekend in the cultural centre's art gallery. (Herald photo)

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