Town needs more growth to compensate for loss

By ANI PEDERIAN Herald Staff

Since 1976, Halton Hills has lost 1,700 jobs, claims a Norval farmer.

Peter Branch told town councillors last week, that according to his calculations, a net 1,700 jobs have been lost by the town over the eight year period.

'If this continues, without some form of compensation in terms of more growth...we're going to run into assessment and financial problems," Mr. Branch warned.

He pointed out the town could expect the trend of less in government grants to continue. "If we're not enticing more industry to this

area, we're in trouble," Mr. Branch said. He said he found it difficult to understand why a proposal to develop 760 acres along the Highway 401 Corridor for industrial use has been deferred for another two years by both the province and the region.

As long as that land is in a deferral situation, no matter which company comes and looks at it, intending to locate in Halton Hills, they aren't going to be interested, Mr. Branch sald.

The same is true of 250 acres on Highway 25 south of Acton. Under the town's proposed Official Plan, these acres are to be deferred from an industrial designation, until the region settles its rural industrial land needs.

Mr. Branch noted the recently publicized Honda site in Alliston is located on rural land of a better quality than Halton Hills farmland, where "the finest crop of potatoes were growing up that you could wish for.'

"Yet, when Halton Hills wants a teensle bit of industrial land, it's deferred. My question is how come in Alliston, with its limited water and sewage, that land would go immediately."

In 1976, the town of Halton Hills provided 9,200 jobs. For 1986, it's been forecast at 13,700 jobs. Employment within the town should be increasing at 500 jobs a year, Mr. Branch said.

The regional plan indicates an employment target for the town of 17,000 jobs in 2001. By 1986, the population is estimated at 45,000

for Halton Hills. Since 1974, the population hasn't increased much, according to Mr. Branch. "The population, as far as I can see, is standing still, which doesn't encourage industry to

come here," he said. Industry likes a labor pool and good housing before settling into a community. .

Town planner Ian Keith said it was with difficulty that two months ago the provincial government finally approved 200 acres in south east Georgetown for industrial land.

"At the present time, we have no serviced industrial land," Mr. Keith said. "We've had an extremely difficult time convincing the Ministry that it's proper."

'Jobs lost' figures disputed

Herald Staff Peter Branch's claim that 1,700 jobs have been lost in Halton Hills over the last eight years is attributed to information he says he received from the region and Statistics in Halton Hills. I would Canada.

The Herald called Stalistics Canada and was told the town had had, instead, a net gain of 2,800 jobs from 1976 to 1980. A researcher said no layoff figures are kept by Statistics Canada.

The region's business development officer Brent Kearse told The Herald that there's been a two to five per cent constant employment the last 10 years.

"That's an awful large figure," Mr. Kearse said in reference to Mr. Branch's 1,700 jobs lost. "When you look over the last few years, there've been no major closures dispute it."

He noted Acton's Beardmore Tannery had dropped its staff from 600 to 280, but that there had been increases at The Olde Hide House and that in Georgetown, Nellson's had gone from 50 to 200 jobs.

Regional planner Bob White wasn't able to confirm Mr. Branch's figure, and said it was a growth in Halton over politically sensitive one. "We have had a

recession and there has said. "That's true. You been some loss of jobs with industries moving out, but new industries have come in as well," Mr. White said.

Further information taxes." promised by Mr. White was not available as of press time. Halton-Burlington

MPP Julian Reed said he had no evidence that there were 1,700 jobs lost and said he would like to see Mr. Branch's figur-

"In terms of industrial-residential balance. I think Halton Hills really development," Mr. Reed said.

cannot sustain a community simply as a bedroom community, without paying a tremendous price in terms of

Asked again how he got the 1,700 figure, Mr. Branch wasn't able to verify it.

"I attribute my interpretation to discussions with the region," Mr. Branch said. "And I can't go back on those figures because the regional people aren't

"Whether it was a loss has to concentrate on of forecast or a loss of industrial job develop- actual jobs, I'm confused ment than on residential now. I don't know," he

Official Plan

Off to Queen's Park

By ANI PEDERIAN vila . apr Herald Staff

to:

Now that the Official chaired by Coun. Mike Plan for Halton Hills has once again been bundled off to Queens Park for approval, a plateau of sorts has been achieved.

The Official Plan gives direction to growth in the town and is in accordance with the Regional Plan approved in 1960 by the province.

Last week, town councillors modified the plan, incorporating suggestions by the province and welcoming public input. When all the changes

were passed, accolades

that the region is looking

Region's bill delays firms

By ANI PEDERIAN Herald Staff

Halton Hills councillors tried to bargain for more than the 75 per cent contribution the region's planning and public works committee was willing to pay, toward upgrading a watermain on Acton's Eastern Avenue. Last week, at regional

council, they only succeeded in having the matter referred back to the planning and public works committee for consideration again.

Acton's Holly Industries can't go ahead with a 3,600 square foot addition to its building until the watermain has been upgraded.

They've been asked to put \$16,000 of their own money into the project, with the region making up the other \$48,000. The watermain

will improve fire protection for Holly Industries and its neighbor The Olde Hide House.

Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller said company president J.A. Meyer had indicated to him that Holly Industries couldn't afford the \$18,000 cost.

Burlington councillor Joan Little pointed out the region had made an exception in company's case, asking for only a 25 per cent contribution when normally it's 50-50.

"I'm afraid of the precedence this would set at the region if the region puts in 100 per cent," Mrs. Little said.

Coun. Mike Armstrong said it wasn't fair to ask Holly Industries to pay mayor and now regional Peter Pomeroy, town planners Ian Kelth and Bruce McLean, Clerk Admini-

went to Official Plan

Task Force Committee

chairman strator Ken Richardson and current Mayor Russ

"We've been worrying about the Official Plan for a long time," Coun. Ross Knechtel sald. "I've often wondered whether this is the reason Mayor Pomeroy went to the region, and now

expansion

for part of it, and tried to wangle money left over from another public works project for Halton Hills into this one.

"If we have savings on a project, it should go back and (the committee) see what is the greatest need in the region, not just the municipality," Oakville Coun. Anne Mulvale said.

The project is in the region's budget for 1986. If Mr. Meyer waits a year, he saves his \$16,000 and the region pays for the watermain 100 per

TOALL

KIDS!

at it, is the reason he wants to go to the province."

Armstrong, forment to The joke was welltaken, with the regional chairman laughing, "That may be true," from his seat in the audience.

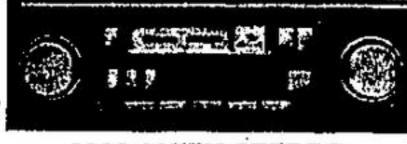
Coun. Knechtel sald it was a difficult job well done.

Marilyn Seriespison asked when ... the town could expect to -have its · Official Plan accepted by the province, and was told perhhaps in time for Christmas, by Mr. Keith.

"You want a year, or a date," Mayor Miller joked in reference to the five year process. ^~~~~~~~~~~

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Nick Markou, along with his brother

George, have been owning and operating The McGibbon Hotel on Main Street in Georgetown for the past six years.

"The business itself is a family affair," Mr.

Markou said. Originally from Toronto, Mr. Markou said they were looking for a business close to the Toronto area and Georgetown looked like a good

Mr. Markou said like his grandfather and father he has always been in the food and beverage business.

Favorite Magazine: Newsweek. Favorite Author: Graham Green. Favorite Movie: The Graduate.

Favorite TV Show: MASH. Favorite Music: Jim Croce. Favorite Hobby: Sailing. Favorite Good Time: Visiting friends. Favorite Vacation Place: Mexico.

what I can change and the intelligence to accept what I can't."

What do you hope to be doing ten years from now? "I hope to be retired."

Philosophy of Life: "The strength to change

Croation land policy deferred

By ANI PEDERIAN

Herald Staff Policies covering land owned by the Croatian Cultural Centre were deferred from the Halton Hills Official Plan last week.

Councillors were reviewing written submissions proposing changes in the town's Official Plan.

Lawyer for the Centre, Neil Davis asked councillors to defer adopting policies that would designate what development could take place on the Centre land. He pointed out such a

move would be premature as agricultural, traffic and storm water studies are underway on the property. Council requested the studies carlier this year in response to development plans by the Centre.

Public works committee turns up site search

By GREG KEENAN Herald Special

Brampton's public works committee has a new song with an old melody for Peel Region in its search for a landfill site.

The committee voted last week to ask the Region to test the original prime site recommended by a consultant which was thrown out along with four other original sites by the Region in May.

It also wants a staff report about the costs of Brampton testing the site for suitability as a landfill location itself if Regional council refuses to test the site - called "Site B".

Site B - near Mississauga Road and 5th Line West - was thrown out last May after pressure from Markborough Properties, which owns an industrial park near Mississauga Road

nal council," said Coun. best site," Mrs. Sutterand Highway 401. Both public works committee recommendduced both recommendations will be considered atlons.

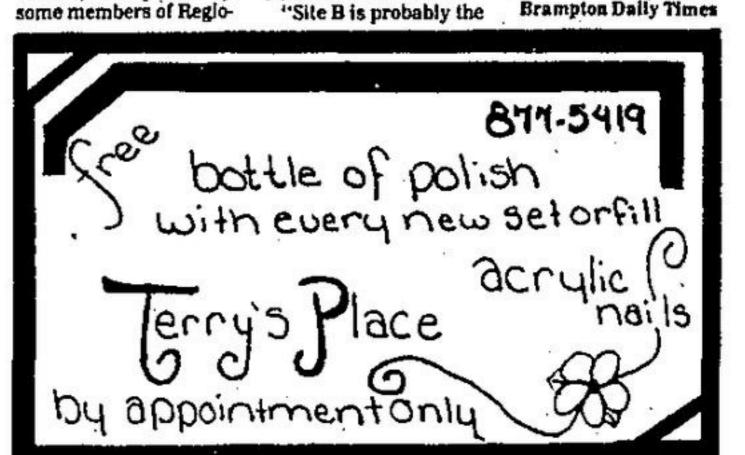
by city council next week. Testing of Site B would permit "a rational decision to be made by city council, as requested by tell them what we want."

Mississauga Mayor industrial park." Hazel McCallion keeps telling Brampton to make a decision, Mrs. Sutter said, "we should

Dianne Sutter who intro- said. "I don't buy all the arguments about it affecting the prestige City council stopped

> decision last week. -Courtesy

> just short of a similar





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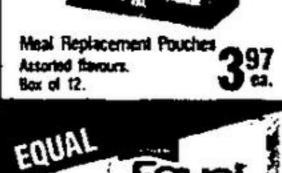


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