

Voter turnout poor

Herald Staff
Voter turnout at the advance polls is very light, according to Halton Burlington's Chief Electoral Officer.

Don McMillan said approximately 1,100 voters have taken advantage of the six days of advance polls to cast their ballot.

"No question about it being very light to what I expected," Mr. McMillan told The Herald. "In every area it was very light. Maybe Acton was close to what it was four years ago."

Four years ago, the advance polls drew 1,356 voters out to mark their choice of provincial candidate.

Since then, the population in the riding has increased by 10 to 12 per cent, Mr. McMillan said. As well, more polls have been set up and more advance poll days compared to 1981, he added.

With the trend to more advance poll voting and the increase in population, Mr. McMillan said he was expecting about 2,000 voters to turn up before May 2.

TOPSOIL

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Tender contract

Region reconsiders after unfair decision

By ANI PEDIERIAN
Herald Staff

It may cost the region up to \$6,500 to get out of a laundry, housekeeping and maintenance contract for Halton Centennial Manor.

Regional councillors, at a special meeting last week, voted to back out of an annual contract worth between \$1.5 and \$2 million.

Their decision was based on the fact that the

region's tendering procedure wasn't followed in the granting of this particular contract.

At their last council meeting, Bruce Ingram, president of a Burlington cleaning company CSL Group complained the tendering procedure hadn't been followed, and that he wanted the current agreement with Chicago's ServiceMaster of Canada Ltd. reconsidered.

Acton library purge

For 12 weeks, the Acton Library is going to have help in doing the first "purge" since the branch went computerized.

Thanks to a grant, the Youth Corps worker will do an inventory of the library's titles and determine what is actually missing off the shelves.

The purge will let the library know what titles it has in its holdings.

A similar project is underway in Georgetown, also with a Youth Corps worker.

Councillors voted to apologize to ServiceMaster and reimburse it for "out-of-pocket" expenses related to travel and accommodation costs for four councillors who toured the Chicago facilities of the firm.

Tenders for the job will be opened by the region and be analysed and assessed by the region's administration and finance committee.

Burlington Coun. Stephen Toth pointed out the whole marketplace now knows ServiceMaster's bid and that it isn't the best business manner to open tenders when the "best price" has been made public.

"It will be somewhat of an unusual tendering process," Oakville Coun. Anne Mulvale acknowledged.

"We're put in a lose-lose position, any way you cut it," Burlington Coun. Joan Little said. She wanted to know why regional staff didn't follow the region's tendering procedure.

Chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin said the Health and Social Services committee had done tendering by *invitation* bidding. Four firms had been invited to take part.

At the pre-bids meeting, only Versa and ServiceMaster came and one week later submitted proposals, he said.

A staff committee of

the purchasing agent, the director of social services Debbie Oakley, Mr. Perlin and Manor administrator Marilyn Weightman prepared a report on the two bids and recommended ServiceMaster be hired by the health and social services committee.

"Before the staff committee recommendation, each were treated equally," Mr. Perlin said. "We also recommended a trip be taken to see ServiceMaster's capabilities if council approved ServiceMaster and its contract in principle."

A council resolution March 3 approved the trip and that ServiceMaster pick up the cost, health and social services committee vice-chairman Joyce Savoline reminded councillors.

Mr. Perlin said he didn't see anything wrong with councillors flying down on ServiceMaster's tab after the ServiceMaster bid had been accepted. Such trips had been taken before and weren't precedent setting, he said. The purpose was to verify the company had what they claimed to have.

"Why would we attend regardless of who pays for it after the contract's been made?" demanded Oakville Coun. Fred Oliver. "I think we should stay away from this 'in principle' stuff."

Big ones that got away



Kerry Rooth, 13, from Georgetown celebrated the opening of the trout season Saturday with this handsome 3 lb. prize from the Credit River. He stopped by Fred's Bait and Tackle in Norval to weigh the rainbow trout.

(Herald photo)



Scot Brown holds up a small fry which he caught Saturday in Glen Williams fishing by the Credit River. It wasn't dinner, but Scot was hoping for better as he kept on fishing.

(Herald photo)



PSYCHIC RESPONSE

Carole Matthews

Dear Carole,
I am starting my own business out of town and wonder about the outcome. I have seen you before and followed your advice. Enclosed is a photo.

Thank you, Don from G.T.

Dear Don,
Your business will be very successful. I see a total change in staff and feel good about this.

Your biggest problem at the moment is your home life. You have a very messy divorce coming up yet you seem to be hiding in work. This is not a good idea. You have a son who needs you more than your work does. He is very confused. Get back to the home front - work doesn't need you that much.

Take a few moments and refer to the consultation you had with me.

Carole

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TO THE ELECTORATE: HALTON-BURLINGTON

Over the past month I have criss-crossed the Halton-Burlington riding many times, meeting people and discussing issues and your concerns. While David Peterson, the Ontario Liberal Leader was speaking out on province wide issues and offering "Bold New Initiatives", I was discussing local concerns and discussing solutions with you. We talked about toxic waste, school funding, unemployment, agriculture, the handicapped, child care, Go-Transit service, Bill 101, extra billings by doctors, health care, investments, the tax system, and many other important concerns.

During our discussions the message that came out loud and clear was the need for a representative that would stand up and fight for your rights.

You told me that you disliked the way the Government has "muzzled" its leader during the campaign and you respected the way David Peterson spoke out and was prepared to face controversial issues. You told me also that you felt it was wrong for the government to tell its employees to hold back reports until after the election. Like me, you felt it was YOUR RIGHT to be told what was happening in this great Province, and I can assure you that if the information had been good, it would have been released.

During the campaign I too, spoke out against these Tory policies and the response from my opponent was scary... I was told that "if I didn't like what I saw in Ontario, I should leave." That statement made in Georgetown at an all Candidates meeting expressed the very attitude of the Provincial P.C. Party. That particular remark clearly shows how 41 years of power in Ontario has made the Ontario Conservatives feel they have a 'right' to govern us and show insensitivity to our concerns.

It is because of my love for this province and this riding that I want to stop the continuing mismanagement of our society. During the Campaign you said you wanted change, on May 2nd we can make it happen.

On May 2nd vote for Don Knight.

Yours Sincerely

Don Knight

Don Knight



LIBERAL