

Chairman re-elected

'I'll honor my term' Pomeroy tells region

Before 24 and more witnesses, Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy vowed to honor the three-year term of regional chairman.

Responding to questioning by Burlington Coun. Joan Little, Mr. Pomeroy said last week he intended to stay the full three years, and not resign to seek higher office.

During his last term of office, Mr. Pomeroy became Halton-Burlington riding's Progressive Conservative party candidate and ran in the May provincial election, which he lost.

This move caused a lot of consternation among some councillors who felt Mr. Pomeroy was



Peter Pomeroy

breaking a promise he had made to Halton Region early in his term.

It may have been the reason why eight councillors voted for his opponent, Anne Mulvale, in the election of a

regional chairman last week.

Mr. Pomeroy said he would be submitting a chairman's report at the first council meeting which puts his commitment to Halton Region on public record, in writing.

In the event the regional chairman decides to run for another political seat, Mr. Pomeroy said he would be doing it differently. In May, he continued to hold onto his chairman's seat and intended to resign only if he won the provincial election.

"I would resign at that point in time (when deciding to run), if that did happen again," Chairman Pomeroy indicated.

According to the president of the Halton-Burlington provincial Progressive Conservatives, because Mr. Pomeroy lost the last election, he isn't their candidate at present.

Roy Galloway told The Herald the party has a candidate committee picked out and expects to hold elections for a candidate in February.

"Peter has stated he wasn't going to run, right after the election, but he has to make that choice yet," Mr. Galloway said, indicating Mr. Pomeroy may be thinking differently now. "Barry Quinn has indicated he wishes to try for it."

At the last candidate selection meeting, Mr. Quinn lost to Mr. Pomeroy. Mr. Quinn is a Burlington regional councillor.

Mr. Pomeroy's objectivity also came under fire by Regional Coun. Joan Little. She pointed out that the regional chairman had at one time indicated his personal preference for Site F in Burlington and questioned his objectivity.

Chairman Pomeroy said he supports wholeheartedly the decisions council has made and will be making. He pointed out he didn't try to influence any member of council at the time he indicated his preference for a one site Environmental Assessment process.

"At this point in time, council's mandate is that two sites go forward. If the hydrogeological studies say the race is close between the two sites, we'll continue with the two. However, if one stands out, well..." Mr. Pomeroy said.

Mr. Pomeroy was asked about his holiday expectations and if he was prepared to give up some of his other activities that may conflict with a full time commitment to the chairman's job by Oakville Coun. Keith Bird.

The regional chairman said he doesn't have a lot of outside obligations, other than the community work he does. Most of his work is region-related, like the GO Transit board of directors and the Halton regional police commission.

"It is a seven days a week job and it varies between 35 and 60 hours a week," Mr. Pomeroy said of the chairman's duties.

Region reps receive their assignments

Halton regional councillors were added to three committees last week. Halton Hills Couns. John McDonald and Marilyn Serjeanson will be sitting on the region's health and social services committee.

Couns. Rick Bonnette and Pam Sheldon will be sitting on the planning and public works committee, while Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller will be on the administration and finance committee.

The committees meet every other week. Coun. Pam Sheldon is also sitting on the solid waste management committee.

Meeting times were changed for the regional committees, with health and social services now meeting Monday afternoons, at 1 p.m. and the solid waste management committee meeting at 9 a.m. Mondays. The planning and public works committee is meeting Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. and the administration and finance committee meets at 1 p.m. Wednesdays.

Council meets every other week at 1:30 p.m. at the Oakville regional headquarters.

Seeks top board post

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money spent is well spent, that the board gets good value for its money and that the needs of the board are "balanced".

Trustee Bruce is also concerned with the effects of too much change the

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board has experienced. "So many changes have been made. There is something to be said for standing still and looking where you are before making more changes," she said.

Working with Dick Howitt is something she looks forward to. That does not necessarily mean the interests of the north would be top priority, she said. She explained that the board is a regional body and "we don't just fight for our own area."

"It would be wonderful working with Dick because he is an excellent support. He has been great to work with in the past. I think we complement each other," she said.

If she is elected chairman her workload will be increased. It will mean more driving to meetings in the south. Trustee Bruce does not think this extra work will affect how she represents Ward 1 and 2 residents. "I will still be available by telephone and be just as approachable," she said.

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