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It's Worth The Drive To Acton

Dennis Perlin ...

... takes Toronto posting

CAO's new job makes women angry

Halton Region is losing its chief administrative officer to the city of Toronto and the head of the city's equal opportunity movement is not pleased.

The appointment of Mr. Perlin wasn't welcomed by Toronto's director of equal opportunities, Mary Bruce was disappointed Patricia Foran, long-time deputy and acting city solicitor since the retirement of Bill Callow three months ago, wasn't given the job.

Dennis Perlin, CAO of Halton Region since 1980, told council Wednesday he will take on his new position as head of the city's law department April 21.

Mary Bruce broke down and cried Wednesday after city councillors chose a man instead of the city's female deputy solicitor to head the legal department.

"I worked seven years for this ... equal opportunity doesn't work, especially not here at city hall," she said.

Ms. Bruce wore a black armband to protest the decision.

"This is a distressing message to the women at city hall."

Mr. Perlin was hired by an informal vote of city council on Tuesday over city deputy solicitor Patricia Foran.

Toronto council made the choice official in less than three minutes

Wednesday by a vote of 13-8.

Mayor Art Eggleton, who supported Mr. Perlin's appointment said, "management qualities and skills were a key part of the selection process."

While Ms. Foran has nearly double the amount of legal experience (16 years), Mr. Perlin has headed the bureaucracy of Halton since 1981 and is completing a master's thesis on public administration.

The stocky 39-year-old has been hired by the City of Toronto to head its legal department at a salary of \$87,588.

With Halton since 1978, the Burlington resident was originally hired as a lawyer for the region,

moving shortly afterwards into the top civil servant post.

Making the announcement at the conclusion of last week's council meeting, Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy congratulated his hard-working employee and said he was certainly going to miss him. Councillors applauded loudly to show their appreciation for the man.

Mr. Perlin's appointment takes effect April 21. At Toronto's legal department he'll be responsible for a staff of 80.

Milton Coun. Bill Johnson has had a few wrangles with the Chief Administrative Officer over the years, and said he was sorry to see

Mr. Perlin leaving. "I don't bear any animosity. He will be hard to replace," Coun. Johnson said.

He called Mr. Perlin a very efficient man with a strong personality. "There's one thing about Perlin. He seemed to have a good handle on everything and was absolutely a-political, not tarred by any party brush," Coun. Johnson said.

Regional councillors decided to meet in-camera at the next council meeting, which will be next Wednesday, and discuss how to go about filling Mr. Perlin's shoes at the region's helm.

Coun. Johnson said he's like to see the position filled in-house.



Bill Johnson Dennis Perlin

Parents want guarantees, alternatives

Parents wanted guarantees, suggested alternatives and asked for reasons why Joseph Gibbons Public School is slated for closure.

A public meeting last Tuesday night was held to give parents a chance to ask questions about a Halton Hills Consolidation Study. Not all questions were easily answered. One parent wanted to know what it would cost to have children bused to Park Public School from the Joseph Gibbons area.

Committee co-chairman Ron Chapman said a fixed cost couldn't be tabulated. Costs depend on how many children are bused, where



Ron Chapman

they live and the firm that is contracted to do the job, he said.

One man suggested that Centennial Public School be used as a Roman Catholic High School. Trustee Dick Howitt said the separate school board had an opportunity of sharing a high school in Oakville, but they weren't interested.

Why wasn't the issue of trainable mentally handicapped (TMH) students considered in the process, asked one mother. Joseph Gibbons has a TMH unit in the school.

Mr. Chapman said early last year committee members decided the TMH issue shouldn't be used to influence their decisions. "We said that if you kept the (TMH) kids in Joseph Gibbons you are pre-judging it," he said.

Committee member Jim Kinnear said his first impressions were that because Joseph Gibbons was a new school and it had a TMH unit, the school would be exempt from a closure recommendation.

"All through the deliberations the kids were our main focus," he said. However, there were other matters to consider and in the end, Joseph Gibbons didn't have enough in its favor, he said.

Committee member John Minns said one of the tough questions came down to the costs of upgrading Stewarttown Public School versus Joseph Gibbons.

A parent questioned the projections of new students in the area over the next five years. Ron Chapman said both board of education and town planners researched the information they had.

The man replied, "no one's knocked on my door — your report isn't thorough, it's crazy."

"We had to look at the school with the greatest enrolment (Park Public School) and that was the major consideration," Mr. Chapman said.



BETWEEN FRIENDS—Lt.-Gov. Lincoln Alexander and the 1986 'Timmy', Victor Tavares, 12, share a quiet moment. The two were special guests at the Hockey Heritage banquet Monday at Holy Cross Church auditorium. Norval resident Walter Bianchi was honored for his many years of involvement in minor hockey as a supporter and sponsor. (Herald photo)

Lt.-Gov. has special place for youth, handicapped

Lt.-Gov. Lincoln Alexander enjoys working with children and he has a special interest in the handicapped.

That's one reason why the lieutenant-governor was in Georgetown Monday night for the Hockey Heritage dinner.

He told a crowd of about 400 that he is a supporter of young children and Easter Seals. The 1986 'Timmy', Victor Tavares, 12, sat with Lt.-Gov. Alexander throughout the night and he received a cheque for the Easter Seals from the family of Walter Bianchi, the Hockey Heritage Award recipient.

"I am paying homage to a great Canadian (Bianchi)

and also lending support to a great cause," the lieutenant-governor said.

Timmy and Lt.-Gov. Alexander have spoken together at about four functions together. The Timmy and Tammy for 1986 present "so many good things," he said.

As far as being a hockey fan, he said "being the lieutenant-governor, I'm for all teams — may they all win." He used to play minor hockey in public school in Toronto.

The lieutenant-governor finds his job "extremely demanding, but I'm enjoying it. It's very exhilarating," especially meeting so many people from all walks of life and working with youth, he said.

Flu bug bites Halton area

If you're sick in bed, you're not the only one. According to the Georgetown District Memorial Hospital's nursing supervisor, lots of the townspeople are home with the flu.

"I know we have seen lots of flu-like symptoms," she said. Fever, vomiting, diarrhea, general malaise, headache, and upper respiratory infections are just some of the symptoms decimating the workforce.

With young children and the elderly, you can run into the problem of dehydration, the nursing supervisor warned. Because they feel so rotten, they don't feel like drinking or eating. However, it's important to drink lots.

If your fever doesn't go away after a couple of days, you should get in touch with your family doctor, she advised. "This hits every year and usually it's just passed from one person to another until it just snowballs.

Kids in school are notorious for passing it around," the nursing supervisor said.

If you're laid low, drink lots of fluids, rest, take Tylenol for your fever and see your doctor if things don't improve in a couple of days, she said.

Over in the medical centre, the doctors are "absolutely swamped" with patients hit by the flu bug, according to a receptionist.

"It's rotten, really rotten," she said. Even Dr. Boyd Hoddinott was off Friday because of it.

Public Health Nurse at Limehouse Public School Shirley MacKay said there seems to be more people affected by this year's flu bug than in previous years. Students as well as teaching staff have been hit by it.

Most of the youngsters don't bother showing up at school when they're ill, she said.

"We've had several of our staff off too, we're not spared either," Nurse MacKay laughed.

\$18,499 tab

The Halton Regional Police Commission cost \$18,499 to operate last year.

According to figures released last week, salaries of \$5,000 each were paid to Reginald Monaghan and Ric Morrow of Georgetown. Benefits were \$97.

Fellow commissioners Judge Joseph Seime, Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy and Regional Coun. James Grieve received no remuneration for their attendance.

Cpr mileage expenses tallied \$529 and conference expenses were \$7,873.

IN THE HILLS

Tarten dance

Pull on your kilt and snap on your tartan knee socks. The Halton-Peel Highland Games Association will be hosting a dinner and dance April 5.

Tickets are available now for the event to be held at the Acton Legion Hall starting at 7 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person.

The evening's activities include a salute to the Royal Canadian Legion's Diamond Jubilee. Music will be provided by the George Cowie Group. For ticket information call 877-4706 or 853-1255.

Child writes

An 11-year-old recently visiting council sent off a letter to his councillor Gerald Rennie. "Master Louis Banyard," as Coun. Rennie referred to his young correspondent, lives at 62 Lake Ave. and had a complaint.

Louis wrote that on his street, the road dips down to his house, and while every other street has a

storm sewer, Lake Avenue doesn't. The letter was referred to the town engineer.

Bridge delay

Replacing the single lane Norval bridge on Winston Churchill Boulevard has been put off to 1987 by Halton Region.

Councillors voted to defer reconstruction of the bridge to a standard two-lane cross section at their council meeting last week.

The bridge has been called hazardous for vehicles because of the limited weight it can support and the single lane width of it.

Making it a two lane bridge is estimated to cost \$1,094,800 including engineering design, property acquisition and bridge construction.

The region is eligible for a \$220,000 Ministry of Transportation and Communications grants for the project, and \$440,000 from Peel region which shares responsibility for Winston Churchill Blvd.

Saloon readers

The second read-through of Saloon Keeper's Daughter will be held on Sunday March 16 at 2 p.m. at St. John's United Church. First additions will be held on Wednesday March 19 at 2 p.m. at St. John's. For more information call 877-4078.

Grossman speaks

Tickets are still available for the fundraising dinner being hosted by the Halton-Burlington Progressive Conservatives. Ontario Leader of the Opposition Larry Grossman is guest speaker at the dinner at Halton Hills Place in Milton Wednesday, March 19 evening. For tickets, call Pam Johnston at 877-8877.

First aid

The Canadian Red Cross will be hosting a first aid course starting March 20 at 7 p.m. To register, call 877-5223 or 877-1351.

Halton North new proposal for riding

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Four new electoral ridings for Halton should be in place before the next provincial election, Halton-Burlington MPP Don Knight says.

The Ontario Electoral Boundaries Commission has come up with a Supplementary Report this month which further revises the electoral districts for Halton, keeping them within the regional boundaries.

This final draft of the Commission is to come before the Ontario Legislature in May. If accepted, it will take 45 days to implement, Mr. Knight said.

"Redistribution is a necessity... It has been 10 years since the last realignment," the MPP said.

The Commission recommends four new ridings for Halton, to be called: Halton North, Halton Centre, Burlington South and Oakville South.

Halton North consists of the Town of Halton Hills and a part of Milton which is north of Derry Road.

Halton Centre is made up of Burlington, Milton and Oakville, with its southern boundary being Highway 403 and its northern boundary Derry Road.

Burlington South is south of Highway 403 and the queen Elizabeth Way. Its eastern boundary jogs south on Burloak Drive, west on New Street then south on Appleby Line.

What's left over is the riding of Oakville South.

"To me, it's ideal," Mr. Knight said Saturday night. "I'm really happy with the recommendations."

The keeping of rural Nassagaweya with the rural Esquesing is very important. The community of interests that exists between Hornby and Milton is more important than any interest Acton would have with Glen Abbey (in Oakville)."



Don Knight

This is the third proposal brought forward by the Commission in the last two years. There are currently three ridings in the region: Halton Burlington (population 91,371), Burlington South (population 86,739) and Oakville (population 75,773).

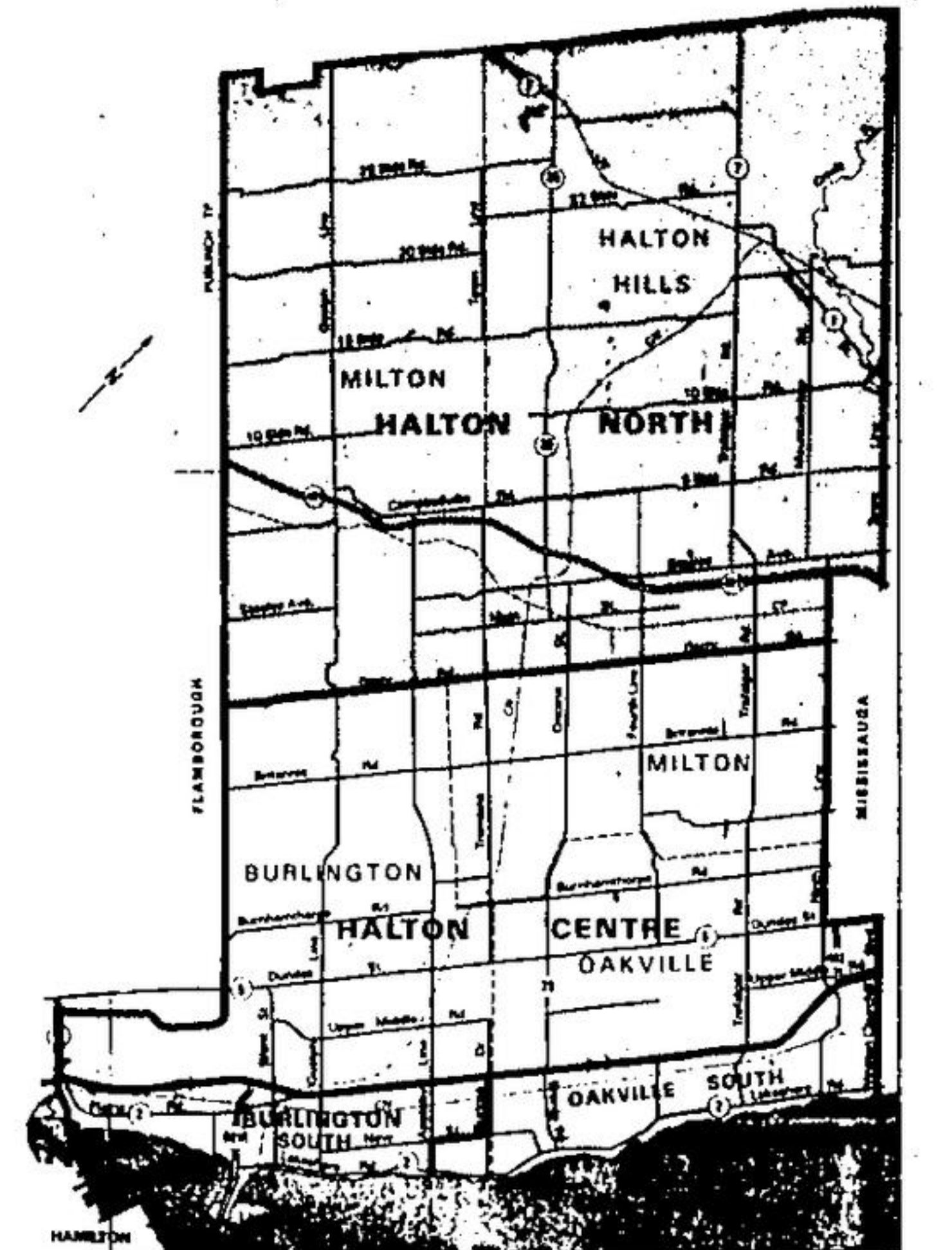
The Commission's last proposals for Halton were presented in November 1984. They joined Halton Hills with the easterly part of Milton and the northern portion of Oakville, calling it Halton East.

Mr. Knight objected to these proposals at the subsequent public hearings, recommending instead the current districts being proposed by the Commission.

"The one drawback to these districts may be the combination of parts of three municipalities in Halton Centre," the Commission's report says. "However, this recommended division has been adopted."

The first proposals made by the Commission joined Halton Hills with the region of Peel to form the Halton-Peel riding. Halton regional councillors objected and told the Commission they wanted electoral districts within regional boundaries.

Based on the Commission's population quota, Halton, with its population of 253,883 can support 3.6 ridings.



A final report from the Ontario Electoral Boundaries Commission gives Halton four new ridings: Halton North, Halton Centre, Burlington South and Oakville South. This is the third configuration pro-

posed by the Commission over the past two years. It joins Halton Hills with Milton north of Derry Road. Originally, the Commission had suggested linking Halton Hills with Peel region, a proposal strongly opposed by Halton region.