

No money for group sensitive to environment

Although the Advocacy Group of the Environmentally Sensitive pared their original grant request from \$10,000 to \$1,500, they walked away without a cent from Halton councillors last week.

Saying all the grant monies had been spent, councillors weren't willing to increase their social services grants allocations from \$322,000 in 1985.

Formed in February 1985, the Group helps people who have severe

allergies that can isolate them from the community.

"Anyone who has a reaction to what he or she touches or breathes or eats is sensitive to the environment," Group spokesperson Linda Devey said. "It can be anything from the mildest running nose to severe allergy symptoms."

"The reactions can be caused by chemical pollutants, drugs, perfumes, insecticides and household cleansers. Symptoms can range

from acute asthma attacks, to prolonged coughing, nausea, vomiting, and seizures, Mrs. Devey said.

There are 62 environmentally ill people in Halton, and half of them are children, she said.

Both Halton boards of education are getting involved with the problems of the environmentally sensitive. The separate school board is looking into setting up a classroom for such students that would be a clean environment for them.

The public board is also working to accommodate the needs of the environmentally sensitive students, Mrs. Devey said.

The Group holds meetings, puts out newsletters and does counseling of the environmentally ill.

The \$1,500 they requested is to provide money for postage, and \$400 for federal incorporation which has been currently financed through loans, Mrs. Devey said.

Diabetes speaker

There will be a general meeting of the Brampton and District Branch of the Canadian Diabetes Association April 8, 7:30 p.m. at 247 Queen Street, Brampton. The guest speaker is Doctor Anthony Sun from the Connaught Research Institute everyone welcome. For more information 451-7814.



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