

# Halton Hills Outlook

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## Their Outlook

### Understand controls, laws governing use of your snowmobile

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following article is written by Tom Moore, a constable with the Halton Regional Police Force.

This is the first in a series of articles that Const. Moore will be writing on behalf of the Halton Police.

By **CONST. TOM MOORE**  
Herald Special

Yes, it's that time of year again and with the snow comes the snowmobile enthusiast or the recreational driver. Snowmobiles can be used in emergency situations as a way of alternate transportation or for just plain fun.

Snowmobiles are powerful machines, you must understand their mechanical workings as well as the laws pertaining to their operation. Snowmobiles are governed by the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act of Ontario. Also municipalities have the right to pass laws regulating or prohibiting the operation of snowmobiles as the Town of Halton Hills has.

I would like to make you aware of some of the local municipal bylaws and some of the more pertinent laws in the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act.

Snowmobiles may be driven in the Town of Halton Hills between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. Monday to Saturday inclusive in any given week, and on Sunday between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m. No person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle on a highway or public property within the Town of Halton Hills unless it is equipped with a fluorescent safety antenna which is not less than five feet in height from the ground.

Motorized snow vehicles are prohibited to be driven on any sidewalk, boulevard, park or median strip within the Town of Halton Hills. Failure to have a fluorescent antenna or operating a motorized snow vehicle on a prohibited area will cost you \$25 for your first offence.

No person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle on any Highway within the Town of Halton Hills except for going to or coming from a designated site, public or private duty authorized for the operation of

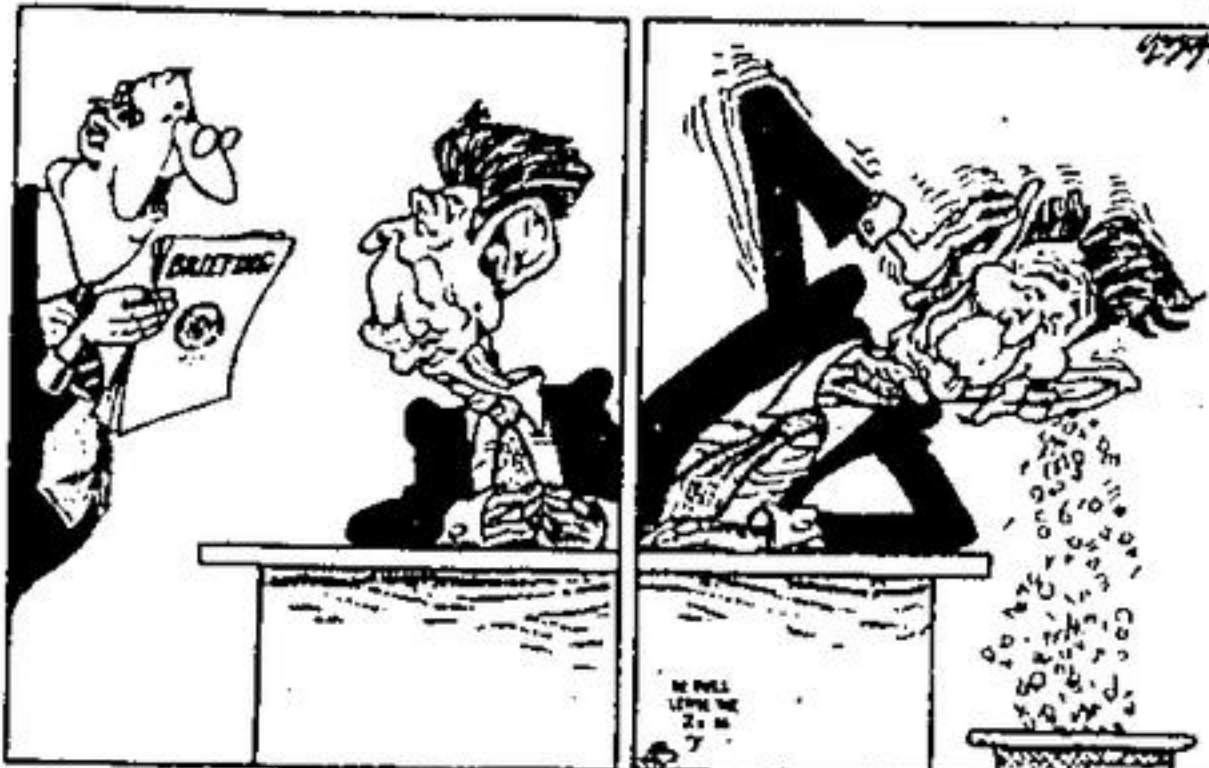
motorized snow vehicles. Basically you can't drive up and down the streets for no reason.

With reference to the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act, I would like to point out a few of the pertinent laws, although most drivers are probably aware of them. All motorized snow vehicles must be registered unless they are a manufacturer or a dealer, or not a resident of Ontario provided that the validation is good in another province, or it's only operated on his own property.

A motorized snow vehicle operators licence may be issued to anyone 12 years old provided they meet the requirements of the Act. A person 12 to 15 years old may operate a snowmobile only on a designated trail. A person 16 years old may also cross a highway at a 90 degree angle.

A person 16 years of age may drive a snowmobile along a highway where permitted, he may be a holder of a valid Ontario drivers licence or a snowmobile operators licence. Either licence shall be produced upon demand by a police officer or a conservation officer except when operated on your own private property. No person shall drive a motorized snow vehicle unless he is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy and the owner of a motorized snow vehicle shall not permit any person to drive the vehicle unless the driver is so insured, this section does not apply to a person driving the motorized snow vehicle on land occupied by the owner of the vehicle.

It is an offence also to fail to produce proof of insurance upon demand of a police officer. You must also report any accident where someone is injured or the damage exceeds \$700 whether the accident occurred on or off a highway. These are only a few laws pertaining to the Motorized Snow Vehicles Act and relative municipal bylaws which I hope will help you have a more enjoyable and safe time out on the trails. For further information contact Halton Regional Police Force in Georgetown.



### No one pays attention to Liberal opposition

#### Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

The Mulroney government has been keeping us so mesmerized with an almost comic assortment of questionable activities that no one is paying any attention to the Opposition Liberals.

And perhaps, for the 40-member Grit caucus, that's just as well. For a party comfortably ahead in the opinion polls, and which might well form the next government, it's not really the happiest and healthiest of organizations.

It certainly isn't the richest. There are those who say it doesn't really matter at this point. With the government displaying an astonishing tendency toward self-destruction, and with most of its embarrassments being exposed in the media, the Liberals are not being subjected to normal scrutiny.

But there are concerns within the party, a lot of them. Should Prime Minister Mulroney manage to turn things around and lift the Tories to higher ground, there are serious questions about the ability of the Liberals to respond to the challenge.

Even the psychological lift of last November's national convention seems to be slipping.

**NO ENTHUSIASM**  
While Party Leader John Turner was given an overwhelming vote of confidence at that convention, it hasn't entirely eliminated internal mutterings about his leadership. And it certainly hasn't done much to eliminate the party's massive \$5-million debt.

Money is a real problem for the Liberals. And if an election were held now, they would have great difficulty in mounting a national campaign.

Considering their popularity in the polls, this seems somewhat ironic, especially when you consider that the Tories, despite their unpopularity, are loaded with cash.

Of course, money comes much easier to parties in power, and the Liberals have very little experience raising funds while out of power. The Conservatives on the other hand, have decades of expertise.

The recent resignation of Senator Leo Kolber as the Liberals' chief fund-raiser is not likely to help matters. The Montreal senator had been

making significant progress with corporate donors. And the perceived reasons for his departure—you are offered a choice here—are not likely to help either.

While the senator is not saying much, there are many insiders who think Mr. Turner's leadership is a factor. One widely held view is that Senator Kolber quit when his assistant, Herb Metcalf, suddenly resigned because of indications he was about to be fired by Mr. Turner.

There is no question that the senator's departure involves some controversial undercurrents.

**ANOTHER VERSION**  
The other version—perhaps they are both valid—is that Senator Kolber stepped down because Marcel Prud'homme was elected chairman of the Liberal caucus, succeeding Sudbury's Doug Frith.

Mr. Prud'homme, a 23-year parliamentary veteran, is a stout defender of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Senator Kolber is Jewish. He had told caucus that the election of Mr. Prud'homme could alienate supporters from the Jewish Community.

Most Liberals are understandably eager to downplay Mr. Prud'homme's sympathy for the PLO, and to say that Senator Kolber's departure had nothing to do with the new caucus chairman. But by quitting as fund-raiser within hours of the Prud'homme election, the senator didn't exactly bend over backwards to separate the two developments.

The Liberal caucus has never endorsed the PLO, and Mr. Turner was quick to say that Mr. Prud'homme "now knows he will reflect the collective view of caucus."

So far as the public is concerned, the chairman of caucus is a very low-profile position. And, in fact, it carries little influence in policy matters. But insiders are aware that the publicity surrounding this election, coupled with Senator Kolber's departure, could easily be blown out of proportion.

If it doesn't seriously impair critical cash collections, it certainly won't help. And neither has the election helped general caucus morale. It had been a very close contest between Mr. Prud'homme and Hamilton's Sheila Copps.

Of course, no one has been paying much attention. The Tories, much to their own dismay, steadfastly refuse to share the limelight.



#### Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

### Potential law is illegal

Toronto - Currently, there is before the Legislature a bill, a potential law, that is illegal.

The question here concerns what is to be done about it.

The answer should be known sometime in the next eight weeks.

These weeks are what is called "between sessions time," when the Legislature itself isn't sitting, but its various committees are.

One of the committees is considering Bill 154, an act to provide for pay equity in the private sector and in government-owned corporations and agencies.

That bill is the companion piece to Bill 105, an act to provide pay equity in the Ontario civil service itself.

And that's where the question of legality comes in.

The Liberals initially separated civil service pay equity from pay equity elsewhere back in 1985.

Pay equity, of course, compares pay in occupations dominated by women to wages and salaries in other jobs dominated by men within a single company or organization.

Pay equity would increase the salaries of the female-dominated jobs to where they become comparable to wages from male-dominated occupations. The civil service example most often cited by reporters contrasts the pay of outdoor parking attendants (male) to the income of lower-paid telephone switchboard operators (mainly female).

This salary difference is considered wrong (although no one ever actually explains why the two jobs deserve identical pay).

Unlike paying men and women the same amount for the same or similar work - something that already is law and easy to judge - pay equity relies on subjective conclusions about the values of the jobs being compared.

Anyway, pay equity in Ontario is as inevitable as taxes. All three old-line political parties (Liberals, PCs, NDP) favor it.

But the Liberals, being the government and therefore responsible for what they enact, want to stage implementation.

First would be Bill 105 for the civil service, then Bill 154, to cover everyone else.

Because civil servants already are pigeonholed to a degree that would horrify most private sector employers, it is relatively easy to classify them in terms of pay equity, too.

But the opposition Conservatives and New Democrats thought the Grits were fudging on their commitment to pay equity.

So, last year they ganged up at committee and re-wrote Bill 105 to make it apply to the whole public sector.

They did this even though committee chairman Andy Brandt ruled the motion out of order.

Ah, yes, the joys of minority government.

