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'Insulting' arguments over dump

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Arguments made for a regional dump in Milton by the solicitor for Burlington were called "insulting" by Halton Hills Councillor Pam Sheldon last week.

The councillor took offense at Michael McQuaid's proposal that regional councillors disregard their consultants' report which recommends a Burlington quarry be the site of the new landfill.

Instead, Mr. McQuaid said councillors should approve a recommendation he passed on to them, which states Site D in Milton be the preferred location for a regional dump because it has capacity to expand and is cheaper.

"I think it's a bit of an insult at this

stage of the process to disregard this whole process we've gone through at lengthly debate," Coun. Sheldon said. It has taken several years and cost over \$5 million.

Particularly insulting to the councillor was the fact Mr. McQuaid wasn't prepared to provide members of the Region's planning and public works committee with the background data supporting his recommendation.

"You're asking us to change our recommendation (to yours) which, by your own admitted words, is full of holes," Coun. Sheldon said.

Mr. McQuaid said he didn't have the time then to substantiate Burlington's arguments.

"I'm sorry then, I don't have the time today to change my mind," Coun. Sheldon returned.

The Burlington solicitor claims developing the Burlington quarry into a landfill would cost \$11 to \$16 million more than to develop lands in Milton for that purpose. He was unable to explain many of the adjustments Burlington made to come up with such a figure.



Pam Sheldon

In the hills

Bennett Centre room blaze

A wing of the Bennett Health Care Centre was evacuated Feb. 25 after a fire started in apartment 68. Nobody was in the apartment at 5:40 p.m. when the fire set off a smoke alarm. The fire caused an estimated \$12,500 damage. The cause has not been determined.

About \$10,000 damage was caused to the Bennett Centre. The other \$2,500 damage was to the woman's possessions. The room will need to be redecorated and some dry wall replaced. Firefighters contained the blaze to the apartment.

No one was hurt in the fire and there were no problems evacuating the wing. "The nursing staff were efficient in evacuating the area. They were impressive," Chief Cunningham said.

Bikes for peace

The man who biked across Canada for peace is coming to Georgetown.

Doug Mohr of Kitchener is the featured speaker April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at a meeting of HAND (Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament).

He will give his talk at the Georgetown District High School along with entertainment from a barbershop quartet singing a variety of peace songs.

Mr. Mohr is a founder of Ads for Peace and a founder of the Canadian Letter Writing Network. For more information call 877-1994 or 853-0288.

Parkette bid

The Silvercreek parkette at Lots 27 Con. 7 has fetched a price of \$236,000 through the tendering process.

Town councillors learned of the highest of 15 bids received Monday night. It was made by Donald Riccio of Georgetown.

The property had been offered for sale by council in November 1986, and council had refused the high bid of \$150,000 for the four lots.

"I'm glad it was opened up for public tender once again," Coun. Peter Norton said. "I'm sorry we didn't get \$240,000, but I can live with \$236,000."

Red Cross month

March is Red Cross month. An hour or two a week of spare time and nothing to do? How about becoming a volunteer? Volunteers are special people, especially to your local Canadian Red Cross. Come and be a volunteer. Come to Acton's Red Cross meetings held on the first Monday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. at the Christian Reformed Church on Highway 7. For more information please call 853-2965.

Women's club talk

"Underachievement in Children" is the topic of the University Women's Club meeting March 10. Claire Zeller of the Peel Board of Education is scheduled to speak beginning at 8:45 p.m. The doors are open to all and refreshments will be provided.

Day of prayer

Celebrate the 100th Birthday of the World Day of Prayer together March 6, at 7:30 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church, Georgetown. Everyone is welcome.

An old smoothie



Hockey legend Gordie Howe was in Georgetown Sunday and Monday and there was a special fan representing the Easter Seal Society to greet him. The 1987 Tommy Jennifer Thompson (above), spoke about her hero at the 10th annual hockey heritage dinner at Holy Cross Auditorium Monday night. Award recipient Del Beaumont was honored at the gala hockey banquet, which featured a guest appearance by Toronto Maple Leaf coach John Brophy.

Paper chase clean up thanks to Futures help

By MARY-LIZ SHAW
Herald Special

With the help of a Futures youth grant, Andrew Tutty, 25, will be assisting Pat Woode and the Physical Handicapped Citizens Association (PHCA) for the next 16 weeks.

Mr. Tutty began his program two weeks ago. His chief duties will include getting the organization's files in order and acting as an administrative assistant. He will also be involved with special events and committees concerned with upgrading the status and accessibility of the physically disabled.

Tomorrow, Mr. Tutty will attend a special conference on handicapped accessibility at Sheridan College in Oakville. He encourages anyone in the community with experience in this area to contact him.

"Our service is definitely needed," Mr. Tutty said. The PHCA is just too big now - Pat (Woode) just can't do it all anymore.

Mr. Tutty added the PHCA serves about 250 people per year, either through referrals to special groups or disseminating information.

Mr. Tutty first became involved with groups such as the PHCA last April when he discovered he had Retinitis Pigmentosa, a hereditary eye disorder that causes tunnel vision and eventually blindness.

After contacting the Low Vision Service and Vocational Rehabilitation

Services, he decided to attend university and pursue a degree in law, education or social services. He said he is hoping to attend York University in September.



Andrew Tutty

"I realized that time is running out for my eyes and I have to get out there and do things while I can."

Mr. Tutty noted that the most difficult adjustment he had to make was giving up driving. Just over four years ago Mr. Tutty drove a bus in Calgary. Since then, he has lived in Georgetown and he had three motor accidents before he went to have his eyes tested.

"That is the hardest adjustment for all physically handicapped - having no means of transportation," Mr. Tutty said. "You have no independence because you are relying on others to drive you or you wait for the local bus."

Although the Futures grant expires in June, the PHCA is applying for funds from the Region (Halton) which will keep Mr. Tutty as a staff member until September. Mr. Tutty said he would continue to work for the PHCA as a volunteer if the Region grant doesn't come through.

"I enjoy working with people," he said. "You never know when someone may tell you something that will be important to you in the future."

MP promises death penalty results soon

Heavy response to an informal survey on capital punishment "very strongly" supports a return to capital punishment, Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid says.

However, Mr. McDermid said the final results have been tallied. He said he'll release them in a constituency newsletter to be distributed next month but would announce them sooner if a scheduled House of Commons debate on the death penalty begins first.

The Conservative government has promised a free vote on the issue. McDermid said he has campaigned for restoration of capital punishment in the last three federal elections but will base his vote on the survey results.

—Courtesy Brampton Times.

Chamber search for Acton top citizen

The Acton Chamber of Commerce is once again accepting ballots for the Citizen of the Year award for an individual or group in Acton which has shown outstanding service to the community.

After nominations close March 18, the Chamber will meet to select the Citizen of 1986 and a suitable presentation hall. Acton Chamber President Jennie Kulken said she has no citizen in mind yet, although she is hoping the community will make interesting suggestions.

"One year the Volunteer Firefighters won it and they put in a lot of work for a very small reimbursement," Mrs. Kulken said. "But Steve Pappilon won the award a few years ago for saving a girl from drowning."

Past winners of the Citizen of the Year have also included Ted Tyler for his outstanding work having the Acton Old Town Hall restored, and Henry Kroes for founding the Acton branch of the Red Cross Society.

School taxes could rise by \$41 - \$49

By SANDY CAMPBELL
Herald Staff

The average Halton home owner will be paying \$41 to \$49 more in 1987 if the latest budget of the Halton Board of Education is accepted. That increase is based on a home assessed at \$7,000.

A 2.8 per cent increase in grants from the provincial government has resulted in the lowest increase to local taxpayers in years. The Halton Board of Education finance committee will be recommending a 5.64 per cent increase for taxpayers. This was decided at the finance committee meeting Monday in Burlington.

"It's the lowest tax increase since I've been with the Board," said Wally Beevor, the director of education, who has been with the Board for six years. The reason is the 2.8 per cent increase in grants over 1986, which translates into \$66.2 million in grants.

The budget of the Board in 1987, which will be proposed to trustees, is \$183,116,339. All trustees will have a chance to discuss the budget at the March 12 Board meeting. On March 26 the Board will vote on the budget.

In recent years, grants from the government have been only a fraction of a per cent of an increase. Trustee Dick Howitt said. This year's grants will result in a tax increase more in line with inflation, he said.

The difference of \$41 to \$49 for a home assessed at \$7,000 exists because the Oakville assessment is not known yet, said Ron Warren, the Board's assistant superintendent of business services. Oakville's assessment will be known March 20.

The finance committee had trimmed their budget to \$182 million, but decided to add \$1 million for their reserves after they received the good news about grants from the government.

If the proposed budget is accepted March 26, the Board will have \$1.5 billion in reserves.

Traditionally the Board has not

had any reserves or has not had the money to put in reserves, said Trustee Dick Howitt. "Reserves are a good idea. One of the things an individual always tries to do is have something for a rainy day. It is no different at the Board," he said.

For the Board rainy days in the future will be caused by money needed for more text books and to increase the use of computers. Over the next four years the Board plans to spend between \$756,000 and \$856,000 each year in increasing the use of computers in the classroom. Plans to buy text books over the next three years will be almost as costly.



Dick Howitt

Of the proposed budget Trustee Howitt said, "I was pleased with the amount of grants and pleased with the expenditures in the budget. Grants have given us some room for some good programs." The proposed computer program is one of the programs Trustee Howitt was referring to.

The increase in grants supplied to the Board is due to a number of new factors. The increase in French classes in Halton schools and money for transporting French immersion students included. Special education rates have increased. The Board is also eligible for more money for approved micro computer programs. The Board received increased grants for tuition fees paid to the Separate Board and for continuing education programs.

Politicians' payout \$500,000 at Region

It cost Halton taxpayers nearly a half million dollars last year to pay salaries, benefits, car mileage and conference expenses of its Regional councillors and chairman.

Although most councillors are paid just under \$15,000 annually for their duties as Regional councillors, many of them claim car mileages and conference expenses which add another couple of thousand dollars each to the Region's spending.

Naturally, the Regional chairman Peter Pomeroy earns the most, having taken on the administrative posting as a full-time job. His salary is \$48,816, plus another \$5,780 in benefits.

Last year, his car mileage and meeting allowance expenses were \$3,112, and conference expenses another \$1,301.

How expensive were Halton Hills councillors over the past year?

Coun. Buck Bonnette didn't attend any conferences and his mileage expense was \$910; Coun. John McDonald also didn't attend any conferences, and his mileage expense was \$819; Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson's mileage expense was \$1,266 and conference expenses were \$340; Coun. Pam Sheldon's conference expenses were \$1,550, and

she claimed no mileage expenses; Mayor Russ Miller claimed \$567 in mileage and \$906 in conferences.

The Mayor attended two conferences over the past year. One was the Ontario Good Roads conference in February in Toronto. He claimed \$120 for conference registration, \$236 for accommodation, \$66 for meals, \$75 in travel, plus another \$12 "other".

The second conference was in Niagara Falls in October. Registration cost \$130, accommodation \$214, food \$50, travel \$52 and "other" \$18.

Coun. Pam Sheldon also went to the Ontario Good Roads conference in Toronto. Her accommodation costs came to \$57 and "other" to \$16.

Coun. Sheldon also attended five other conferences in the Toronto area: Energy From Waste, Emergency Planning, Urban Development, A.M.O., and Recycling Congress.

Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson attended one conference in Niagara Falls in June. Registration was \$145, accommodation \$108, meals \$93.

Mayor Miller sits on the Halton Region Conservation Authority and receives \$1,220 in remuneration, plus \$442 in mileage expenses.



Pancake brigade

It was wet and cold outside Sunday, but inside the Pancake House at the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre, it was much warmer for the Conservation Authority employees who were serving up breakfast. Sunday marked the

opening of the Halton Region Conservation Authority's Maple Syrup Tins, which runs until April 20, and provides weekend tours through the various aspects of the "sugaring off" operation. (Herald photo)