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Home Newspaper of Halton Hills — Established 1866

HALTON HILLS, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1985

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## Majority in Halton want slower growth

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Staff

A clear majority of Halton residents are not in favor of faster growth in the region.

An attitudes survey by the IBI Group for Halton indicates that nine per cent of the people want faster growth in their community. The survey shows 50 per cent wants growth to remain the same and 41 per cent want it to slow down.

The two northern municipalities, Milton and Halton Hills, are more in favor of growth but the majority still wants the same or slower growth, the survey shows.

Only 21 per cent of Halton Hills residents are in favor of faster growth, while 62 per cent of the residents are in favor of keeping the growth rate at current levels. About 17 per cent wanted slower growth in Halton Hills.

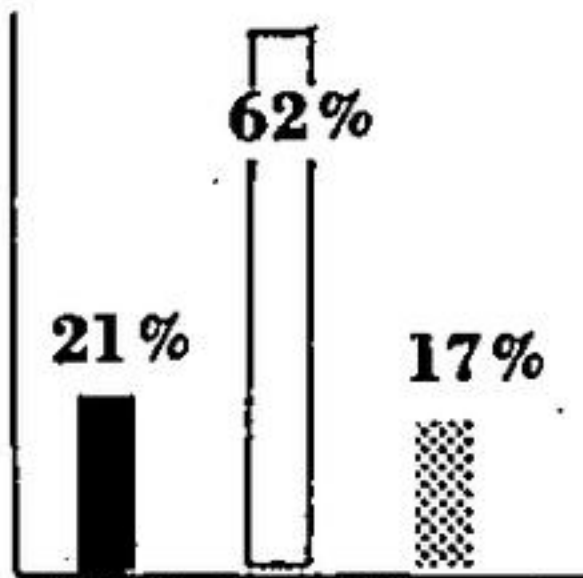
Residents in the southern municipalities pulled the desired growth rate down. Only eight per cent of Oakville residents want faster growth and just three per cent of Burlington's residents want growth to speed up.

Asked to rank 16 issues regional and municipal planners should consider in the future when discussing growth, residents overwhelmingly chose environmental issues over developmental concerns.

Halton residents are worried about maintaining the water quality, controlling air and water pollution,

### Attitude survey

#### Growth in Halton Hills



■ faster growth  
▨ slower growth  
□ status quo

The above bar graph indicates the preferences of Halton Hills residents based on a survey conducted for the municipality of Halton. An overwhelming 79 per cent prefer either slower growth or having the community remain the same size.

preserving the environment and natural features and protecting farm land.

Also high on the list are concerns about traffic congestion and holding down property taxes.

The lowest priority was given to encouraging more housing, retail shops and recreational facilities.

In Halton Hills, moderate importance was placed on providing more rental accommodation but it is still less important than protecting the environment.

Regional Commissioner of Planning Rash Mohammed said the survey is crucial to the future of Halton.

"This is one of the most important strategy issues that this council's going to deal with because it will set the stage for what Halton's going to be like for the next 20 years," said Mr. Mohammed.

Halton Hills Councillor Pam Sheldon said the survey results indicate that residents of northern municipalities "are more open to the idea of growth" because they've been living with "static growth and a crumbling infrastructure."

Residents resistance to growth stems from their preference for a "small town atmosphere", the survey said.

Most often residents fear that services could not keep up with unconditional growth, the survey concludes.



### Spirit of the Olympics

The Olympic torch burned bright at the Harrison Public School Wednesday morning as the school's winter olympics got under way. Students from Kindergarten to Grade two were divided into teams representing different countries around the world and competed in outdoor events such as a tug-of-war,

broomball relay and toboggan race. In the above photo Chris Clark and Keith Coulson held the flame up high. In the bottom photo Hao Ma placed his team's flag of Czechoslovakia on the wall along side the other teams' flags.

### In the hills

#### Body discovered

Halton Regional Police are investigating the death of a male found in an Oakville apartment. The body was found Feb. 14 in an apartment on Marine Drive in Oakville.

#### Teens needed

Georgetown hospital is looking for teen volunteers. If you are between the ages of 13 and 18, and have at least two hours a week that you'd be willing to spend helping others, we'd like you to become part of our team. For more information, contact Sandra Lovegrove, 877-8032.

#### POWER meets

POWER, a residents group fighting the proposed Acton quarry dump will be holding its next meeting Thursday Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. at Limehouse Public School. At the meeting there will be an update on the status of the proposal as important new information has recently been presented.

#### Day of prayer

"Open Doors" is the theme for the 1988 World Day of Prayer as it enters its second century. Written for world-wide use by the women of Brazil, it focuses on the economic and spiritual conditions in the world today. Christian men and women in 170 countries will gain spiritual strength and comfort as they join in global prayer Friday March 4 at 7 p.m., St. George's Anglican Church, Guelph St., Georgetown. Everyone is welcome.

#### Fashions on stage

Elegant Fashions from Elizabeth's Fashions are on stage at the North Halton Golf and Country Club's fashion show Feb. 18

from noon until 1:15 p.m.

Guests are welcome for the luncheon fashion show and there is no admission charge. Reservations are required, so call 877-5238.

#### Grit meetings

Feb. 17, the first of three meetings will be held to set up riding associations for the new electoral districts in Brampton-Georgetown. This first meeting will set up the Brampton Association. It will be held at Century Gardens, Vodden St., Brampton at 7:30 p.m.

All members and immediate past members of the Brampton-Georgetown Federal Liberal Association have been invited to attend. All members and former members of this association who are not residents of the new electoral districts but who elect to remain members of their former associations have also been invited to attend.

The founding meeting for Halton-Peel will be held on March 2, at St. George's Anglican Church Hall in Georgetown at 7 p.m.

For further information please contact Carol Dineen, President, 1951 Rathburn Rd., Unit 62, Mississauga, Ont. L4W 2N9, 625-8760.

The old riding association will continue to exist in case an election is called before next July 13.

#### Purse snatched

A Georgetown woman was knocked to the ground in a purse snatching incident Monday at 10:19 p.m. A young offender grabbed the 47-year-old's purse, which contained private papers and a large sum of money, at 45 Main Street North in Georgetown. A 18-year-old Georgetown male was arrested and charged with robbery. His bail hearing was Tuesday.

### Seniors won't get crosswalk

There will be no pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of Mountainview Road and Sargent Road despite a 229-name petition asking for one.

The Region's Commissioner of Public Works, Robert Moore, said the intersection doesn't meet the criteria for installing a pedestrian crossover device.

Instead, the Region is urging senior citizens and other pedestrians to cross Mountainview Road at Campbell Gate.

The provincial standards for installing a crossover dictates that at least ten "difficulties" be observed during a given time period, said Mr. Moore. A difficulty is described as a delay of at least 30 seconds in crossing the road.

Only nine difficulties were observed at the intersection during a survey taken last June, said Mr. Moore.

The provincial guidelines for installing a pedestrian crossover device is currently under review and final guidelines are expected to be complete later this year, said Mr. Moore. The Region intends to re-evaluate the intersection once those guidelines are finalized, he said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Moore warned pedestrians that cars have the right of way at the intersection. The Region increased the pedestrian crossing signs near the intersection following a 106-name petition in 1985 but the increased signs do not constitute a pedestrian crossover, said Mr. Moore.

"It would appear that many pedestrians and some drivers are of the mistaken opinion that pedestrians have the right of way at this location. This is not the case and in fact, pedestrians should yield the right of way to oncoming traffic," said Mr. Moore.

## Alone, afraid and pregnant?

### Teens offered counselling in CAS program

By CHERYL MOODER  
Herald Staff

Pregnant, a teenager and no one to talk to? A peer counselling service for pregnant teens will soon be offered through Georgetown's Open Door.

A Sheridan College social service student designed the program as part of her course work.

For her field placement, Sharon Booy worked with the Halton Children's Aid Society and developed a proposal for a peer counselling program for pregnant teens.

Since Open Door, a drop-in centre, already works with teens, Ms. Booy saw it as an opportunity for her and Open Door counsellor Bev Scruton, to work together.

The program, which Ms. Booy would like to have implemented by the end of February or beginning of March, would match a pregnant teen with a young woman who has gone through the experience.

In this way, the counsellor can sympathize with the pregnant teen's condition and be a peer to her.

Counsellors will give the girls support as well as make her aware of the services available to her, Ms.

Booy said.

Before becoming counsellors, volunteers will undergo two to three training sessions of approximately six hours each, based on a manual the Sheridan student is developing.

The volunteers will be taught active listening skills, the importance of confidentiality, what services are available for pregnant teens and how to talk with their peers.

It is important the counsellors do not influence any decisions the girl might make, Ms. Booy said. In talking with the pregnant teen the counsellor is just making her aware of her options.

As well, the training sessions will enlighten volunteers as to what their role is and teach them how to start a meeting with their peers and develop a support relation with these girls.

As a follow up, Ms. Booy hopes to have meetings with the counsellors on a regular basis.

In this way, any questions or issues which come up can be dealt with, she said. As well, counsellors also need support.

In the next couple of weeks Ms. Booy plans to begin recruiting

volunteers to act as counsellors and pregnant teens.

Anyone interested in becoming a counsellor or desiring the support of a peer can contact Sharon Booy at the Halton Children's Aid Society at 878-2375.

### Draw winner travellin' man

F.W. Burness of Georgetown is bound to be a travellin' man.

Mr. Burness with his lucky ticket number 71 won a \$1,500 travel voucher good for any facilities available through TWG Travel Inc. of Georgetown.

He participated in the Optimist Club of Georgetown's trip of the month raffle for the month of February.

Ron Blackie of Burlington won the \$120 consolation prize with his ticket number 78.

All the proceeds from the draw are used for community projects. The next draw is March 8. For more information call 877-0287.

## Until recently labor unions quiet in Halton Hills

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of a two-part series on unions in Halton Hills by senior reporter Brian MacLeod. In today's story, local union trends are compared to the national picture along with comments from Halton's business development officer. Next week will feature comments from business leaders and labor unions in Halton Hills.

By BRIAN MacLEOD  
Herald Staff

When a worker signs a union card in Halton Hills he enters a select group.

Labor unions aren't dirty words in Halton. But compared to the national average, the number of unionized workers are relatively small.

While some workers have opted for unions in the Halton Hills area, their presence hasn't been widely highlighted in the news - at least until recently.

A six-week-old strike at Curwood Packaging in Georgetown was one of the longest in recent history in the area. The strike served to let people know that local companies and local workers can be affected by labor unrest, contract disputes, walkouts,

and failed negotiations.

The strike at Curwood seems to be the exception rather than the rule in town and region-wide.

Militant labor activity is now drawing the ire of companies and it's now playing a big part in where they locate.

"It is the one major question that industries ask," said Brent Kearsse, Halton's Executive Director of Business Development, of the labor climate in Halton.

Some companies will not locate in regions where union activity or membership is very high, said Mr. Kearsse. Honda, recently inquired about Halton before setting up in Alliston, said Mr. Kearsse. Told that the Canadian Auto Workers Union has by far the largest membership in the region, Honda looked elsewhere, said Mr. Kearsse.

But it's rare for Halton to lose potential investors because of union activity, he said.

Only 11 per cent of Halton's workforce is unionized. That's very low when compared to the national average of just under 30 per cent, according to a work stoppage analyst at the Ministry of Labor.

Town of Halton Hills based on the fact that we have a very positive relationship... with the union movement," said Mr. Kearsse.

The most recent survey shows total membership in Halton's 23 unions at 10,525, said Mr. Kearsse. The CAW employs over 6,000 members with the nearest union, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, at just over 1,000. Other large unions in Halton include the United Steelworkers of America, the Food and Commercial Workers Union, the International Association of Machinists, Energy and Chemical Workers, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Clothing and Textile Workers.

Just under 20 per cent of all industry in Halton is automotive related, said Mr. Kearsse.

Even more significant is the large number of small businesses in Halton. About 80 per cent of the businesses in Halton have fewer than ten employees, said Mr. Kearsse. Unions tend to aim at businesses with more than 50 employees, he said.

And even among the larger companies where unions are more pro-

Metroland papers closer to strike  
Eggs pelted at post office substitute staff  
100 plant workers off the job at Curwood

minent, labor activity has been relatively calm.

Mr. Kearsse said the union trend is very similar for companies throughout the region.

The Ministry of Labor reports that only 18 work stoppages have occurred in Oakville and Burlington since 1985. That year more than 20,000 work days were lost involving over 1,900 employees in 12 strikes.

The following year there were only four strikes with 285 workers losing 2,270 work days and until the end of September 1987 there had been only two strikes, involving 185 employees with almost 4,500 work days lost.

Those statistics do not include the six-week long strike at Curwood in which over 100 workers walked the picket lines.

But unions in Halton have generally not been militant when it comes to negotiations, said Mr. Kearsse. Mr. Kearsse thinks companies have managed to keep good relations with their employees over the years by involving them more in company strategy. Profit sharing programs are on the increase and that's one way to keep the employees more in touch with the company's future, said Mr. Kearsse.