

\$30 million question

Region debates planned expansion

Should Regional council wait until after November's municipal elections to decide whether or not to spend almost \$30 million on expansion of their administrative building and a new police headquarters in Oakville?

Debate on that question raged at the Region June 8 but the final answer was "no."

A space needs study recently recommended much needed expansion of the green administration on Bronte Road and a new Halton Regional Police headquarters is also to be built on the site.

The headquarters alone would cost about \$11 million and the expansion will cost almost \$30 million.

On June 8 councillors asked for a report back from Halton staff on specifications for the buildings in July prior to the proposal call.

But some councillors want the report to come back to council in February of 1989 so a new council can use the information to make the final decision on expansion.

The call for specifications in July does not put the final rubber stamp

on the building, it only approves it "in principle."

Council will have to vote again to formally approve the expansion.

In a recorded vote council voted 15 to six in favor of seeing the report in July. All four Halton Hills councillors present, Mayor Russ Miller, Marilyn Serjeantson, John McDonald and Pam Sheldon, voted in favor of bringing the report back in July.

Burlington's James Grieve questioned the need for a 50 car underground security parking garage.

He said the proposal "needs more work."

"This is a \$29 million decision and I really think this should be left to a new council," he said.

He complained about spending \$5 million for servicing the site and about the extra costs of the police headquarters.

"We set out to build a police headquarters for \$11 million and when you total this up it's more like \$16 million," said Coun. Grieve.

The project should not go ahead "in the twilight of our term," he

said.

Burlington's Joan Little also opposed the approval in principle now. The Regional treasurer had set a cap of \$28 million as the most Halton could afford to pay she said. "I've yet to see a large building of this type built by a public body come in under budget," she said.

Burlington Mayor Roly Bird was miffed at the decision.

"I marvel at the ease at which we venture into these multi-million dollar investments at this level of government," he said.

He reminded councillors of how "painful" these types of decisions can be at the smaller local level.

But Oakville Mayor Bill Perras disagreed.

"I'd rather see it within the term of this council," he said.

"We've followed it for two or three years. We're more informed than the new councillors (would be)."

Burlington Coun. Rob Forbes said Halton will run into serious space problems if the project is delayed.

"We're here to provide three years of assistance in the operation of the Region," he said.

Milton's Bill Johnson also wanted

the current council to make the decision. "I was elected for three years to make decisions not to put them off and put them onto someone else's shoulders," he said.

Burlington's Joyce Savoline called it an "abdication of responsibility to throw this on the new council."

Oakville's Kevin Flynn said politicians have messed up the space needs of Halton's bureaucrats and civil servants by "monkeying around" with the space needs.

The building, which is expanding after just eight years, was too small when Halton first moved into it, he said.

"It was a political decision to limit the size of the building (in 1979)," he added.

"I don't believe this is a good time to play election year politics."

LETTER

Oversight noticed

EDITORS NOTE: The following is a copy of a letter addressed to Georgetown Highlands Games Association members, submitted to The Herald for publication:

To all Association members,

I was very surprised and disappointed that the Georgetown Girls Pipe Band was not present at the official opening ceremonies of the Georgetown Highland Games.

I have since learned that, this was the first time in the 13-year history of the Games that the girls were not invited to participate in the above. In past years, both the Milton Pipe Band and the Georgetown Girls Pipe Band have had the honor of piping in the Official Party.

The girls, as you know, have been successful in countless competitions

since their inception in 1942. They have travelled all over Southern Ontario, Quebec and the United States representing Georgetown. Furthermore, the girls gained recognition for our community by competing in Scotland and winning the Christine Hardie Award. They were also named 'Citizen of the Year' for 1986 by the Lions Club. The group has also given generously of its time and talents to participate in numerous community events.

I sincerely hope that not inviting them to participate in the Opening Ceremonies of the Georgetown Highland Games was just an oversight on your part and one that will be rectified for next year's Games in 1989.

Sincerely yours,
Barb Squire

Prepared for holiday weekend

OPP continue RIDE program

Statistics show more motorists die on Ontario highways in July and August than at any other time of the year. With a holiday weekend (always a time of increased accidents) coming this July 1, Ontario Provincial Police officers are doubly concerned about motorists' safety.

Last year, 144 persons died in traffic accidents across the province during July. Of that number, 103 fatalities happened on OPP patrolled roadways as compared to 1986, when 80 people died.

"In a typical week OPP officers issue more than 10,000 Highway Traffic Act charges but increased enforcement isn't the entire answer. Motorists, not the police, are responsible for safe and courteous driving," said Insp. Bill Wicklund, Traffic and Marine Section. "The public's driving practices will determine the number of traffic accidents and fatalities this summer."

This is the first year of OPP's enhanced year-round RIDE stop-

checks.

"Motorists should remember that OPP RIDE units will be operating in cottage country this summer," said Insp. Wicklund.

The July 1 holiday weekend also begins the first month of full-time living at the summer cottage or beach for many urban families. It's a time for swimming and boating and for safety rules.

"The upcoming holiday weekend offers parents an excellent opportunity to review rules about water and boating safety with their youngsters before leaving for cottage country," said S/Sgt. Larry Smith of the Marine Unit.

According to S/Sgt. Smith almost all boating and water-related accidents could be avoided. He recommends parents set a good example for youngsters by making certain they obey water and boating regulations.

"One of the most important examples parents can set is to provide

a personal flotation device for every person, including children, who go boating," said S/Sgt. Smith. "And, of course, no one should be drinking and boating. It's dangerous, illegal and deadly."

Already this year, 12 people have died in boating related deaths on waterways patrolled by the OPP.

"Safety on roadways or waterways requires a personal commitment from each of us," said Insp. Wicklund. "Make this July 1st holiday weekend memorable because you and your family had a good, safe time and not a holiday marred by tragedy."

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Lung association holds AGM

The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Lung Association was held at the Ramada Hotel, Airport West, Mississauga on May 28, 1988.

The President for the 1988-89 association year is Dr. J. Stanley Hill, who is Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Hill has been actively involved with the Lung Association for more than 15 years, where he has served at the local, provincial and national levels. He is a Past-President of the Lung Association London-Middlesex. He chaired the Provincial Health Education and Community Program Committees for two years, and served on the Canadian Lung Association Health Education Committee.

During his year as President-Elect he has chaired a newly-formed Advocacy Committee. Dr. Hill has had, as a major responsibility, the development of a Long Range Plan for the Ontario Lung Association.

Dr. Hill obtained his undergraduate education in Scotland. He holds an M.A. from the University of Western Ontario and earned his Ph.D. at the Ohio State University in Health Education. He is currently Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education at U.W.O.

The retiring President is John Woodcroft who has served with the

Lung Association for more than nine years. His volunteer activities with The Lung Association, Haldimand-Norfolk included board membership before becoming President in the 1982-1983 association year. Prior to his election as President of the Ontario Lung Association, Mr. Woodcroft served on the finance, fundraising and personnel committees.

The President-Elect is Connie Jasinskas, who has been a volunteer with the Lung Association since 1976. She became involved in pulmonary function tests for Wellington County and continued as a volunteer on the Board of Directors after serving as President from 1982 to 1984. Mrs. Jasinskas has chaired the Public Relations Committee and the Finance Committee at the provincial level.

Connie Jasinskas, through her company For The Love Of Fit conducts fitness and lifestyle seminars for numerous groups and organizations. She is also an experienced trainer in the Fitness Ontario Leadership Program.

The names of the 22 volunteers who will receive the Meritorious Service Award will be announced at the meeting. The award is given for outstanding contribution to the work of the Lung Association. Awards will be given to the volunteers in their local areas. A presentation will also

be made to Heather Marrie, of Hamilton, Ontario, winner of the Christmas Seal Design contest for the 1988 campaign, by Dr. Robert McGee, President of the Canadian Lung Association.

The professional sections of the Lung Association will be represented by Dr. Donald Jennings, President of the Ontario Thoracic Society and Brenda Perkins, President of the Ontario Respiratory Care Society.

Prior to the Annual Meeting, the Governing Council will hold its regular meeting. Members of this body are Presidents of Lung Associations which are located in 33 major areas in Ontario. Mrs. Mary Campbell of Halton Region will be attending. Mrs. Campbell is also a member of the Advocacy Committee.

The Lung Association has a strong presence in the community through programs such as the Lungs Are For Life School Programs, Family Asthma Program, Better Breathing Clubs and Countdown, a stop-smoking program.

Support of medical research is a major activity of the Lung Association, and increased funding will be crucial in the coming years to ensure that the world renowned research presently being conducted will continue.

GO rates to increase July 1

The Government of Ontario Transit's board has approved a fare increase which is forecast to see the system reach its economic objective. The fares go into effect July 1.

The fare adjustment, designed to bring in 4.8 per cent more revenue, is expected to allow GO to achieve the economical goal of covering 65 per cent of its operating costs from revenue for the first time since the target was set in 1977.

"Last year's economic performance improved dramatically," said GO Transit Chairman Lou Parsons. "We had anticipated that by the end of the fiscal year we would have a revenue/cost ratio of 62 per cent, but we actually reached 63 per cent. The efforts at increasing efficiency combined with growing patronage should allow us to reach the 65 per cent figure this year with a

fare increase that only reflects our cost of inflation."

GO fares are based on a two-part formula. The fixed portion of the formula will rise from 48 cents to 50 cents while the charge per kilometre goes from 6.8 cents to 7.1 cents.

Because all GO fares are rounded,

the actual percentage increases will vary, but no fare will rise more than 8.25 per cent.

For Georgetown, single fare rates go from \$4.75 to \$4.95, the rate for 10 rides goes from \$43 to \$44.75, and the monthly pass will show an increase of \$5, from \$114 to \$119.

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