

# Peterson may be hedging his bets

And so, how does Premier David Peterson feel about federal Liberal Leader John Turner's Senate play? That's the one where he has asked the Liberal-dominated Senate to block the free-trade agreement with the United States.

Peterson was on holidays when the issue arose, and wasn't caught by reporters looking for his opinion until this week.

His opinion? It can be judged from the following headlines:

In the Globe and Mail: Peterson Fails To Endorse Turner Move.

In the Toronto Sun: Tactic Gets Full Backing of Peterson.

Canada Press, which feeds most newspapers outside Toronto, took an angle closer to the Globe piece, although a Toronto Star rewrite of the Canadian Press story ended up reading more like the Toronto Sun version.

In fact, like so many Peterson scrums (scrums are gatherings where a politician fields questions from the surrounding media) you could take what you wanted from it.

"I have no problem with it and I don't think it is undemocratic or unconstitutional," he said at one point.

Now, that sounds pretty clear. Yet, he never actually said he supports the move.



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson  
Thomson News Service

"You would like to say Peterson supports it or Peterson doesn't support it... (but) how Mr. Turner conducts his tactics or strategy, as a national leader is his responsibility," he said.

### HEDGING

In short, it sounded like Peterson is hedging his bets, a reasonable and perhaps wise move when faced with a play yet to be judged by the electorate.

The truth is, none of the political professionals, never mind the usually dogmatic media analysts, have the faintest idea whether Turner's stroke is brilliant or dumb.

Or both. The polls show people want a vote on the free-trade agreement before it is passed, but whether they mean a general election or a referendum isn't quite so certain.

There is also the question of method. Is it right to block policies of the elected House of Commons by using the patronage-appointed unelected officials of the Senate?

It is a question with special relevance to Peterson. After all, he came to power following 42 years of Tory rule. Imagine what a provincial Senate could have done to his program.

As it is, the Liberal-run Senate in Ottawa has obstructed and delayed and interfered with Tory legislation of all kinds, from the drug bill to the refugee bills and now, the free-trade bill.

The argument that the Conservatives didn't run on free trade and therefore shouldn't be allowed to implement it doesn't hold water.

They also didn't run against free trade, and it was well known that the former Pierre Trudeau Liberal government had initiated discussions along that line with the U.S.

And wasn't it the Trudeau Liberals, including Turner, who ran against wage and price controls in 1974 and brought them in as soon as they'd won the election.

More important, though, is that changing agendas or creating new ones are what governments do all the time.

Look at Peterson, who didn't tell us during the last provincial election campaign he was going to dump the Sunday shopping issue on the municipalities, but who did tell us he would "stop" free trade if it didn't meet his six (or seven) conditions.

Well, he's done the former and not the latter since he won his majority.

It is also hard to reconcile Turner's and Peterson's belief that free trade means the end of Canada as we know it with the willingness of both to say they'll stop fighting it if the federal Tories win the coming election.

If it really is that important Turner should promise to reverse it if he gains power later, and Peterson should fight it to the bitter end.

Or, maybe it really isn't that major to them?

## The dog days

Dog may be man's best friend but canines are still selective about the people they associate with.

Pit bulls and dobermans may get most of the press when it comes to attacking people, but the simple fact remains, any dog can be unpredictable given certain circumstances.

The size of the dog really has little to do with the tenacity it can display, or the amount of fear it can strike into a person it is unfamiliar with.

Dog owners should remember to keep their animals restrained whenever there is a chance of it coming in contact with people who have good reason to enter someone's property.

The old cartoons showing cute dogs chasing after the mailman are fine for children but it's unfair to subject mail carriers or meter-readers to the unpredictability of a dog.

In the same context, children can easily be taken in by the friendliness a dog can show, but they know little of the dangers that may await them.

Youngsters playfully riding their bicycles are not going to be expecting to be rushed by a dog that may, or may not, simply be looking for a playmate.

There is a great deal of responsibility that accompanies the ownership of a dog.

Some will say it isn't fair to keep a dog restrained continually, but the owner must take full responsibility for the actions of his pets. And the consequences of having a dog attack someone are serious given the public sentiment toward such occurrences.

And no one would like to have to live with the serious injury or disfigurement of a child on their conscience.

## Why all the fuss?

One has to seriously wonder what the current state of affairs is with the new Halton Hills Civic Centre beautification project.

After all, things seemed to be running very smoothly. The town would look after the "nuts and bolts" building of the centre, and a community group has been formed to put together the "niceties" that will serve to enhance the centre.

But at council Monday night the bickering that ensued leaves one asking the question, why the big fuss?

The formula seemed equitable.

There are several glaring questions that arise now, though. Are the citizens' group and council's Building Committee working independently of each other in their efforts to essentially attain the same goal? Or are the two groups working in tandem with each other to see the project through to completion, with local citizens chipping in and doing their part in the spirit in which the citizens' group was launched.

Perhaps someone should ask, what's the difference? If the structuring of the two bodies has been lax, then they should be shored up.

The goals of the two groups are evident. But the venues they have to work with should, perhaps, be better defined.

If the left hand doesn't know what the right is doing then there is the possibility of a clash occurring.

But there's no need for petty bickering or any sense of secrecy in such a venture. Citizens have already given to the new civic centre through their taxes. Now, they're being asked to give a little more. But at this point it becomes an option with no strings attached.

This makes it pretty cut and dried, so why all the fuss? Let's get to the business at hand. Pettiness really has no place in this type of project.

An open line of communications can provide a viable solution.

## What's in a name?

### Actually quite a bit



Editor's notebook

By Mike Turner  
Herald Editor

He said, "You don't need a special room. As long as you pay your bill we don't care what you do," I said, "Look, you don't seem to understand, Sex keeps me awake at night." The clerk said, "Funny, I have the same problem."

One day I entered Sex in a contest, but before the competition began, the dog ran away. Another contestant asked me why I was just standing there, looking disappointed.

I told him I planned to have Sex in the contest. He told me I should have sold my own tickets. "But you don't understand," I said, "I had hoped to have Sex on TV." He said, "Now that cable is all over the place it's no big deal any more."

When my wife and I separated, we went to court to fight for custody of the dog. I said, "Your Honor, I had Sex before I was married," the Judge said, "The courtroom isn't a confessional. Stick to the case, please."

Then I told him that after I was married Sex left me. He said "Me, too."

Last night Sex ran off again. I spent hours looking around town for him. A cop came over to me and asked, "What are you doing in this alley at 4 o'clock in the morning?" I told him that I was looking for Sex. My case comes up Friday!

Last week was our first instalment of "Yesterdays" on the Editorial Page, and resulted in a call from a reader who was good enough to correct us on a point.

It seems the telephone office pictured was not located where Henry's Clothing is, but actually was situated next door to that location where Christiane Hair Styles is.

Thanks for the info.

I'll admit I'm not a regular reader of Ann Landers, or any other advice columnist, for that matter.

But once in awhile, when I'm putting in time between turning pages of the newspaper, I may indulge myself.

Someone passed me a photocopy of one of Ann's columns the other day, and I have to say I found it quite amusing.

It was submitted by a reader, although the actual writer of the piece is unknown.

The subject matter revolves around naming a dog. It seems this fellow wasn't content with the run-of-the-mill names, and that's where his problems began.

Everybody who has a dog calls him "Rover" or "Boy". I call mine "Sex". He's a great pal but he has caused me a great deal of embarrassment.

When I went to city hall to renew his dog licence, I told the clerk I would like a licence for Sex. He said, "I'd like one, too!" Then I said, "But this is a dog". He said he didn't care what she looked like. Then I said, "You don't understand, I've had Sex since I was 9 years old." He winked and said, "You must have been quite a kid."

When I got married and went on my honeymoon, I took the dog with me. I told the motel clerk that I wanted a room for my wife and me and a special room for Sex.



## Citizens' forum

### Thanks from Make A Wish

Dear Sir,  
Please permit Make A Wish of Halton Hills to say a very sincere "THANK YOU" to so many organizations that have contributed to the success of our programs and activities throughout the past year. Without their kind assistance and contributions, Make A Wish of Halton Hills just does not function.

The Hollywood Tavern in Norval, Ron and Jim Hachey who donated proceeds from a fun auction upon their grand opening; The Gemini Hockey Club who gave proceeds from a sports dinner to Make A Wish; the Cellar Restaurant, whose proceeds from beef on a bun found their way into Make A Wish bank account; to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 120 for not only providing the use of their hall, and all the facilities to put on a dinner, but a sizeable donation as well; a special thanks to the many corporate sponsors at the Annual Golf Tournament and to the two hardworking organizers, Wayne King and Dave Kemshead who along with an army of volunteers, helped to raise over \$6,000.

The S.O.B. Baseball team, gave up a weekend, to play ball, giving the \$300 proceeds to Make A Wish. There were countless other donations, from individuals too many to mention, yet they all go towards the unfortunate youth of Halton Hills. The patrons of Time-out have sent donations on a regular basis. Mr. Dick Howitt, lawyer has given of his time

to assist Make A Wish in its attempt to obtain a charitable number. To those that have donated items such as a ghetto blaster, watch and the use of certain facilities, no one can place a dollar value on them, yet they are there at the calling of a needy youngster.

Mentioning names, companies and the many great people that enable Make A Wish of Halton Hills to function as it does, you run the risk of missing a deserving person or company, and if this has happened, I apologize.

May you all see the face of a family who has been assisted by Make A Wish. You can be as proud as the Board of Directors are in the serving of an unfortunate youngster within the boundaries of Halton Hills.

We thank you all.  
Yours in good health,  
Bryan Lewis,  
Chairman

wind down, and it is once again time for the Canada Employment Centre for Students in Halton Hills to close.

Over this past summer we have thoroughly enjoyed our contact with the students and employers in Halton Hills, and we hope we have been helpful in serving employment needs in this community. We feel that much of our enjoyment has come from the interest and support the community has shown us towards student employment.

This summer employment opportunities for students has been great. The labor market is definitely in favor of students, and we attempted to direct our attention primarily towards them. At the same time however, employers were understanding of their situation in finding students, which made our job much easier.

Through working in a smaller community like Halton Hills, we were able to get to know the students and employers that we continually worked with. Everyone's positive attitude and co-operation helped us immensely.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your kindness and support throughout the summer.

Sincerely,  
Angela Buskard and Karen Coats  
Student Placement Officers  
Canada Employment Centre for Students

Editor's Note: The following letter was submitted to the Herald for publication:  
To the People of Halton Hills,  
The summer of 1988 is beginning to



The Scotch Block tug-of-war team was a formidable force back in the early 1900s. This photo, taken by photographer Will Kay, shows (from left) team members William McDonald, Daniel Adam, John Hardy, Henry Wallace, and David Given. Seated is team captain Neil Gillies.

## 30 years ago

The Ontario Water Resource Commission gave Delrex Developments the green light to proceed with their planned 582-home subdivision Monday as the commission and the Georgetown building inspector handed out 21 building permits. Eight permits were issued to Heslop Homes, 11 to Fobert Construction and two went to Zuber Construction. The Rex Heslop firm is still facing charges for constructing six houses without permission, said building inspector Joseph Gibbons.

Half of the wheat field owned by Donald Lindsay at the corner of the 7th Line and the CNR mainline was ravaged by fire early Friday evening. The blaze was the largest of a string of fires ignited by a passing excursion train. Sparks from a Stratford-bound train hit the field being combined by George Leslie. Earlier Friday, firefighters were summoned to a wheat blaze at the Meadowlark Growers property where a small quantity of hay was lost. Most of the wheat had already been harvested.

Grand Union Foods in Georgetown is selling a loaf of sliced bread for 18c, an eight ounce package of cheese for 25c, two 12 ounce jars of pickles for 55c and eight hot dog or hamburger rolls for 25c.

## 15 years ago

Delrex Restaurant owner Bill Karolidis said he would stop serving meat if prices continue to soar. Mr. Karolidis told the Herald that he found restaurants in the United States had meatless days to keep the prices down for customers. Mr. Karolidis said he is paying 50c to 60c more a pound for meat than he did two months ago.

After receiving a complaint letter from assistant Crown Attorney Larry H. Owen, Esq. Esqueing Township agreed to erect stop signs on Confederation Street at Mountain Street and at Glen Crescent. Mr. Owen's letter contained information on the careless driving charge associated with the Mountain Street T-intersection. Reeve Tom Hill suggested the T-intersection at Glen Crescent also be considered.

Georgetown Little Theatre \$800 richer from a government grant, is preparing for what promises to be its biggest season yet. A lineup of four plays, including three comedies and a Children's Christmas play, is in hand and preparations for the first to plays are already underway.

## 10 years ago

Two dogs are under quarantine and a number of others face the possibility of quarantine following contact with a suspected rabid fox in south Georgetown. A Golden Labrador retriever was bitten on the leg by the fox when he attempted to chase it from his owner's front lawn. A neighboring German Shepherd near Eighth Line also chased the fox.

The pastors of two Halton Hills' churches will add their sentiments to the millions bereaving Pope Paul VI, 80, who died on Sunday during a mass. Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church will hold a requiem mass Thurs. Aug. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Both Sacre Coeur and Holy Cross churches will remember the Pope who served since 1963 in their Sunday masses.

Rev. Ken Campbell, founder of a province-wide group of parents advocating educational reform, is in his third week of a fast to protest the appointment of "revolutionary" broadcaster Laurier LaPierre to study children's education. Rev. Campbell disagreed with Mr. LaPierre's proposed philosophy saying "the child in Ontario is not a family child, he is an institutional child".

## 5 years ago

Major decisions about a proposed municipal centre aren't being made behind the public's back, Mayor Pete Pomeroy said Tuesday. Councilors at Monday night's meeting disagreed with the mayor's method of handling the new civic centre, expecting to discuss at council the possibility of using a Maple Avenue property for the proposed site.

Not willing to give up his battle for tax reform in Halton Hills, Acton Coun. Ross Knechtel presented Council with graphs he says prove that Acton residents are "being royally screwed on the mill rate". Coun. Knechtel said Acton's rates for the last several years have been 25 per cent higher than Georgetown's. "The people of Acton are subsidizing the rest of town," he said Monday.

You'll be slapped with a \$6 fine if you're caught biking in Halton Hills without a licence. On top of that, there will be a \$3 court fee. Halton Regional Police request the bike owners bring Social Insurance numbers and bike descriptions to the stations for identification.