

## Mayor's race

## Candidates debate the issues

Although verbal barbs drew much of the attention at the all candidates debate in Acton Nov. 2, the two mayoral candidates spoke out on many different issues.

The possibility of a bypass for Highway 7 past Acton, local transit, priorities for municipal capital projects and a proposed pipeline to service the Highway 401 industrial corridor with Lake Ontario water were all topics of discussion.

Incumbent Russ Miller said new development will soon breathe new life into Acton.

"I'm proud of the industrial development that has taken place," the Mayor said. "But you'll see (more) development here very shortly," he told about 75 members of the audience.

Mayor Miller reminded citizens of his proposal for affordable housing currently being considered by housing minister Chaviva Hosek. He also said he supports trailer parks in Halton Hills to help alleviate the housing shortage.

Transit can be brought to Halton Hills but it may be an expensive proposition, said Mayor Miller.

"If a majority of the people in Halton Hills want it, they can have it, but they'd have to pay for it," he said, adding that the Milton transit operation was more than \$112,000 in debt three years ago. That debt has likely expanded since then, Mayor Miller said.

Asked by an audience member if he knew of any plans to expand the James Snow Parkway to bring it into Acton as a four-lane highway, Mayor Miller said that might be a consideration in the future but there are no such plans in the works now.

The mayor also said a new arena for Acton is one of the top priorities for the town.

"It's almost a fait accompli that we are going to build an arena in one town or the other. It's almost a fait accompli that it's going to be Acton," Mayor Miller said.

If the arena were to be built in Acton then the town might build a community centre, rather than just one ice surface, he said.

Other projects under consideration by the town are a new firehall in Acton, the bypass and a new library, he said.

The mayor then turned to his own record which he said demonstrates his ability as a leader.

The mayor said council has been co-operative under his leadership and he is not prone to making "political promises."

"I don't think making political promises keeps someone in power for 24 years," he said.

Challenger Pam Sheldon likes the idea of a bypass. The town is looking at the possibility of a bypass now, with a report expected on the issue in the new year, he said.

"If it's conceivable to plan for a bypass I think that's what we should do," she said.



Russ Miller



Pam Sheldon

She also wants to examine the possibility of setting up a local transit service. "Transit must be on our agenda. That would certainly be something I'd promote if I were mayor," she said, adding that the cost associated with such a system have yet to be worked out.

Coun. Sheldon said an arena complex is the top priority for capital projects. Such a complex would include facilities for seniors as well as young people, she said.

The other major priority is a new firehall in Acton, she said.

"But I don't know if both (projects) can be achieved in a three-year term," she said.

Coun. Sheldon also predicted a bright future for Acton. "Acton is just on the threshold of some wonderful things and I'd love to be a part of it," she said.

She then went on to emphasize the differences between herself and Mayor Miller on the issue of the

Lake Ontario pipeline. Coun. Sheldon said such a pipeline is a "blueprint for the demise of agriculture" in Halton Hills. Mayor Miller supports the pipeline, she said.

But Mayor Miller said the town can come up with a "happy medium."

"I have been a big supporter of agriculture," he said. "We need jobs and that corridor (north of Highway 401) will provide jobs," he said.

Mayor Miller supports bringing the pipeline as far as Milton - if Milton is in favor of it - then using it to service the corridor to attract business and provide Halton Hills with more industrial assessment.

"If we got the kind of development that is just east of Halton Hills just think what that corridor would look like," said Mayor Miller, adding that people could work and live in the same community.



## Dedication

L'ecole Sacre-Coeur on Guelph Street at the old Wrigglesworth site was officially blessed and dedicated Oct. 30 by the Roman Catholic Church. Here the Most Rev. Anthony Tonnos of Hamilton blesses a statue of Christ with holy water as the Bishop's entourage looks on. (Herald photo)

## Commuters can GO more conveniently

By DOUGLAS ARMOUR  
Herald Special

Georgetown commuters will be able to take advantage of early evening GO Transit bus service from Toronto beginning Jan. 9, 1989. Transportation Minister Ed Fulton announced Monday.

Mr. Fulton said the new service, departing from Union Station, will give residents the same options that will be available to Milton commuters when an early evening com-

muter train service from Toronto to that community comes into effect in January.

Similar early evening bus service for Stouffville commuters also is being established in January.

The improved bus service from Toronto to Georgetown is part of a \$19-million GO Transit extension program that includes increasing rail service on the 50-km Milton line from three to five bi-level commuter

trains, into Toronto during morning rush hours. Rush hour trains from Toronto in the evening will be increased from three to four.

The GO Transit expansion program also includes enlarging the Erindale GO station in Mississauga.

While praising the announcement, opposition MPPs cautioned Mr. Fulton not to ignore other commuter needs, such as additional commuter parking at GO stations.

## POWER members still uncomfortable

Despite assurance by Environment Minister Jim Bradley that the Acton quarry (landfill) proposal will be designated under the Environmental Assessment Act, POWER members are still not comfortable.

Mr. Bradley reaffirmed his promise to designate the proposal under the EA act following questioning by Halton North MPP Walt Elliot at Queen's Park Nov. 7.

Mr. Bradley also assured the public that the proposal will have to pass the same stringent process a public proposal would follow.

Mr. Elliot said he asked the question Monday because he heard rumors Reclamation Systems Inc., the proponents of the landfill, had submitted their final documents in support of the application two weeks ago.

However, Eco Logic spokesperson Jillian Daffern said that document was merely discussing alternatives to landfilling and to the Acton side. Such a document is necessary under the EA act.

Eco Logic, the consulting firm hired by RSI, hope to have the second set of documents into RSI by the end of November, said Ms. Daffern.

The final documents won't be submitted until after another round of public consultation hearings is held, she said.

POWER (Protect Our Water and

Environmental Resources) members say they've been promised an EA designation for 18 months.

POWER wants to know when the cabinet will officially designate the proposal under the EA act, said co-chairman Ken McGregor.

RSI is proposing to construct a landfill on the 170-acre site while United Aggregates, the owners of the quarry, construct a new quarry south of Sideroad 22.

Mr. Elliot wants the existing quarry rehabilitated for recreational uses instead of a landfill.

He said he will push for the recreational uses during discussion of the proposal.

## Poetry reading and seminar

Brampton's Writers Guild and Canada Council present Cyril Dabrydeen, a poetry reading and seminar on Thursday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Central Public School art centre, 24 Alexander Street, Brampton.

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## In the hills

## Church bazaar

The St. John's United Church annual bazaar will be held Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.

Specialty boutiques with crafts and home baking will be set up, and there will be a tea room, as well. The church is located on Guelph Street.

## Christmas bazaar

If you are looking for a unique handmade gift, or some festive Christmas decorations, you might find them at St. Andrew's United Church Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be something for everyone, including the children. The church is located at the corner of Mountainview and Sinclair.

## Meeting called

"The Stubbs Family of Caledon" will be the topic discussed by Alex Raeburn at the Halton-Peel Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society meeting held in the second floor meeting room, Chinguacousy Library (Civic Centre) in the Bramalea City Centre. The meeting is Sunday, Nov. 27 at 2 p.m. and visitors are welcome.

## Tractor fire

A tractor sustained about \$15,000 damage Tuesday morning when its electrical system caught fire.

Halton Hills firefighters received a call at 6:43 a.m. which took them to a Con. 6, Lot 14 residence, where a fire had started in the electrical system of the tractor and had spread to the fuel tank.

Officials say the vehicle's gas tank was plastic and melted under the heat, fueling the fire. No injuries were reported.

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