



Pioneer citizens

Jack and Jean Layman received the Halton Hills Herald Pioneer Citizens award for their long-time contribution to the community in a presentation during Pioneer Days downtown Georgetown Saturday. Mrs. Layman has been involved with scouting for years and Mr. Layman has been involved with Pioneer Days celebrations since the event's inception. (Herald photo)

Act promises tighter restrictions on quarries

By DONNA KELL
Herald Staff

Tighter restrictions could apply to aggregate companies in Ontario and that would affect North Halton - a riding which contains the largest amount of quarries in the province, said North Halton MPP Walt Elliot at a meeting Tuesday morning.

The act to force future quarry sites to submit a site plan and rehabilitative plan to return their sites to normal after quarrying is finished, will be made law if the Aggregate Act, which had its third reading Monday at Queen's Park, is passed.

The legislation would take effect January 1, 1990.

Mr. Elliot spoke to the members of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce and assorted guests at a breakfast meeting. He said he has worked for two years to get the act passed. The act itself has been tied up in legislation for 17 years.

"This act gives the Ministry of Natural Resources the teeth to actually monitor how quarrying is done in the province," said Mr. Elliot.

Town of Halton Hills and Town of Milton councillors and mayors have come forth asking for tighter restrictions on and for increased revenue from the aggregate companies.

If the aggregate act is passed, surcharges placed on each tonne of quarried material will provide north Halton with \$500,000, said Mr. Elliot. This would come in the form of unconditional grants to the riding.

When asked if the aggregate act


would affect quarries already in operation - and specifically the Acton quarry site at Third Line and Sideroad 22 - Mr. Elliot said the act could have some impact.

The Acton quarry (people) "will be one of the first ones we'll sit down and talk to," he said.

POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) members, the local group opposed to the quarry, say that United Aggregates, who own the Acton quarry, agreed to return the site to its previous state after quarrying was completed.

Mr. Elliot said he heard that United Aggregates signed such an agreement, but that there was no evidence to hold the company responsible for rehabilitation of the site, which he described as "large."

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No money for new programs

Although spending at the Halton Roman Catholic School Board has increased by \$14.6 million over last year, there is not enough money to develop any new programs, said the board's director of education.

The Catholic board's net expenditures are almost 21 per cent greater than those of last year as outlined in the board's recently passed budget. But the board is unable to introduce planned new initiatives, said Cliff Byrnes.

Net expenditures increased from \$71.2 million last year to \$85.8 million this year. However the board only has sufficient funds to maintain the status quo. Consideration of all new programs has been deferred to March 1990 when the board will know if it has sufficient funding increases for the 1990 school year, said Mr. Byrnes.

He hopes the board's lack of program expansion will not affect the board's quality of education.

As to whether or not 1990 will be more profitable for the board, Mr. Byrnes was again optimistic, saying, "you cannot afford to be any other way (but optimistic) in this business."

According to Catholic board Superintendent of Business Services and Treasurer, Tom Brady, this year's budget was balanced only after cuts were made to proposed education programs. Other cuts included those to additional staff and a bus service for secondary school students involved in extra-curricular activities. The exceptions to the budget cuts were George Vanier French language

secondary school in Hamilton, and property and plant services.

Mr. Brady said \$8 million of the budget went to new construction, and \$1 million went to debenture repayments, which increased last year. The board was faced with a \$2.1 million increase in tuition fees under Bill 30, as more "grandfathered students" left the system and were replaced by "open access" or "tuition fee" students. An extra \$4 million went to salaries for enrolment increases, Mr. Brady

said. He added that transportation costs also increased by \$800,000 over last year.

Mr. Brady said the board had originally planned to spend an additional \$6.7 million. He explained the board overestimated the Ministry of Education's general legislative grants.

The budget outlines provincial grants at almost 70 per cent of the board's 1987 gross budget, but accounts for approximately 67 per cent of next year's budget.

We're Moving

Thursday, June 22, 1989

On Thursday, June 22nd, J.H. Fishback Photography will be moving from its location at 65 King Street, Georgetown to its new location at 7 Hillside Drive, Georgetown.

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