

Regional building could cost \$29 million

Halton Region is expected to accept a \$28.7 million bid by a Toronto firm to expand the Region's Bronte Road headquarters in Oakville and to build the new Halton Regional Police headquarters.

Halton's administration and finance committee approved a recommendation made last week by a special Regional building and expansion committee to approve a bid submitted by Cooper Corporation Ltd. of Etobicoke.

The company, if approved, will have defeated Jackson-Lewis Company Ltd., its only competition for design-build tenders received by the Region June 6.

There were 14 companies ready to prepare proposals for the Regional expansion in November last year. Of those, the Region narrowed its choice to three bidders, including Jackson-Lewis, Cooper Corporation and Ellis-Don Limited. Ellis-Don's tender, which cost the company \$100,000 to prepare, was not reviewed by the Region. It was considered late for a 2 p.m., June 6 deadline.

Regional councillors will vote on whether or not to approve Cooper Corporation's tender at a meeting today (Wednesday).

The new Regional buildings will be joined with the familiar green buildings on Bronte Road north of the Queen Elizabeth Way in Oakville. The Region will purchase government lands to the east and north of the existing property.

The Cooper bid proposes 7.5 per cent more space than a bid made

by the Jackson-Lewis Company. The Cooper plan proposes 272,000 square feet of expansion, with 129,000 sq.-ft. administration services and 68,000 sq.-ft. for the Halton Regional Police headquarters.

The expansion will also include a shared facility building and a child care centre.

Regional staff say they like the price tag of Cooper's proposal. At \$28.7 million, it keeps within the Region's budget, which allotted \$29.7 million for expansion.

The proposal bid made by Jackson-Lewis was for \$31.3 million, \$1.4 million over the Region's budget.

"There was a significant difference between the two tenders," said the Region's chief administrator John Fleming.

But he added that Regional staff conducted "a very indepth review of a whole group of factors."

"There's a lot of satisfaction on the part of (Regional) councillors with the design," he said.

Halton Hills Councillor Joe Hewitt, a member of the committee reviewing the expansion tenders, described Cooper's proposal as "a hell of a building for the price" and said it has "exceptional" design.

The Cooper Corporation will work with the architectural firm of Dunlop, Farrow Incorporated on the Regional project if approved. Before the Cooper Corporation can get the go-ahead on the project, Halton Regional Police must also approve the tender.

it takes a week from the time of ordering the pool to install an above-ground pool for \$2,000.

The article also said the owners of Acadian Pools devised a system for keeping the pool algae free. The system was actually devised by Bioguard Chemical. The Herald regrets the error.

NEC should review licences-EAGLE-

The environmental group EAGLE challenged a 1985 Niagara Escarpment Commission decision to honor all mineral extraction licences issued before that year, during last week's Niagara Escarpment Commission meeting.

The chairman of the Ecology Awareness Group - Landscape and Environment, Giuseppe Gori, issued the challenge in reference to the United Aggregate Corporation owned licences to expand the Acton quarry across Sideroad 22.

The specific licences in question were issued in 1972, Mr. Gori said, at a time when the environmental concerns of mineral extraction were not carefully considered. Mr.

Gori said the licences would not have been issued for the area in question if the proposal had undergone a proper environmental assessment as stated in the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act.

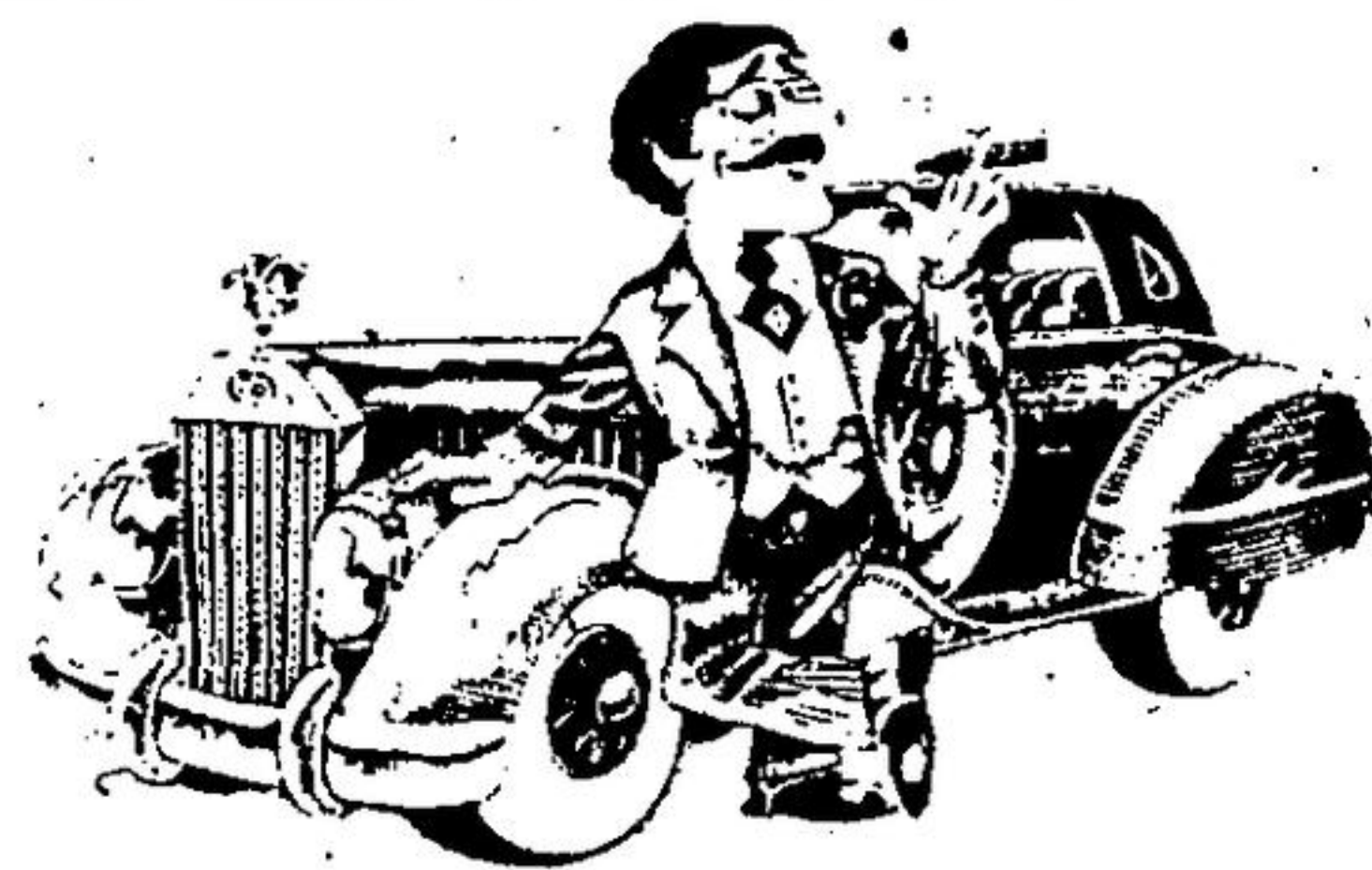
Mr. Gori said mineral extraction in that area will negatively affect surrounding "pristine wetland areas" and private drinking water wells.

He asked the commission to suspend United Aggregates Ltd.'s existing licence and all others issued before 1985, and only issue new ones after the individual extraction sites have been subjected to an environmental assessment.

The NEC's manager of plan administration, Cecil Louis, said the commission told Mr. Gori it will consider his recommendations to determine whether or not they should be acted upon. Mr. Louis was unable to say when the commission's report would be completed.

Mr. Gori said he was pleased the commission had taken the time to listen to his report.

In the meantime, he said EAGLE plans to ask the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to include Concession 3 and Lot 22 and areas south of that as part of the Niagara Escarpment designated area.



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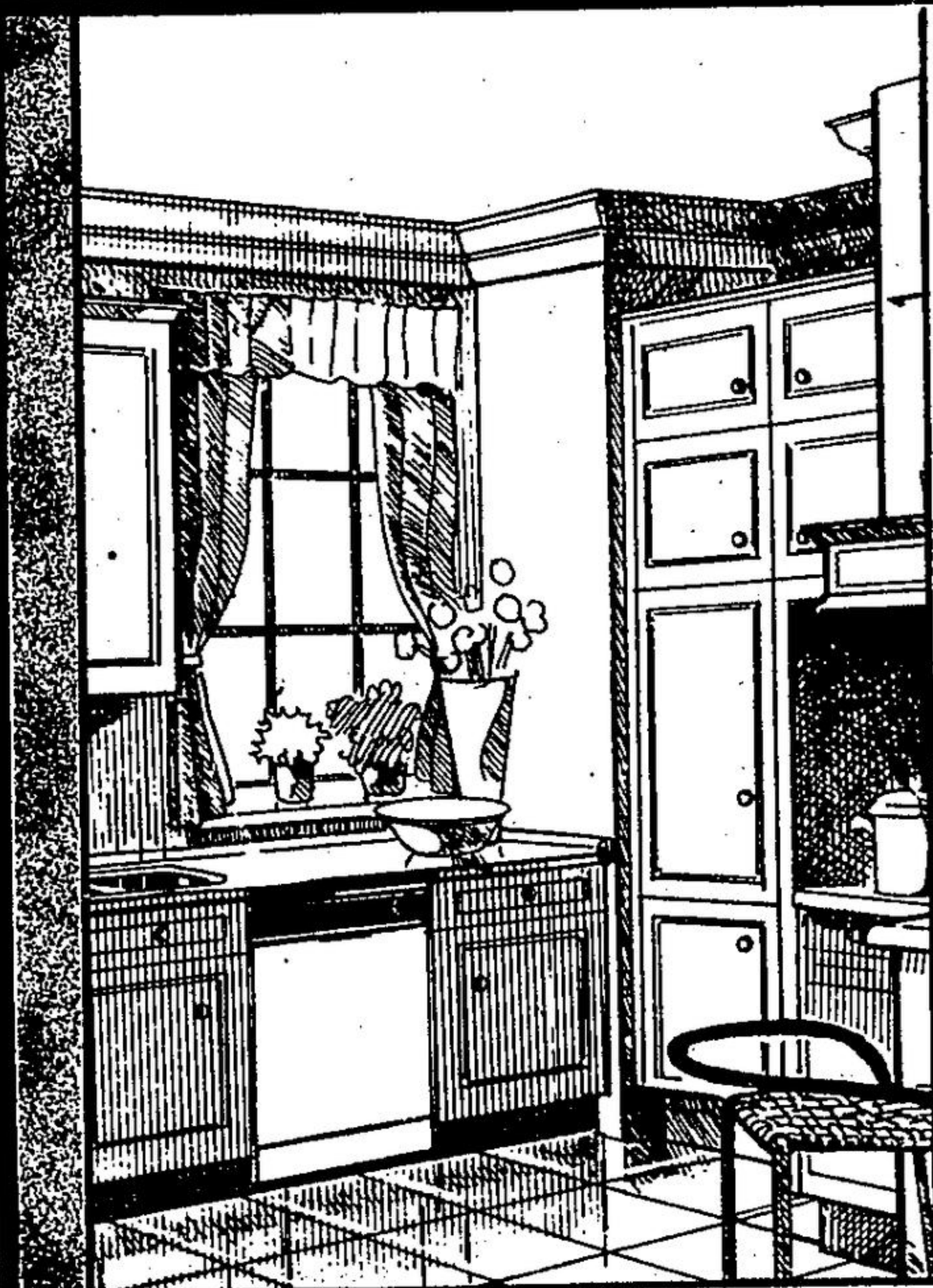
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Correction

An article on page four of the summer lifestyles insert in the July 12 edition of the Herald on Acadian Pools said you can install an inground pool in a back yard in a week for \$2,000. In fact,



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