

# Town wants to study Trafalgar intersection

The Town of Halton Hills could ask the Ontario ministry of transportation to study the need for traffic lights at two intersections on Trafalgar Road near Georgetown.

The intersections are both located at Highway 7, where the highway leads northbound toward Acton.

The town recommendation is in response to complaints from Acton Councillor Norm Elliott who said drivers are "risking their lives" to go southbound from Ballinafad and northbound onto Highway 7 from the Canadian National Railway tracks.

"People are risking their lives to gain access to major roadways when there's not enough time," Coun. Elliott said.

He said traffic problems occur at the northerly intersection in the morning and the intersection near the CNR tracks at night.

"That problem is going to escalate," he said. "If you have bad weather and slippery road conditions you're going to have major problems at that intersection."

Town engineer Bob Austin told councillors last week that the Trafalgar Road - Highway 7 intersection is under ministry of transportation jurisdiction. "It's



Norm Elliott

prepare a short resolution," Mr. Austin said.

Town councillors heard that the Highway 7 intersection was studied in 1985 to investigate the possible installation of traffic signals. But last Monday, it was heard that the source for that study was a 1981 document.

Coun. Elliott asked for "some kind of precautionary light", not necessarily full traffic lights.

Councillors are expected to give final approval to the road study request at a council meeting next Tuesday.

not just under our jurisdiction to review, but if you wish, we can

## Arts, crafts sale

Arts and Crafts of Georgetown will be holding its 47th annual exhibition and sale on Saturday, Oct. 14 at the North Halton Golf and Country Club in Georgetown.

The event begins at 10 a.m. and runs until 4 p.m.

Exhibits include antiques, candles, custom knitting, Christmas decorations, flower arrangements, leather tooling, pottery, quilting, rug hooking and much more.

Admission is \$1 and a buffet luncheon is available.

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## Education chief angry at Toronto media's "attack"

By BEN DUMMETT  
 Herald Staff

Halton's schools are not "going to hell", despite Toronto media reports saying just that, Halton Board of Education Director Bob Williams says.

Mr. Williams told trustees recently, he is confident the region's system is working saying, "I know we are doing a good job." But he is fearful the Toronto media's implicit "unwarranted attack" on the board's staff programs and graduates is believed by the staff and community.



BOB WILLIAMS

He said last year more than 1,400 students in Halton schools attended chamber of commerce career days. Halton's Secondary Schools have established strong ties with business by having a business "adopt a school", or attending "partnership and employee conferences," he said.

He added in the last five years the number of students enrolled in co-operative education has doubled.

In comparison to other school systems around the world Mr. Williams said Halton students have always scored well, pointing out that in 1984 in the Second International Mathematics Study, Halton's Grade 8 students placed in the top four among 24 nations taking the test. Contrary to the media reports that the provincial average drop-out rate is 30 per cent, he said in Halton the rate is nine per cent.

Mr. Williams said there is no teacher shortage in Halton. For this school year the board received 2,600 applications for 249 available teaching positions.

He also said the board has never shied away from submitting its programs to provincial reviews, and the test results are consistently above average.

Mr. Williams said the proof of the boards success is shown by the community's approval of the system. Survey results reveal 77 per cent of Halton residents gave the board an "A" or "B" and 99 per cent gave it a passing grade, he said.

Mr. Williams said the board invites fair criticism but resents phrases like "ailing schools", "growing crisis" and "shortchanging students" used in the press when applied to the system in general and in Halton specifically.

To reassure staff he mailed out a two-page letter to about 5,000 employees countering the "ill-informed" statements made in a recent Globe and Mail editorial and a Toronto Star article.

In the letter he addressed the statements that the three R's are being taught adequately, the school system isn't working with business, students' test scores pale in comparison to students of other systems, the apparent high drop-out rate, a shortage of quality teachers and the negative community perception of the system.

Mr. Williams disputed these statements saying the teaching of reading and writing has actually increased over the years citing that for every 100 students, 110 math credits, and 117 English credits are taken annually.



## Here and now

Hornby artist Beverly Didur was one of five Halton artists to receive awards of merit at the Halton Hills Cultural Centre in Georgetown Wednesday night. Mrs. Didur's works "A Warm Sunny Place", "I See

You in a New Light" and "From Both Sides Now" earned her an award, donated by Artcast Inc. of Georgetown. Joining Mrs. Didur is event organizer John Sommer. (Herald Photo)

## Police need money for recruits

Halton Regional Police will have to wait until Halton Region reviews its budget before getting approval for seven more officers and one police cruiser at a cost of \$266,000 for court security.

The police department is one of many across Ontario responding to Bill 187 passed in the provincial legislature this summer. The bill calls for court protection to be a responsibility of local police forces.

Halton Regional council allowed \$250,000 in its projected 1990 budget for the new law, which will affect the police force in January. In a report released Sept. 28 by

Staff Sergeant Ron Southgate, the Halton police force recommends two constables, five escort and security officers and one police cruiser to meet the demands of Bill 187.

Increased protection will be needed to replace duties now assigned to the Sheriff's office. The Region's family courts are "requesting that we have security...at all times," a police report says.

The five supreme and district court rooms at 491 Steeles Ave. in Milton will need "armed personnel". There could be prisoners in the supreme court, district courts, family and youth courts, criminal

court and bail hearing court, a Halton police report says.

Staff Sgt. Southgate recommends that the new officers be hired for January of next year to allow time for training. Bill 187 received Royal Assent - the last stage of a provincial bill legislation - June 20, but an implementation date is yet to be announced by Ontario's Lieutenant Governor.

Police spokesman last year predicted that the passing of Bill 187 could cost the force anywhere from \$500,000 to \$1 million to implement in 1990.

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