

## Higher OHIP payments

# Halton's schools may cost \$250 million in 1990

Increases in OHIP payments next year is a major reason why the Halton Board of Education's expenditures of just over \$224 million may jump to \$250.5 million for 1990, says the board's superintendent of business services.

Jerry Jenkins told trustees Thursday that the board will have to pay \$2 million over and above what it is currently paying to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan next year due to changes in provin-

cial legislation.

All employers with salaried or hourly-paid employees will be affected by the legislation, he added.

Mr. Jenkins said the tax represents 1.96 per cent of the board's total payroll costs.

He also attributed the expected expenditure increase to the board having to pay an increase in just under \$1 million in unemployment insurance.

Burlington trustee Peter Abbott said he had trouble with a double

digit increase in expenditures and he would like to see the projection come down. But he argued he doesn't see where the cuts can be made.

The board is looking at an 11.8 per cent budget increase in 1990. Mr. Jenkins said over the next few

months he will attempt to "change, massage and adjust" the forecast in an attempt to reduce the figure, but he warned the increase will probably be in the 12 per cent range.

The province's proposal to extend the classroom day from 151 minutes to 210 minutes and a reduction in its tax assessment next year are two other reasons, Mr. Jenkins gave to explain the increase.

Provincial government legislation coming into effect in 1990 will require the public and Catholic boards to pool their corporate tax base which means a decrease in the public board's share.

Mr. Jenkins said the board has yet to be told if it will receive an in-

crease in grants.

Other factors contributing to the proposed increase in the 1990 expenditures include:

—a six per cent rate of inflation for supplies and services, utilities and books;

—an unchanged enrolment level; —the adjustment of teaching salaries in conjunction with economic increases and hiring more staff; and

—the carry over of new items that were approved in the 1989 budget.

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## Department store applies to open on Sundays

By BEN DUMMETT  
 the Herald

Those who shop at Zellers in Georgetown or any other department stores owned by the Hudson Bay Company, will find out Wednesday if these stores will be allowed to open Sundays.

The Region's administration and finance committee passed a recommendation that Hudson Bay Company stores not be allowed to open Sundays, Nov. 29.

Regional council will vote on the recommendation Wednesday.

Council has already told three national food chains, A and P and Dominion, the Oshawa Group Ltd. and Miracle Food Mart, it will seek a court injunction if they try to open their doors Sundays.

The committee heard a Hudson Bay spokesman say that the current Retail and Business Holiday Act creates an "unfair playing field" between those stores allowed to open Sundays and those prohibited from opening.

Ms. Jan Dymond argued that stores like Shoppers Drug Mart, which can stay open Sundays, sell several of the same products sold by Hudson Bay stores.

A large portion of Shoppers Drug Mart's total revenue can be attributed to cosmetic sales, said Ms. Dymond.

The Hudson Bay stores can't fully compete with the Shoppers Drug Mart because they are prevented from opening Sundays, Ms. Dymond said.

She told committee members that the Retail and Business Holiday Act is outdated. The act reflects a time when grocery stores primarily sold food, department stores sold household goods and drug stores sold pharmaceuticals, she said.

Then it was acceptable for drug stores to be open Sundays, because they sold health essentials and didn't compete with other types of stores, she said.

Since there is an "overlapping of goods sold by the different stores, the only fair solution is to give all stores the choice to open or remain closed on Sunday."

The only other choice would be to require all stores to be closed on Sunday, she added.

Realizing Halton has never allowed Sunday shopping, Ms. Dymond suggested the Region allow for a trial run during the three Sundays before Christmas.

Ms. Dymond also said the Retail and Business Holiday Act is flawed because it has a provision that says wholesalers can stay open Sundays. She says the provision is being used as a loophole for some companies to sell goods to the public on Sundays.

Finally she argued that the tourist exemption outlined in the act allowing certain stores to open Sundays because they in a tourist area, is used just as much by the general public as it is by tourists. She used Chinatown in Toronto as an example.

With the exception of Burlington committee member Ralph Scholtens, all councillors argued that allowing Hudson Bay Company stores to open Sundays would only make the "playing field more unfair."

Committee member Rob Forbes argued that since the issue of Sunday shopping is decided at the municipal level, once one municipality decided to allow Sunday shopping, nearby municipalities would soon have to follow.



## FCP elects executive

The party president of the Family Coalition Party of Ontario, Louis Di Rocco (fourth from left), was on hand to preside over the executive elections of the party's Halton Hills Riding Association, Wednesday night at Oddfellows Hall in Georgetown. Elected to the executive were Art Loveless, area director (left),

John Van Bendegem, vice-president for fundraising, Chris Steen, chief financial officer and treasurer, Victor Estevan, riding association president, Giuseppe Gori, vice-president for publicity and Roberto Sales, secretary. Story on Page 3. (Herald photo)

## Housing plans need water

Two developers say they are caught between two levels of municipal government in their quest to build housing in Halton Hills.

A spokesman for the Millview Management Group, Stephen Ledrew, described the current situation as a "chicken and the egg" scenario, at Monday's council meeting.

"Draft approval from (Halton) Region (for the development) won't come before we get approval for water allocation," he said.

Earlier in the meeting councillors said they wouldn't consider giving developers water allocation until developers receive draft approval from the Region.

Sue Rogers, who spoke on behalf of Relisco Holdings, echoed Mr. Ledrew's statements, saying that

"we are ready to go ahead with the engineering plans," but the town first has to act. "My client would prefer to move forward as fast as possible," she added.

Ms. Rogers went on to say that the developers are ready to come back at any time to explain to council the advantage of their housing development.

Mayor Russ Miller appreciated this statement saying, "we (the town) want to give water allocation approval to those who will use it."

Councillors also heard from Ernie Bodnar, who was representing Milran Investments Ltd. He said the Region had granted Milran Investment Limited draft approval for its Maple Creek subdivision.

The town hasn't granted water allocation to these developers.

Milran Investments, between Ninth and Tenth Line, is a 110-home subdivision.

The town's staff recommended to general committee last week that Millview Management Group's development, Millview Village Homes, along with five other developments, including ones by Relisco and Milran, be eligible for water allocation.

Millview Village homes is a 154 townhouse proposal located on Mountainview Road.

Relisco Holdings is a 106-home subdivision on Seventh Line and Trafalgar Road.

But Mayor Russ Miller said during that meeting that developers will receive water approval on an individual basis. "If that's what it requires for the town to sit down and listen to these developers, I'm prepared to do that," he said.

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