

# Books under scrutiny by Catholic school board

By BENDUMMETT  
the Herald

The Halton Roman Catholic Board of Education will soon decide whether students will be allowed to continue reading controversial novels such as J.D. Salinger's *Catcher In The Rye* in school.

The board's senior staff will present trustees with a list of about 2,000 books it approves and a procedure parents would follow if they objected to the contents of a book in mid-January, the board's superintendent of education services, Angelo Di Ianni, says.

He said the list will consist not only of novels but also every other

type of book used in the Catholic board schools.

The board told the principal of Assumption Secondary School in Burlington at the beginning of the school year not to teach *Catcher In The Rye* until trustees passed the approved book list.

The board's communications officer Chris Jewell said the board's action was prompted by a complaint about the foul language appearing in the novel by a Milton parent.

But the board didn't force Bishop Reding Secondary School in Milton and St. Ignatius of Loyola Secondary School in Oakville not to teach the novel because these schools

had already begun teaching it by the time the board received the complaint, said Mr. Jewell.

Several Bishop Reding High School students recently complained the board was wrong in preventing Catholic high schools from teaching the novel.

They argued the book's merits shouldn't be judged on the foul language but rather on its message.

They said that students can learn many moral lessons from the book.

They pointed out that by the end of the book, its protagonist, Holden Caulfield, says people swear too much.

But Mr. Jewell emphasized that

although Assumption can't teach the book now, it might be allowed to teach it in the future.

Mr. Di Ianni said the novel will definitely be included in the list presented to the trustees in January.

A book makes the list if it is deemed to have literary merit which doesn't necessarily eliminate books that have the "F word" in them, said Mr. Di Ianni.

He argued students sometimes need to be exposed to foul language in the right context so they can gain a better understanding of other people.

"It (*Catcher In The Rye*) is an American classic that is supported

by many of the board's teachers," Mr. Di Ianni said.

The English department head of Bishop Reding, John Picone, agreed with Mr. Di Ianni, saying, "I consider it a moral book. I think it's great. When I read it I really enjoyed it."

But he also supported the board's review of the book and the other books used by the Catholic schools. "It's really important to always re-think your rationale for teaching a particular book," said Mr. Picone.

Catholic board trustee Irene McCauley couldn't be reached for comment at press time.



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## Acton quarry won't be named contingency site for landfill

By DONNA KELL  
the Herald

Halton Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy says the Acton quarry in Limehouse will not be named as a contingency site to host Metro's garbage.

Local consortium Reclamation Systems Inc. has an application now being processed by the provincial ministry of the environment to approve the Acton quarry on Sideroad 22 near Fourth Line for what local group POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) calls a "megadump."

But Chairman Pomeroy said last Wednesday Halton would use some of the capacity of the Milton Highway 25 and Britannia Road site, approved by the Consolidated Hearings Board in February, as a contingency site. That site is now under appeal but is expected to be approved after a judiciary hearing next February.

The chairman's suggestion to put the Milton site on the table has yet to be reviewed by Regional staff and then approved by Halton Regional council.

"The Acton site for contingency purposes is not being considered at all. As far as I'm concerned, there are no (contingency) sites other than the one that is going through the approval process," Chairman Pomeroy said.

Each member of the five-region Greater Toronto Area committee formed this year to solve Metro's waste crisis must name a contingency site to host Metro's garbage between 1992 and 1996.

Metro last week named the

Whitevale site in Durham Region as a potential contingency site. That Region, along with Peel, York, Halton and Durham are expected to name sites by a February deadline.

But POWER members say even if the Acton site isn't named for short-term storage of Metro's garbage, it could be picked as a long-term site because of its 20-million tonne capacity, making it five times larger than the four-million tonne capacity Milton site.

RSI wants more than a contingency site, POWER member Len Landry says. "They are not interested in Halton's garbage. They want Ontario's garbage. They want to be the megasite."

POWER member Rita Landry says the chairman can't stop Metro from choosing the Acton quarry because "Chairman Pomeroy is not the only one who has control of that site."

POWER says Metro can expropriate the Acton quarry proposed landfill site without Halton's approval.

But Metro Chairman Alan Tonks said his region cannot expropriate property in Halton for a landfill site. "Halton would have to do that," he said.

POWER "may be innocently under the impression that we have the power to find a roach under every stone."

Halton's chairman said the Acton quarry site "won't be named by Metro and it won't be named by Halton."

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**Christmas on Mars**

The students at Limehouse Public School performed their Christmas concert Thursday night. This boy played a Martian as part of the show which takes place on Mars. This little girl, also in keeping with the

Martian theme, shows all you need is a little imagination and you can sparkle doing whatever you want to. (Herald photos)

## Halton digs for artifacts at dump site

Halton's design and construction department will conduct an archaeological dig, at the Milton Regional landfill site, that will cost \$61,000.

The Region's director of design and construction, Bruce Kitchen, said he expects to find remnants of Indian bands passing through Halton Region and camping for several weeks on the Highway 25, Britannia Road area site.

"They're not anticipating anything that is the magnitude of

Crawford Lake," Mr. Kitchen said. Crawford Lake in Milton is a site where an entire Indian village was unearthed by archeologists.

The Consolidated Hearings Board last February approved the Milton site for Regional landfill, telling Halton's staff to dig for cultural remnants before using the almost four-million tonne capacity site.

The actual cost of the dig has to be confirmed in a vote by Regional council next Wednesday, but coun-

cil is expected to approve the dig ordered by the provincial government.

Mr. Kitchen said any artifacts that turn up at the Milton site will go to Halton Region Museum.

Test digging at the Milton site has revealed rock shavings that date back to buildings constructed 250 to 300 years ago. The provincial ministry is suggesting some artifacts could date back 500 years, Mr. Kitchen said.

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