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Used tire disposal an ongoing concern

The problem of disposing of old tires will only get worse in years to come, Halton Region's commissioner of public works, Robert Moore, recently told members of the planning and public works committee.

Committee members voted to support testing the use of scrap tires as fuel to run cement kilns as an environmental alternative to disposing of old tires in landfills.

Mr. Moore urged committee members to support the test burning of tire-derived fuel because "we (the Regional staff) feel test-burning is a logical and safe step (in the disposal) of scrap tires."

Jack Corbett, a waste disposal engineer for the Region, explained that currently the Region's transfer stations will only take up to five tires at a time. This policy is directed at the general public, he said.

Companies which generate large quantities of tires "make their own arrangements," he said.

But Mr. Corbett said when people try to trade in their old tires for new tires, tire companies are now charging a handling fee of from \$2 to \$3 per tire. Events like the Hagersville tire fire, he said, are discouraging companies from accepting old tires. And this means more people will start to bring their tires to the transfer station, Mr. Corbett speculated.

But the Region is finding that landfills in Niagara Falls and New York state, where the Region currently disposes of its garbage, are less willing to accept old tires. Mr. Corbett said Halton's landfill, which is scheduled to open in Milton in 1992, could handle scrap tires, but the Region is always looking for better ways of disposing of tires.

Regional chairman Peter Pomeroy said at the committee meeting "I agree with incineration if it is done properly. It can be safer than landfilling," he added.

The provincial Ministry of the Environment hasn't taken a stand either way on tire derived fuel but it has told companies if they want to try it, go ahead, Mr. Moore told councillors.

Chairman Pomeroy said the province should take a position on the issue because the Hagersville fire was "the biggest embarrassment the province has ever had."

French-speaking students get new building

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

French-speaking elementary school students from Georgetown, Acton and Milton will finally get a permanent building which is expected to open September, 1993.

The provincial government announced Friday a grant of \$4.5 million to the Halton Roman Catholic Separate School Board to build the new facility. The new building will be constructed somewhere in Georgetown.

French-speaking students in North Halton take classes at Sacre Coeur School in Georgetown in a building the Catholic board rents from the Halton Public School Board. Before the lease was signed two years ago, the building, which is located at the corner of Maple Avenue and Guelph Street, was

known as Wigglesworth Public School.

Teachers and Catholic board officials were pleased with the announcement.

Sacre Coeur principal Clarice Sheers likened teaching in a permanent school as opposed to a leased school, to owning a home as opposed to renting one. "You feel that much more comfortable in your own home."

Don Shrenk, chairman of the Halton Catholic School Board, tempered his enthusiasm for a September 1993 school opening, saying no construction will happen until the money starts flowing.

The Catholic board wants to open the new school for the beginning of the 1993/94 school year because the board's lease on the existing building ends in 1993, said Mr.

Shrenk.

But Mr. Shrenk was pleased that the province awarded the exact amount of money requested by the board in the 1990-95 capital forecast budget. This figure corresponds with the board's estimate for the cost of buying and building a school.

The new school will be for junior kindergarten through to Grade 8 and will have capacity to handle a total of 300 students, said Mr. Shrenk.

One hundred-and-forty students currently attend Sacre Coeur and that number is expected to increase over the next several years to about 200 students. Growth is attributed to the expansion of Georgetown, but only 20 Sacre Coeur students currently come from Acton and Milton.

Sacre Coeur has served French-speaking elementary students in North Halton since 1961. Before occupying its current location, it was run out of Holy Cross School on Maple Avenue for about 26 years.

For the past three years the French section of the board has listed a new school for Sacre Coeur students as a number one priority, said Mr. Shrenk.

That the school has been so well-attended for almost 30 years, said North Halton MPP Walt Elliot, was an indication to the province that a permanent school was necessary.

Mr. Elliot speculated the new school could offer a French immersion program as well as the core French curriculum.

But the board's Superintendent

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Rugby "friendly" ends in stalemate

North Halton Rugby Club hosted Guelph in a "friendly", Saturday afternoon at Neilson's Field on Sinclair Avenue, and battled back to tie the visitors, 23 on, a late-game penalty kick by Jamie Spiller. Guelph led the contest, 2-0 at halftime. Pictured above (in grey) from left to right, wing John Katsilieris, centre Mark Sheppard and fly-half Jamie Spiller, challenge a Guelph player for the ball while teammate Darrel Moffat looks on from the background. Guelph coach Jim Atkin-

son, manager of the Ontario under-21 team, was sufficiently impressed by the efforts of the North Halton Rugby Club and has invited three local players - Mark Sheppard, Mark Lamb and Wade Serjeantson - to try out for the provincial team. Although the schedule hasn't been finalized, it is expected that the North Halton Rugby Club will swing into Niagara-Southwestern Ontario league action, the week after the Victoria Day holiday weekend. (Herald Photo by Ben Dummett)