

David Ramsay says: Food, agriculture businesses must work together

The province's ministry of food and agriculture will have to work in partnership with Ontario's farmers and food processors if they are to compete on the world market, the provincial minister, David Ramsay, told about 150 industry people at the Ontario Agriculture and Museum in Milton last Wednesday.

"The industry is under siege from the outside," said the minister during a press conference following the meeting.

To combat the competition, the ministry presented a strategic plan in which the province acts as a leader to bring farmers and food processors together - a situation that doesn't always exist today, said Mr. Ramsay. But the plan only focused on generalities. Specifics will come later, said the minister.

The province can no longer dictate policy to the industry without first consulting the affected groups, said Mr. Ramsay.

"The idea has to come from the clients (farmers and food processors). It's the way of the future."

The \$17-billion a year food and agriculture industry is second only to the automobile and car parts industry in the province. The farming community produces \$6 billion a year of this total.

Mr. Ramsay's strategic plan highlights eight different industry related areas:

- to encourage the food and agriculture industry to become more self-directed;

- to improve technology and education not only in the food and agriculture field, but also in the areas of farm management, packaging and waste management;

- to get the industry to work hand in hand with other agencies to ensure clean soil, water and air;

- to make the industry more efficient to help them use trade initiatives such as the free trade agreement;

- to help the industry develop new markets. That means giving support to the province's foreign branches, one of which last year coordinated the sale of a large shipment of cows to Spain;

- to reassure the public that the food they eat is safe. Although Mr. Ramsay stressed that province-produced food is safe, the consumer has been receiving "mixed

signals" about the safety of their food supply;

- to support the province's rural community. "The agriculture community is only as strong as its rural community," said Mr. Ramsay;

- to create a work environment in which people working in the industry are encouraged to achieve their potential.



DAVID RAMSAY

Mr. Ramsay said within the next couple of months this plan will be circulated to the ministry's various branches throughout the province to find out what possible legislation and programs are needed to transform these generalities into specifics.



Be A Cool Cat And Check Out the Savings in the Classified Section.

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott questioned, if the Halton Hills bylaw disallowing parking for more than three hours at a time on some Georgetown and Acton streets should exist if the police enforce it inconsistently.

"Why have the bylaw if it is not enforced?" asked the councillor. "It's just not fair."

Town engineer Bob Austin said the three-hour parking limit bylaw is consistent with similar bylaws in the Region's other three municipalities. Oakville and Burlington enforce the bylaw to a large degree while Milton barely enforces it. Halton Hills stands in the middle. Mr. Austin told council members.

Mr. Austin would prefer that bylaw be enforced more often but he said that is impossible to do because the town lacks the necessary staff.

Council directed staff to ask the police if more discretion could be used in enforcing the three-hour parking limit bylaw.

Georgetown resident Duane Frerichs, who lives on Weber Drive, brought the issue of the bylaw to council after police recently ticketed his daughter's vehicle. The vehicle was parked outside Mr. Frerichs' house.

Mr. Frerichs requested in a letter that the town amend the bylaw so that its enforcement better reflects its intent.

"It was my understanding that the purpose of the bylaw was not to prevent our citizens from parking overnight on our streets but was to assist our public works department with snow removal during winter storms and give our police authority to ticket abandoned, and unlicensed vehicles as well as vehicles parked for extended periods on our streets," said Mr. Frerichs.

"Unfortunately the way the bylaw is written and enforced, rather than serving the community it frustrates and harasses many of its citizens and taxpayers."

Three-hour parking bylaw under scrutiny

Mr. Frerichs said his daughter can't park in the driveway because the back of the vehicle hangs over the sidewalk and this leads to the infringement of another town bylaw.

He urged council to ask police to make "liberal and generous use" of good common sense and discretion before issuing a ticket for parking on residential streets for more than three hours.

72 houses proposed for Norval hill

A development proposal calling for 72 single family homes just off Highway 7 and the Georgetown-Norval border is currently being reviewed by the Halton Hills planning staff.

Troisville Development Limited had originally made a proposal for 127 houses, 100 stacked townhouses and 130 commercial units but the developer scaled down the proposal after talking with Halton Region, said Arvin Prasard, a staff member for the town's planning department.

The proposal also calls for a road that will run along the houses and loop back to the entrance, said Mr. Prasard.

Land has also been set aside so that a possible entrance to the

development could be established off of Highway 7, added the planner.

The planning staff is waiting to hear the comments on the proposal from various agencies including the other town departments, the Region and the province's ministry of environment. Once these comments have been collected a public hearing will be held. The planning staff will then write a report based on these comments and its own investigation.

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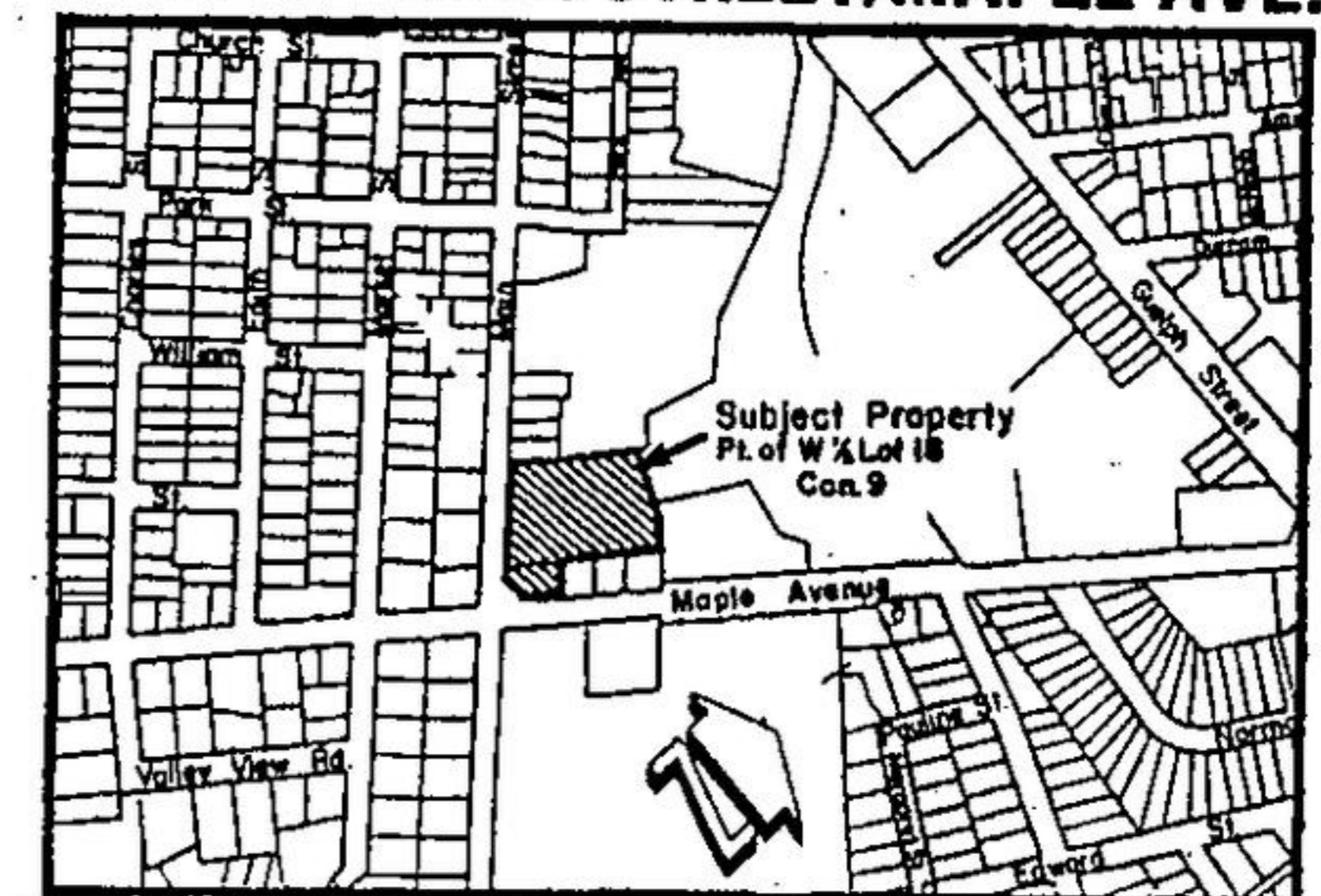
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING WARD 3 - MAIN STREET/MAPLE AVE.



Council will conduct a public meeting to examine and discuss an application to amend the Halton Hills Official Plan and Zoning By-law 57-91 to permit an 80 unit senior citizen apartment building. The subject property is located at the north east corner of the intersection of Main Street and Maple Avenue in the community of Georgetown and is described as part of Lot 18, Concession 9, Town of Halton Hills. The property is approximately 2.5 acres in area.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS WELCOME
For further information contact the Planning Department.

Time: 7:00 p.m.
Date: Monday, July 23, 1990
Location: Council Chambers, Civic Centre
1 Halton Hills Drive
Town of Halton Hills

File No.: W-89-42

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ATTENTION Elderly Homeowners in The Town of Halton Hills

You may qualify for a \$150 Tax Credit.

If you, your spouse or both meet all of the following requirements:

- *are 65 years or older on or before September 1st, 1990,
- *receive, as of September 1st, 1990, the monthly federal Guaranteed Income Supplement,
- *have owned residential property in the Town of Halton Hills for at least 5 years, immediately preceding September 1st, 1990 and
- *live in the property on which the municipal taxes have been levied,

you are eligible to receive the Town of Halton Hills 1990 Tax Credit for Elderly Homeowners.

If you qualify but have not received an application, or would like more information, call the Finance Department at 873-2600. Even if you received this Tax Credit for 1989, you must still apply for your 1990 credit.

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