

# Community



## Made in Glen Williams

Several area residents are putting together a short film, called 'The Tie' as part of their resume to help Glen Williams. Pictured from left to right are actor Calum Munro, Jeff Forsyth, boom operator Dave Triggerson and director Mark McLean. (Herald being shot on location at the Copper Kettle Pub in photo)

## Development freeze suggested by concerned resident

The Region's planning and public works committee was urged Wednesday to introduce a short-term freeze on development approvals in Halton until it has done a detailed study on available ground water supplies.

Speaking on behalf of Halton Hills resident Elsie Anderson, Waterloo hydrogeologist Wilf Ruland said, "neither the Region nor the province's Ministry of En-

vironment knows how much ground water is now available in Halton; what the optimum rate of use might be; or how close the amount of water being used is to the maximum available supply.

Mr. Ruland told committee members Ms. Anderson and other residents living in the area of Highway 25 and R.R. 3 are concerned about their well water supplies because of the development pressure in the area and the existence of wells with low levels of water. As well, the residents argue they lack the political clout to influence the Region on the issue of protecting water supply.

Acknowledging that the Region has concerns about the groundwater supplies in the Highway 25, R.R. 3 area because of development proposals including a golf course for that area, Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy said the Region is conducting a study to monitor well water supplies throughout Halton.

According to a Regional staff report, the study "will assess future Regional overall needs to determine if these needs can be met by anticipated supplies. A secondary purpose is to provide

guidance for the creation of development policies related to groundwater availability and quality."

Chairman Pomeroy also said before development is approved, water quantity and quality tests done by the developer are cross-examined by an independent hydrogeologist commissioned by the Region.

Mr. Ruland said he was unaware of these Regional policies but commended the committee that they were in place.

Chairman Pomeroy suggested that Halton's planning staff and Mr. Ruland meet the Region's position towards protecting groundwater supplies could be further explained.

"Information doesn't always flow as well as it could (out to the public), said the chairman.

But Milton Regional councillor Bill Johnston was more explicit in his support for Mr. Ruland saying he wouldn't support any development proposal for the rural area until the study on groundwater was finished.

"We don't know the drawdown effect" of current development on the water supply, he said.

## Changes suggested by French language advisory group

Education Minister Marion Boyd announced several measures to improve French language education in Ontario recently, including the creation of an advisory group, and additional French-language school boards.

The French Language Education Governance Advisory Group was announced by the previous government in June, explained Ms. Boyd, "and we are fulfilling that commitment."

The Advisory Group will recommend to the Ministry criteria for the creation of French-language school boards and will propose alternative approaches to French-language governance.

The five-member team represents both French and English-language education communities and is scheduled to begin work immediately. It is scheduled to present its recommendations to the minister by May 15, 1991.

Ms. Boyd also announced that changes will be made to the current Education Act to allow for the creation of additional French-language school boards.

Under current legislation, new school boards can only be established at the time of regular school board elections. Proposed amendments to the Education Act would permit the establishment of French-language school boards between elections.

As well, Ms. Boyd announced that discussions will begin with the communities of Prescott-Russell and Simcoe County where the issue of French-language governance is of pressing concern.

## Region staff urged to become involved in quarry proposal

The Region's planning and public works committee recommended Wednesday that staff try to become more involved in the province's review of the Acton quarry dump proposal.

The province's Ministry of Environment is now reviewing new documents submitted by the quarry's owners, Reclamations Systems Incorporated of Milton, that further explain the company's technical evidence submitted to show the dump would be safe.

The MOE's official review of these documents is scheduled to finish Dec. 19. But committee members recommended staff ask the province to extend the deadline until Jan. 31. The recommendation will go before Regional council this Wednesday.

The review of RSI's hydrogeological documents would be too complex to complete by Dec. 19, according to a Regional staff report.

The report goes on to explain that the MOE doesn't normally include comments made by municipalities in its official review because the ministry perceives these comments not to be technical in nature. But the report's author, Regional planner Bruce Kitchen, said the Region's review of the company's original documents in 1989 was based on a technical assessment. Therefore, said Mr. Kitchen, the current review would also be based on a technical analysis of RSI's most recent submission.

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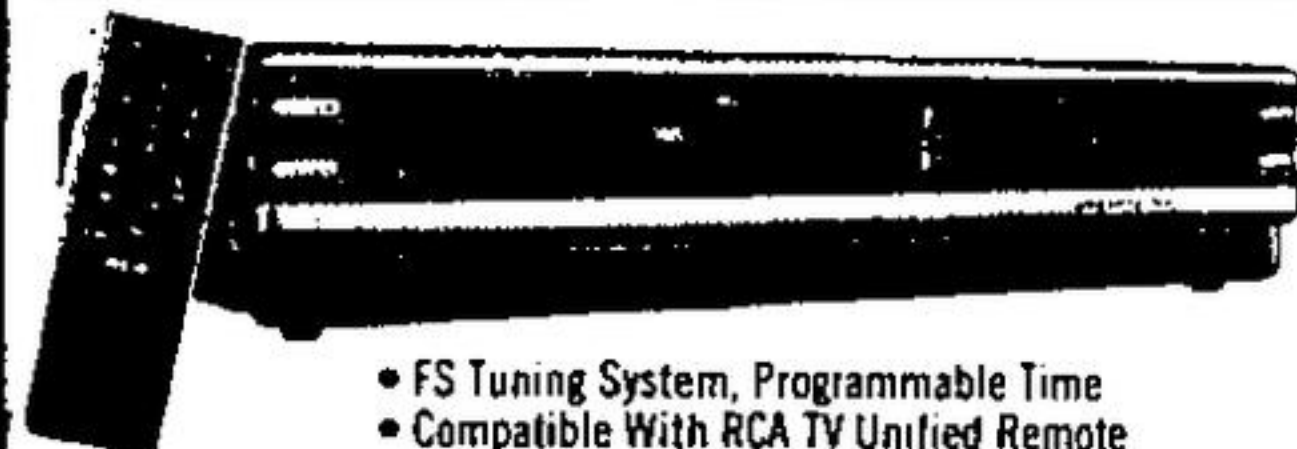
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