

# Community

## CVCA may take Region to court

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority will take Halton Region to court if the Region doesn't pay its share of the authority's 1991 budget, said CVCA General Manager Vicki Barron, Friday.

The Region has until Dec. 30 to pay the \$1,300 it owes to the CVCA, said Ms. Barron. If the amount is not paid, "legal action will be taken to get the funds," said the general manager.

Municipalities within the area under the jurisdiction of the CVCA must contribute funds to the authority's annual budget in accordance with how much area within the municipality the CVCA covers. In Halton, the authority has jurisdiction over the Credit River watershed.

Regional Treasurer, Joe Rinaldo, said Regional staff is currently meeting with the province to determine if the province

will pay the \$1,300.

The Region has refused to pay the \$1,300 because the province is obligated to pay the sum, said Mr. Rinaldo.

In previous years, the province has paid 55 per cent of the authority's budget but this year it has only covered 46 per cent. That means the authority has requested its member municipalities to make up the difference. The Region, therefore, is required to pay \$1,300 more than it normally would.

Halton refuses to pay the \$1,300 in a show of defiance meant to emphasize it will no longer provide funds previously paid by the province.

Halton has also refused to pay \$141,000 of the amount it owes Halton Region Conservation Authority for the same reason.

Mr. Rinaldo said the Region is meeting with provincial employees to help solve the

dilemma.

The HRCA will shut its doors during December if it doesn't receive the \$141,000, according to the General Manager, Murray Stephen.

The CVCA won't suffer the same fate if the Region refuses to pay the \$1,300 because the amount represents a relatively insignificant percentage of the authority's budget, said Ms. Barron.

If Peel Region had taken the same action then the authority

would be shut down, she said. Peel contributes about 80 per cent of the money member municipalities contribute annually to the CVCA's budget.

Meanwhile, the CVCA is meeting with the province to determine if it can have more control over the spending of its budget, said Ms. Barron.

Currently, the province dictates how much of an authority's budget is spent on capital projects, and now much is spent on operating expenses.



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## Pay equity will cost town cash

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

The Town of Halton Hills pay equity program, introduced this past summer, was meant to create wage parity among the town's 114 employees, but almost half appealed their salary increases.

The town's Administrator-Clerk, Dan Costea, who heads up the appeal committee, said the committee heard appeals from 53 of the 114 employees.

Mr. Costea said the salary adjustments resulting from the appeals will be posted in the Civic Centre at the end of the month. He wouldn't comment on how many of the appeals were decided in favor of the appellants.

The town's Appeal Committee took almost two months to hear the appeals. Town employees had three months after the pay equity program was approved by council in late June to appeal their wage adjustment, said Mr. Costea.

The program is expected to cost \$500,000 over the next five years to implement. The town's treasurer, Ray King, said at the time of the program's approval that some of the cost will be covered by tax revenue but he wasn't able to give an amount.

Mr. King was unavailable at press time to comment whether the wage adjustments resulting from the appeals would affect the program's total cost.

Mr. Costea refused to comment

on the wage increases approved during the appeal process.

Mr. Costea said he thinks now the appeals have been heard and the salary adjustments completed, the town's pay schedule is fair.

Mr. Costea, however, isn't convinced the system is that good. The program "leaves a lot to be desired" because it originally created a discrepancy in the town employee wage schedule that didn't exist before the provincial program was introduced, he explained.

Initial wage adjustments completed this summer were based on 18 job categories. Each category is comprised of five different levels and the town's administration compared levels in each category to find out which levels corresponded. The salaries of each corresponding level were then adjusted accordingly.

Jobs were compared on the basis of 12 categories including required education and mental stress, said Mr. Costea. Employees could only appeal their wage adjustment on one or more of these criteria, said Mr. Costea.

"There was a really wide difference" among the reasons people appealed, he said. But when questioned why there were so many appeals, Mr. Costea said, many of the employees failed to submit information about their job initially not realizing it would be important.

## Treatment plant repairs

The Georgetown waste water treatment plant will probably become a safer work place by the end of this year.

The Region's planning and public works committee recommended Wednesday that entrance closures be installed at the plant and the steel railing be repaired at a total cost of \$23,000.

The recommendation will go before Regional council this Wednesday.

The railing repairs and entrance closures are needed for safety reasons, according to a Regional report.

The Region has assurances from the contractors the work will be completed by the end of December, the report indicates.

## Hydro fees to jump

Ontario Hydro's electrical inspection fees will increase on January 1 for the first time in more than two years.

Roger Staig, Hydro's manager of electrical inspection, said increases will average 10 per cent, and affect all residential, commercial and industrial installations.

Staig said the construction boom and productivity improvements enabled Hydro to avoid increases during the period since October, 1988, but costs have risen to the point where an adjustment became necessary.

The new inspection fee for a typical single detached residence will be \$86, up from the current \$78.

For public safety, the Electrical Safety Code requires inspection of electrical work.

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