

Environment

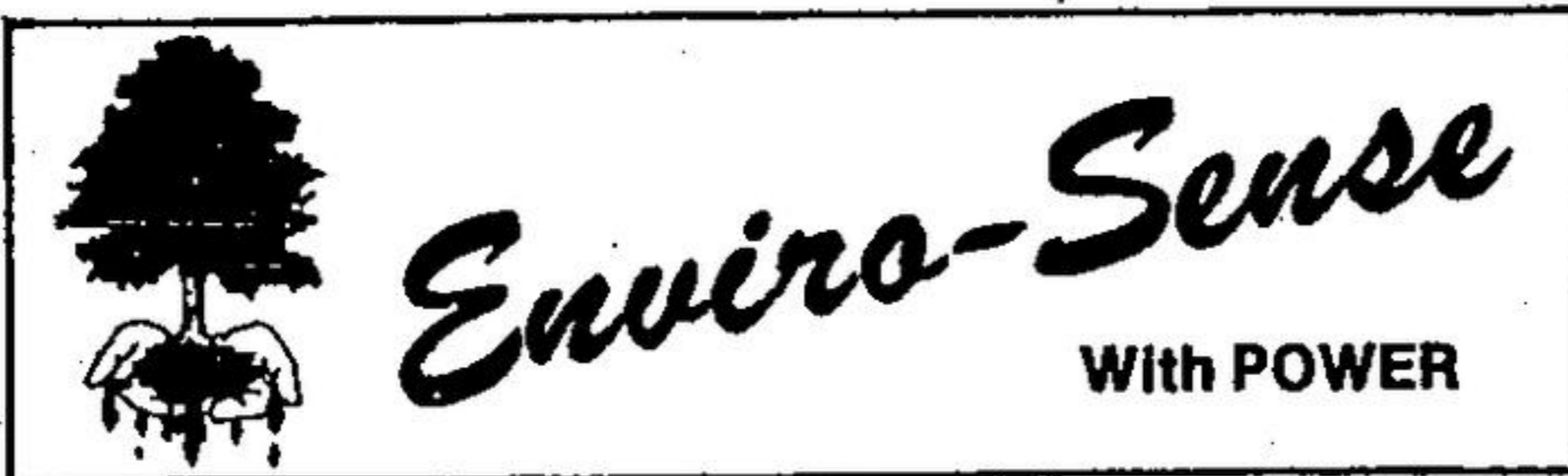
P.O.W.E.R. presents brief to Board of Education

P.O.W.E.R. presented a brief to the Halton Board of Education Environmental Policy Development Committee. The following is the portion that was prepared by Joan Davison M.Ed. Mrs. Davison is presently a doctoral student at O.I.S.E.

Curriculum Suggestions for The Halton Board of Education on Teaching Environmental Courses For Administrators, Teachers and High School Students:

1. Find out what differing theories of conservation are out there. For example, Sustainable Development is one of fifteen theories on how to save the planet. It is one of four theories that have their base in the dominant world view (or paradigm) that underpins all Western economic, social, cultural, psychic and religious activity. The other eleven theories come out of alternative emerging world views. It is disturbing, but exciting to encounter these alternative ways of looking at the world. Certainly senior students should be exposed to them.

2. Any environmental program worth its salt will have to challenge powerful interest groups in our society. Here is one example: 40% of our landfills are made up of paper products. Forestry is a major industry in Canada; it is estimated that one in ten Canadians are employed either directly or indirectly in the industry. We know that rapidly vanishing forests are the world's lung as they absorb the CO2 which is building up constantly in the atmosphere, one cause of global warming. Ecologically speaking, it makes sense to declare an immediate halt to clear cut logging. But how will we deploy one tenth of Canada's labour force? Are we willing to endure short term pain for long term gain? The next biggest industry in Canada is the automobile industry; automobiles are also a major



cause of global warming. It makes enviro-sense to stop car manufacture. Does it make social and economic sense?

3. Take the global view. That involves some pretty serious soul-searching of our affluent Western life-style which is based on the exploitation not only of the environment, but of Third World Peoples. It is pointless to ask South Americans to stop cutting down their rainforests when their creditors, the World Bank and affluent nations like Canada and the United States hold them to high interest rates on their loans. What would be the result, for instance, if the developed world immediately cancelled all debts to developing countries in return for stopping deforestation in their part of the world?

4. Military spending takes huge chunks of our national budgets. The U.S. military continues to test nuclear weapons in the Nevada desert. Weapons testing is also a major cause of ozone depletion. (Though it doesn't get mentioned in the newspapers). The cost of one day's military spending in the U.S. would go a long way to helping India or the Sub-Sahara region phase in simple technology such as wells for clean water or wind-powered electricity for poor villages. Senior students should know these facts. They could be encouraged to engage in political activism to challenge Canada's part in excessive military spending.

To be really serious about teaching the environmental truth to high school students, you will have to be willing to open up an

economic and political "can of worms." This could upset people. But better to be upset than have a planet unfit for human life later!

5. Break the myths. For example, one myth is that the Third World population explosion is outpacing the world's ability to support it. The truth that does not always get told is that the North American child uses thirty-five times the energy of a third world child. While it would probably be a good thing to have an overall reduction in human population, modern industrial nations who hold the world's purse strings and engage in environmentally destructive practices in third world countries are still the main culprits.

For Primary School Students:

6. Teach young children to love the planet. Give them lots of time exploring out of doors, lots of nature study, and lots of running and playing in the sunshine and snow. (Hopefully the sun's rays will still have not got too much ultra-violet in them and hopefully we will have not too much acid in our snow).

For Parents:

7. A massive adult education program. Concerned parents will need to be aware of what their children are learning.

For All Young People:

8. Heavy emphasis on practical strategies:

(a) What can I do in my home today to improve the environment?

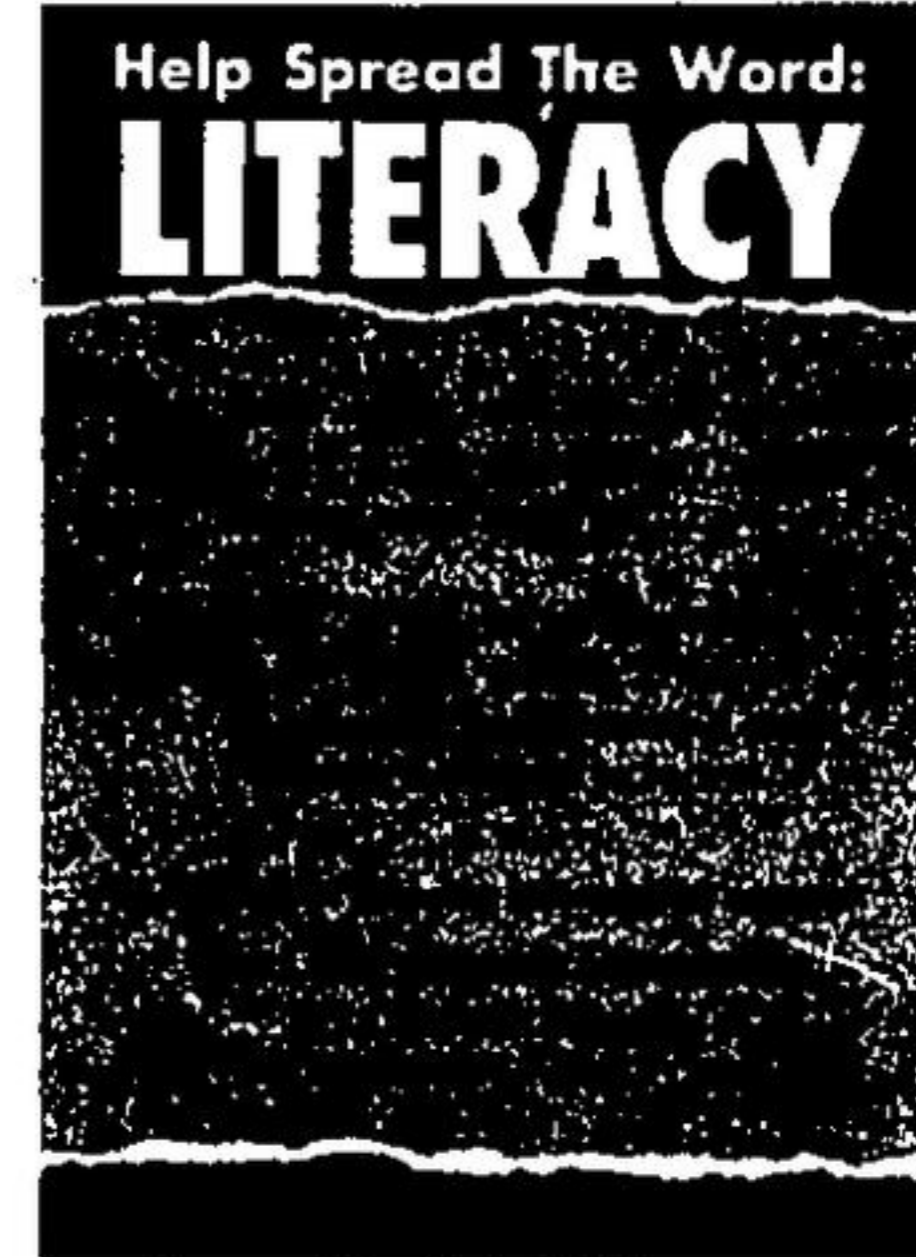
(b) What can we students do in our own classroom and school today?

(c) What can I do in my part-time job this week?

(d) What can we as young people do in our community? NOW! Young people like to see immediate results. Let them do the environmentally friendly activities and see the results. Empower them!

A world that is accepting of diversity. (As nature revels in diversity).

Finally, for Everyone:
9. Give them a vision:
One world
A healthy world
A just world
A beautiful world
A loving world



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Environment ministry lab expands

A \$13.8 million contract has

ECOLINE
by Catherine Foley
Caring for Our Resources

Every 1°C you turn down your thermostat saves about 5% on your energy bill.

Energy needed to heat an average new Canadian home (kWh per year)

Thermostat setting (°C)	Energy (kWh per year)
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20°	26,000
19°	24,000
18°	22,000

• Wear an extra warm sweater and turn down the thermostat.
• Install a timer on the thermostat so your house is heated only when needed.

Source: Solar Energy Society of Canada

been awarded to EGM Cape and Company Ltd., of North York for renovations to the Ministry of the Environment laboratory at 125 Resources Road in the Highway 401/Islington Ave. area of Metro Toronto.

The announcement was made by Minister of Government Services and Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet Frances Lankin, and Environment Minister Ruth Grier.

"Expansion of the laboratory complex supports regulatory requirements of the Environment ministry, while providing the latest facilities and equipment to the worker," said Ms. Lankin, whose ministry is providing project management throughout the renovation.

"When completed, the centre will house the most sophisticated research and analytical environmental complex of its kind in North America. This project will consolidate the technology arms of the ministry and will

speed the delivery of regulatory programs," said Mrs. Grier.

"The mobile laboratory fleet of the ministry will be located at Resources Road, so it will be close to a major thoroughfare and improve emergency response capability. The development will also feature one of the most modern dioxin testing laboratories on the continent," she added.

The work will take two years to complete and will include adding a new floor to the west wing and renovating the existing laboratories.

Mechanical contractors on the project will be Steen Contractors Ltd., of Toronto and the electrical contractors will be Industrial Electric Contractors Ltd., of Weston.

The architectural firm engaged by the Ministry of Government Services for this project is Fisher Glaister, of Toronto. Also some portions of the work have been designed by Ministry staff.

THE CORPORATION OF THE
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive - P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown), Ontario L7G 5G2
873-2600

APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills will be considering appointments to the Boards and Committees outlined below. Applications, together with a short resume will be received until January 14th, 1991. If you are interested in applying for membership in more than one Committee, please list those you are interested in applying for in order of priority. Please note that a Committee of Council will be interviewing applicants and making recommendations to Council.

ACTIVAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Two (2) members are needed for a three-year period to join three other members of the public and two Councillors on this Committee. The Committee meets up to six (6) times per year and discusses policy for the Town ActiVan Service. ActiVan is a public transit service for handicapped residents of the Town.

PROPERTY STANDARDS COMMITTEE
One (1) member is needed to join two other members, for a term ending December 1993. The Committee meets to hear appeals of property owners from Orders to Comply, issued by Property Standards Officers. Applicants should be residents of the Town who are not Town employees.

LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
One (1) member is needed to serve on this Committee for a three-year term. The Committee advises Council on the designation of buildings of historic and architectural interest under the Ontario Heritage Act.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD STATE:
(a) The office or offices for which you are applying.
(b) The names, addresses and qualifications of the applicant, as well as a telephone number by which you may be reached during business hours.

For more information regarding the Committee, please telephone 873-2600, extension 336, and ask for a brochure to be mailed to you.

Please apply in writing.

Stephen Thomson
Administrative Assistant
Town of Halton Hills
P.O. Box 128
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