

Council hears solution to Acton dump proposal

Residents opposed to the Acton dump proposal believe they have a sure-fire way the Town can use to kill the project. However, judging by Town councillors' reaction to the idea at Monday's Council meeting, the idea was received with little enthusiasm.

Gord Vandevalk representing the group, Furiously Opposed to Acton Dumping, (F.O.A.D.), told Council the Town has ammunition to force United Aggregates, the quarry owner, to reconstruct the Third Line so that it once again goes through the property where the quarry now exists.

If the road was reconstructed through the quarry property, then a

dump couldn't be established in the quarry.

Based on Mr. Vandevalk's presentation and those of Len Landry and Pat Woode, Council referred all of the information presented at the meeting to the Town lawyer for a legal opinion.

While impressed by the presentation, councillors remained uncertain whether the information would hold up in a court of law.

The crux of Mr. Vandevalk's position rests on a 1974 agreement signed by the Town and Indusmin, the quarry's previous owner. That agreement called for Indusmin to reconstruct the Third Line through the quarry.

However, the agreement was not



registered on title. Therefore the Town's legal council has said United Aggregates is not obligated to fulfil the 1974 agreement.

Mr. Vandevalk claimed if the reconstruction portion of the agreement is void, then the entire agreement should be void. That would mean the Town owns the Third Line and has every right to immediately start reconstructing the road through the quarry property, he reasoned.

Coun. Al Cook urged Town legal staff to present Council with a legal

opinion on all of the issues by this Monday.

Barriers needed

Town Councillors were urged Monday to erect safety barriers where Sideroad 27 meets the Eighth Line near Ballinafad or face a possible disaster sometime in the future.

Daphne Shropshall of the Hickory Falls Ratepayer group told councillors, at some point in the future a pedestrian walking in this scenic area will probably be killed by a speeding car unless barriers are erected.

She presented councillors with pictures of two different car accidents that happened recently at the corner in which the vehicles involved were "total write-offs."

Council directed staff to write a report outlining what action could be taken to improve the situation.

Fairy Lake bylaw

Town Councillors recommended Monday a bylaw that better regulates activity on Fairy Lake be approved.

The bylaw was introduced in reaction to the lake coming under Town ownership. Recreation and Parks Director Tom Shepard told

councillors the bylaw will provide the Town with legal protection if a libel suit is filed against it in connection with the lake.

Although councillors supported the bylaw, they did so only after changes were made. These included, permission for boaters to use the lake after sunset, as well as, permission to use electrically-operated motor-boats.

Funding provided

Town councillors learned Monday developers wanting to build in Ballinafad will contribute approximately \$15,000 to the funding of the Ballinafad Community Study.

The study is meant to determine where in Ballinafad development should proceed.

According to a staff report, the study would not have been able to go ahead without the developers' money. The province had originally agreed to provide necessary funding but backed out because of fiscal constraints, the report indicates.

Residents living in the Ballinafad area said following the meeting, the acceptance of developer money means Town planning staff may be biased when conducting the study.

Region Briefs

Study deferred

Halton Region has no intention of repeating past mistakes made in connection with identifying additional sewage capacity for Georgetown.

Region Planning and Public Works Committee has recommended that the hiring of a consultant to carry out the necessary study be deferred until concerned residents have had a chance to provide input into the decision.

The Region has had to backtrack on this study, because of concerns raised by the public over the lack of input allowed by the Region from residents early on in the process when the study was first carried out.

The deferral is for two-weeks to give members of the Georgetown-based ratepayers group, Silver Creek Valley Group, a chance to offer its input into the selection of a consultant.

Regional staff recommend the \$215,000 contract be awarded to Toronto's M.M. Dillon Limited.

"For a project of this nature, which is very sensitive to the public and will have a high level of public involvement, staff were of the opinion that the M.M. Dillon proposal was the strongest in the critical areas that would lead to a successful completion of this project," indicates a staff report.

Chairman Peter Pomeroy remains unimpressed.

Before giving the company his endorsement he wants details on how the public will be involved in determining how to increase Georgetown's sewage capacity.

Study held up

Halton Region Planning and Public Works Committee has recommended deferring a \$120,000 Region-wide hydrogeologic study until budget deliberations, which start later this fall.

The study is to determine the amount of groundwater available in Halton to service further rural development, and where the groundwater is located.

Staff told committee the \$150,000 would only be sufficient funding to start the study. To complete the

study another \$300,000 would be required.

Based on this information, a majority of committee members decided it would be more appropriate to defer the initial expense and determine during the budget process if the entire cost could be included in next year's budget.

Halton's future

Advocating more green space and less reliance on cars for transportation, Halton's Official Plan Review document has received strong public support, says Regional Planner Rash Mohammed.

The public appears to only have concern with the proposal to prevent farmers from severing a piece of their property to use as a retirement lot, Mr. Mohammed told, Halton's Planning and Public Works Committee.

Committee members expressed a similar concern, and as a result, directed staff to investigate the possibility of retaining the right of farmers to create a retirement lot while ensuring the privilege isn't abused.

Pilot project recommended

Halton residents may someday be able to include plastic bags as part of the material they put in their Blue Box for recycling.

Halton Planning and Public Works Committee has recommended staff carry out a pilot project in Burlington to determine if plastic bags are viable recycling material.

The pilot project will determine the cost of collecting and recycling the plastic bags and whether or not there are a sufficient number of markets to handle the recycled product, John Mackay, Halton's Recycling Coordinator, told committee members.

The pilot project's cost is \$25,000, all of which is being funded by the province.

If the project is deemed viable, said Mr. Mackay, then it could start running Region-wide in 1993.

Bar-hopping for health

By BEN DUMMETT
the Herald

Local residents probably wouldn't expect a lesson on how to protect themselves from contracting Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, (AIDS) when they visit their local watering hole, but that's exactly what may happen as early as December.

Janice Benson, Halton's AIDS Coordinator, said Friday there are plans to bring the Region's AIDS prevention Bar Campaign to Milton and Halton Hills later this year.

The campaign involves public health nurses visiting bars in a community promoting the "Play it Safe" message. The message being, wear a condom while engaging in sexual activity.

The Region has already run the program in Burlington and Oakville with much success, said Ms. Benson.

"Bar owners were calling us requesting we visit their establishment," she said.

According to Ms. Benson, 21 nurses visited 17 bars in Oakville and Burlington over the summer armed with a range of pamphlets on educational information about AIDS.

Nurses found a lot of the people they talked to were unaware of the issues, said Ms. Benson.

She explained several people incorrectly believed only homosexuals, lesbians and intravenous drug users are susceptible to contracting the AIDS virus.

Ms. Benson points out, while statistics show a majority of AIDS victims are members of the homosexual or drug community, anyone can contract the virus if precautions are ignored.

By aiming AIDS education at all sectors of the community, the number of non-homosexual or drug users who contract the disease won't reach as high as the numbers associated with the "risk groups" explained Ms. Benson.

The Bar Campaign is primarily aimed at people in their 20's, said Ms. Benson. This is the group who had graduated from high school prior to AIDS education being incorporated into high school curriculum.

Nurses participating in the Oakville and Burlington Bar Campaign found people other than those in their 20's were also interested in finding out more about the disease.

Parents and grandparents had a lot of questions, most of which centred on how they should talk to their children and grandchildren about the virus, said Ms. Benson.

The idea for the Bar Campaign came in the wake of successful programs in Hamilton and Perth.

Ms. Benson couldn't say what bars in Halton Hills nurses will visit once the program comes north.

Volunteers sought for numerous community programs

The Fall is a time of year when many local agencies are offering excellent training opportunities for volunteers. If you are interested in developing new skills and in gaining valuable experience, the following are just a few of the many training opportunities now available.

Victim Services Unit of the Halton Region Police Force needs volunteers to help victims of crime. Their training program consists of four, three-hour sessions and covers areas such as, domestic violence, sexual assault, assault and child abuse.

North Halton Distress and Information Centre offers a training program for new volunteers, starting on October 2, 1991 and running for six consecutive Wednesday evenings.

If you would like more information on these or on many other volunteer opportunities, call your local Volunteer Centre at 877-3219.



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