

Hospital funding cutbacks create "dilemma"

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directors, are now studying their options, Mr. Oliver said the dilemma will be solved at least in part by delivering services more efficiently.

Mr. Oliver said the hospital has already taken steps towards achieving this goal by purchasing equipment to do Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy (gallbladder) surgery.

This new procedure significantly reduces the hospital stay of a patient after surgery, resulting in a happier patient and lower hospital costs, said Mr. Oliver.

According to recent statements by Ontario Health Minister Frances Lankin, cholesterol testing and caesarian sections could be two areas in which hospitals could cut costs.

Mr. Oliver said Georgetown hospital does fewer caesarian sec-

tions per number of pregnant women delivering at the hospital than the provincial average.

Mr. Oliver points out the decision to do a caesarian section is the doctor's call.

There are no definitive provincial guidelines doctors are required to follow when deciding whether or not a caesarian section should be performed, he said.

However, Mr. Oliver did say the

hospital can review the criteria its doctors are using to make the decision and ensure this criteria follows that of other hospitals known to provide good quality obstetrical care.

As for cholesterol testing, Mr. Oliver explained the publicity surrounding the unhealthiness of having high cholesterol during the

past few years has resulted in an increase by the public for cholesterol testing.

To reduce this demand, Mr. Oliver said, the public must be better educated on when and how often cholesterol testing is necessary.

Current requests for the test can range from occasionally to every other week, he said.

Pomeroy garnering support

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

Although uncommitted, area Regional councillors see no reason why they wouldn't support the re-appointment of Halton Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy on Dec. 4.

It's on this day the newly-elected Regional council elects a new Regional Chairman for the new three-year political term.

Local Regional councillors, Pam Johnston, Marilyn Serjeantson and Mayor Russ Miller all agreed Mr. Pomeroy did an excellent job representing Halton in the position of Regional chairman during the last three years.

Neophyte Regional councillor Bill Robson, who ousted incumbent Ward 4 Regional councillor Joe Hewitt in the recent election, said he knows Mr. Pomeroy but as far as voting for him, he wouldn't comment until after meeting him.

A lot of people think Mr. Pomeroy has done a good job, especially in the area of creating a balanced situation between Halton's northern and southern municipalities, added Mr. Robson.

Mr. Pomeroy said recently he is undecided on whether he will declare his candidacy for the



PETE POMEROY

\$70,000 per year position.

He first wants to meet with the new Regional council to discuss the current police investigation into possible wrongdoings by Halton elected and non-elected officials before making a final decision.

Any eligible voter in Halton can run for the chairman position as long as the person has the support of two Regional councillors.

John Fleming, Halton's Chief Administrative Officer, compares the

chairman's role to that of a mayor. The Chairman is the leader of Regional Council, said Mr. Fleming.

In practice, the chairman is usually someone with council background at some level, he said.

Mayor Miller said he couldn't comment on who he would vote for until he knew who exactly was running for the chairman position.

However, he added "in my opinion Mr. Pomeroy is the best chairman the Region has ever had."

"I'm very pleased with everything he has done," added Mayor Miller.

Like Mayor Miller, Ms. Johnston wouldn't confirm or deny her support for Mr. Pomeroy saying, "I always make a decision at the council table when I have all the facts."

However, she did say in her years as a councillor she has never seen anyone like Mr. Pomeroy handle the job so capably.

"He is well-respected in and outside the Region," she added.

Ms. Serjeantson said of Chairman Pomeroy, "I have no reason not to support him, he has done a great job. He's most likely been the most effective Region chairman in the Greater Toronto Area."



Dressed-up darlings

These little darlings (left to right) Taryn Donoghue, Bobby Burke and Megan Burke stole the show at Elizabeth's Fashions and Bridal Boutique

Fashion Show at Bishop Reding High School in Milton recently. Over 30 exhibitors were present at the show. (Photo submitted)

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