

'Canada's Leading Leather Store'



OPEN  
10-10  
DAILY

853-1031

'It's Worth The Drive To Acton'

VOLUME 6 -- NO. 22

Halton Hills

WEEKEND

The Georgetown Independent and Acton Free Press

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1990

A Metroland Community Newspaper Serving all Halton Hills and District

LEATHERTOWN  
**WEST**  
ACTON-ONTARIO-CANADA  
WEAR-HOUSE

OPEN 10-8 DAILY  
12 Church St. E. 853-0506

32 PAGES/50 CENTS

HALTON HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
GEORGETOWN

# Wiring blamed for Ballinafad blaze



## Dousing the flames

Halton Hills firefighters quickly worked to extinguish a fire at a vacant house on Trafalgar Rd. north of Ballinafad Tuesday. The local firefighters were joined by men from the Erin and Hillsburgh fire

departments. The fire caused about \$12,000 damage to the vacant house.

SCOTT KLINE/Week End

Faulty electrical wiring is being blamed for a fire that caused approximately \$12,000 damage to a Ballinafad home late Tuesday afternoon.

According to the Halton Hills Fire Department, the fire began on the second floor of the house, causing damage to the roof and part of the kitchen below. Firefighters later discovered an arcing hydro wire lying in the yard.

Halton Hills firefighters were the first to respond to the scene, followed by members of the Hillsburgh and Erin Fire Departments.

No injuries were reported in the blaze, but Hillsburgh firefighters returned the next day to extinguish smoldering embers left over from the fire.

The house, located north of the village on Trafalgar Rd., was undergoing renovations at the time of the fire, according to owner Tibando Ross. Approximately \$4,000 was spent on the home improvements over the last few weeks, he added.

"We were fixing the house up so we could rent it out," Ross told the *Week End* while firefighters battled the blaze. "I guess it will be more work now."

According to Ross, he and his son and another worker were "outside having a drink, when we heard an explosion and the bloody thing (the house) was in smoke." Ross' son quickly called the fire department on his cellular phone, he added.

"I never believed in car phones before but I'm starting to now," he said.

Ironically that same night at the Ballinafad Community Centre was a Fire Safety Education Night conducted by the Halton Hills and Hillsburgh Fire Departments. The meeting was organized by village residents who have been concerned about Ballinafad's fire protection. Concern became widespread in the village after a home was gutted by fire last spring.

"Fires are devastating things - both financially and personally," said Halton Hills Fire Prevention Officer John Martin. They're always going to happen, he said, but education will reduce the percentage.

Martin and firefighters Gary Robertson and Guy Kirby of Hillsburgh explained to the approximately 30 people attending the dangers of fire and the importance of fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and emergency plan.

## \$1.4 billion budget concerns school trustees

By ANGELA BLACKBURN  
The Halton Board of Education's finance committee is expanding.

In a year being labelled a "tight budget year" the board's usual finance committee will become a committee of the whole -- requiring every trustee as a member.

"The idea came up during my performance review discussion with the board in June," Education Director Bob Williams told

trustees at last Thursday's board meeting.

"It was clear that the most significant issue facing our system in the next year is our financial situation. Trustees felt that the issue was so important that all board members should participate on finance committee in its deliberations for the 1991 budget," said Williams.

Trustees will be voting on the item in two weeks time.

Ward 4 trustee and 1990 finance committee chairman Patty Wilcox said two Monday night meetings will be set aside in early October for a review of the functional budget.

Board chairman Pat Hillhouse said the media as well as others who have expressed an interest in the board's budget or budget process will be invited to attend the two meetings along with trustees.

Those meetings will be held on

Monday, Oct. 22 and Monday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Halton Room of the board's 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington administration offices.

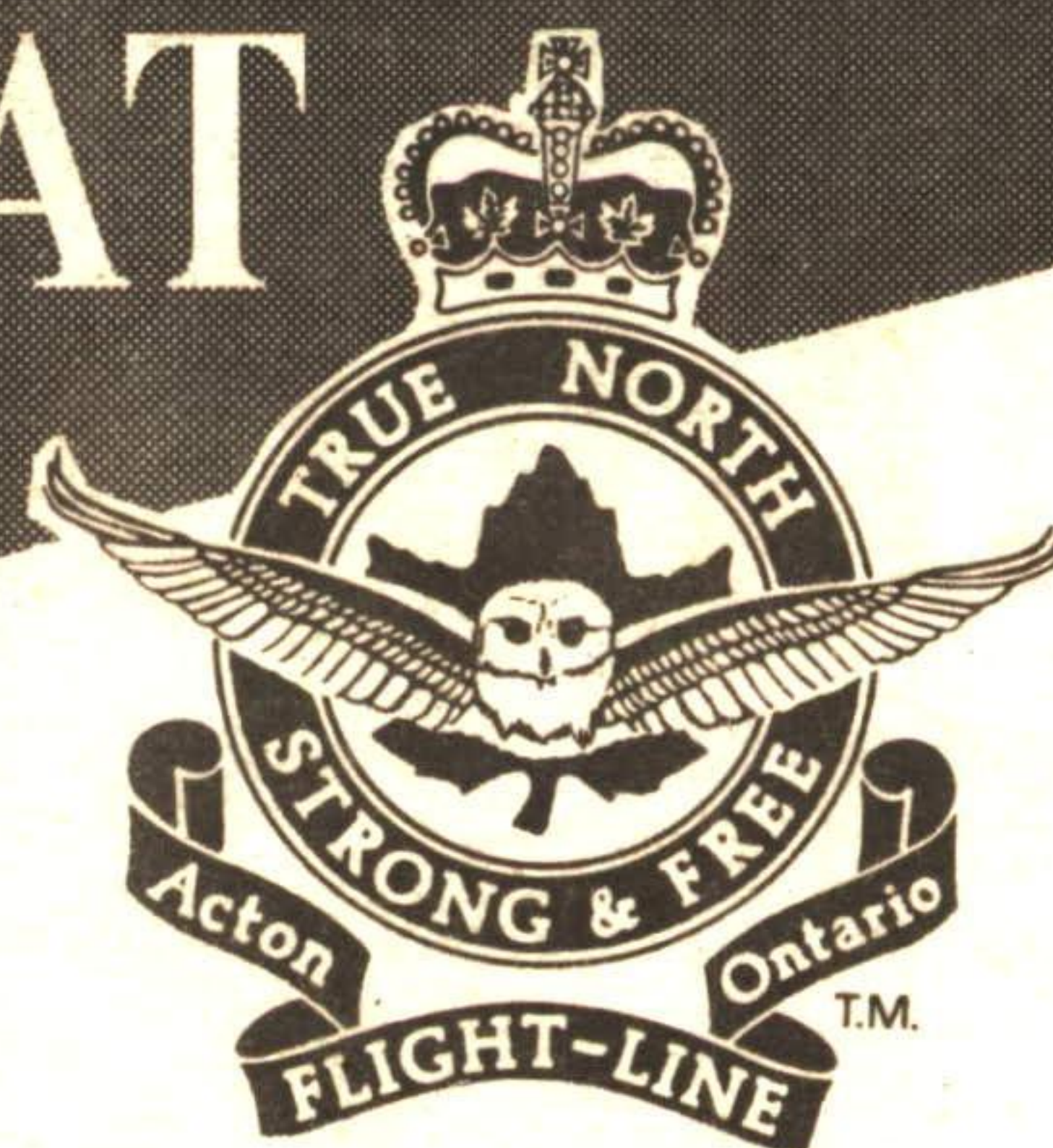
Last year the board took a lot of criticism over its 14.59% budget hike -- a jump that brought the board's 1990 budget to just under the quarter billion mark.

(Angela Blackburn is a reporter with our sister newspaper, *The Oakville Beaver*.)

# PRE - SEASON COAT

# SALE!

• Save on selected leather & suede garments for men, women and children •



7-11 Mill Street, East  
853-3433 • Open 10-8 Daily

# SAVE UP TO 40%

Off M.S.L. Prices - While Quantities Last