## Legal fight brewing with conservation authority

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amount Ontario was supposed to have contributed according to cost-sharing legislation and the amount it actually produced.

Regional Treasurer Joe Rinaldo said "a significant shift" has occurred in the cost-sharing ratio between area municipalities and the Province — from 50/50 to about 57/43.

But the HRCA says Halton is legally bound to make up the difference by paying the full \$1.85 million amount levied against it. If it doesn't, Stephen said Wednesday, the authority "may enforce payment" through the courts.

"The municipality has a prob-

## Holy Cross Bazaar

On Saturday, Nov. 3 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. a Christmas Bazaar will be held at Holy Cross Parish. Unique crafts, baking, sewing, knitting, fruit cakes, plants, a white elephant sale and

lem, no doubt about it," HRCA member Paul Farley told council, "but its problem is not with the conservation authority — it's with the Province.

"It would be a shame to end up in a confrontation that could end up in court. That would be a sad day for this Region."

Stephen said the authority might seek a bank loan if it runs

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9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

out of cash Dec. 1, and Farley said there's no alternative but to close the HRCA administrative office. Burlington Councillor Jim Grieve said neither route is the correct business approach.

"You modify your expenditures (to make it through)," he advised the HRCA. "The taxpayers of Halton can't afford this, and it's totally unacceptable in

my mind to try and foist it on us." Councillor Rob Forbes, also of

Burlington, ascertained that the cost-sharing arrangement is spelled out in a Cabinet Order-in-Council. He suggested Halton could sue the Provincial government to carry out its own Orderin-Council.

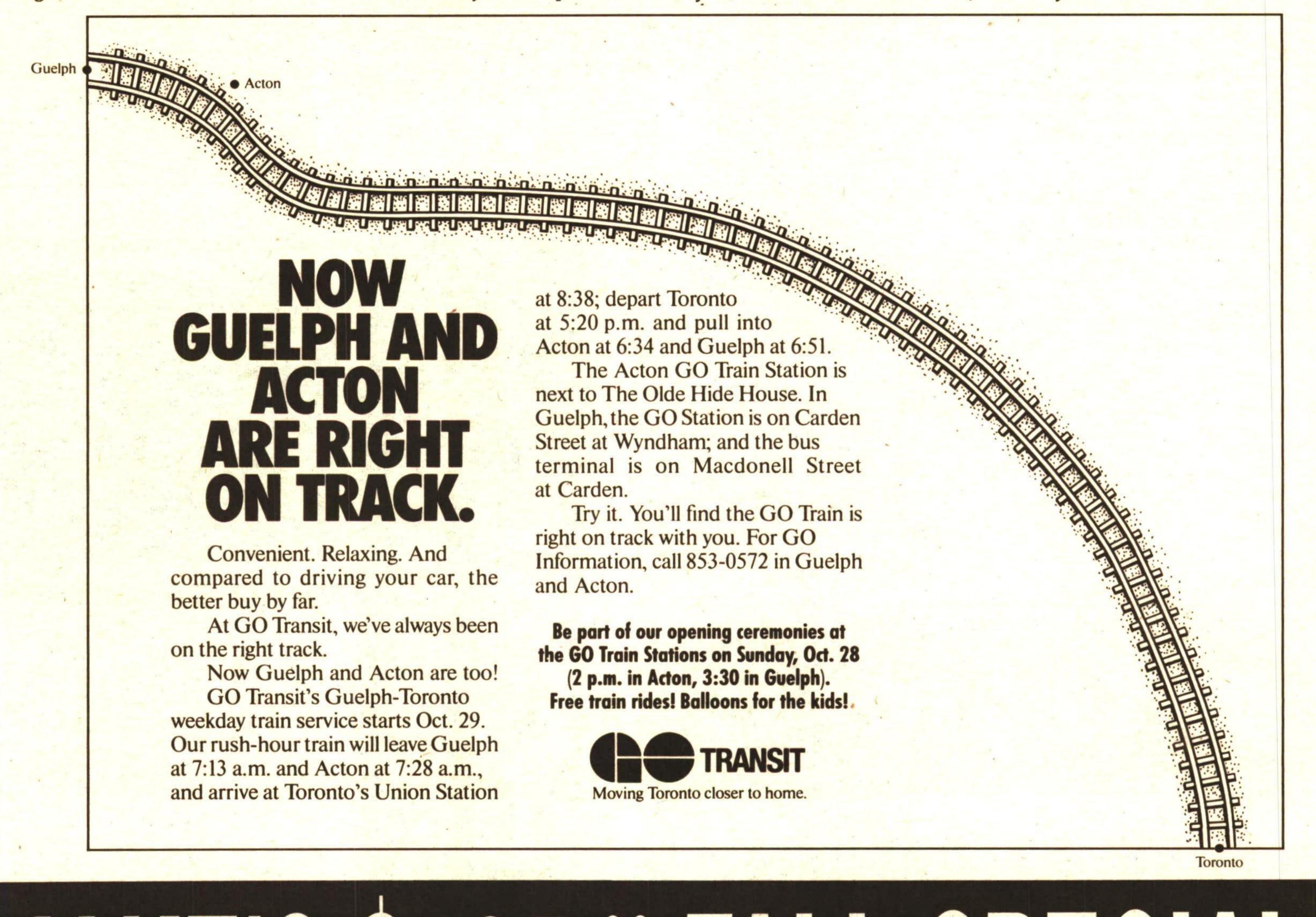
Oakville Councillor Kevin Flynn, a former NDP candidate,

held an optimistic view of the situation, given the month remaining before the HRCA coffers are empty.

"The new government may be open to trying to put right the sins of the previous government. It seems to me the last place this should end up is in the courts, because that's just a waste of money."

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