

## INTELLIGENT INVESTING

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**CARY LEON**



### RETIRE!?

Over the last two years I have received many telephone calls from individuals facing the most important investment decision of their lives. With the dramatic restructuring of our economy, many employees have found themselves in the position of being offered early retirement packages or layoffs after building up many years of pension or profit sharing contributions. With the future often being very uncertain or the prospect of actually retiring, the proper investment of these funds becomes critical.

Spaces does not permit for me to do justice to the many available strategies to wisely deploy these funds, but suffice it to say that two things should stand out. Firstly, all options should be thoroughly examined and clearly understood before selecting the right one for you. Second, great emphasis should be placed on diminishing the tax bite by immediately transferring the funds to a tax sheltered account (RRSP) to be drawn on later in smaller amounts to cushion the tax blow.

At First Marathon we have assisted many individuals with the deployment of their pension roll-outs and severance packages and if you would like us to look at your individual package and offer a customized plan based on your personal circumstances we would be pleased to do so.

**Cary Leon & Mike Phillips** are a full service financial advisors with First Marathon Securities and can be reached at 855-7147 or 855-8266. Call today and inquire about the "NO-FEE" self directed RRSP.

# CVCA wants dam refurbished

By **JANET BAINE**  
Staff writer

The CVCA would like to see the headpond at the Barber dam removed, and the dam refurbished.

This is what Ken Owen, the manager of land resources for the Credit Valley Conservation Area (CVCA) told people attending an open house on the Barber dam recently. The CVCA would like the headpond (the body of water in front of the dam) to be lowered permanently and the river channel restored.

"There are three important environmental reasons for removing it," he said in a phone interview. "The first is that it creates a barrier to fish migration. The Atlantic salmon can't go further upstream."

The headpond also warms the river below the dam during the summer, and trout don't like the warmer water. Third, the dam causes the water level in the headpond to increase during the spring and go down through the fall. This causes the banks of the river to become saturated with silt, making it hard for plants to become established, since the water washes them away and also causes erosion.

"We want to lower the headpond and plant the banks with trees and other vegetation," Owen said.

Most residents surveyed however want to keep the dam because of its historical significance. It was built in 1913 after an original dam built in the 1880s washed out during a flood on the river. This dam is rec-

ognized by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and was crucial to the development of Georgetown.

It would cost somewhere between \$461,000 and \$765,000 to carry out the various alternatives.

About 45 people attended the open house, which was hosted by the public advisory committee studying the Barber Mill dam as a flood and erosion control project under the Environmental Assessment Act.

According to the committee's findings, the public is split on the issue of keeping the headpond, or eliminating it. When asked if they were "in favor of an unobstructed passage of fish without the head-

pond," 38 per cent said they were, 34 per cent said they were not, and 26 per cent were undecided. The report concludes there is "sufficient ambiguity" about the relative merit of the headpond that a decision about it may require more input.

Committee member Reinhard Filter presented the results of the survey and other methods used to solicit public opinion.

The final report will be submitted to the CVCA, which will make a recommendation on Oct. 21.

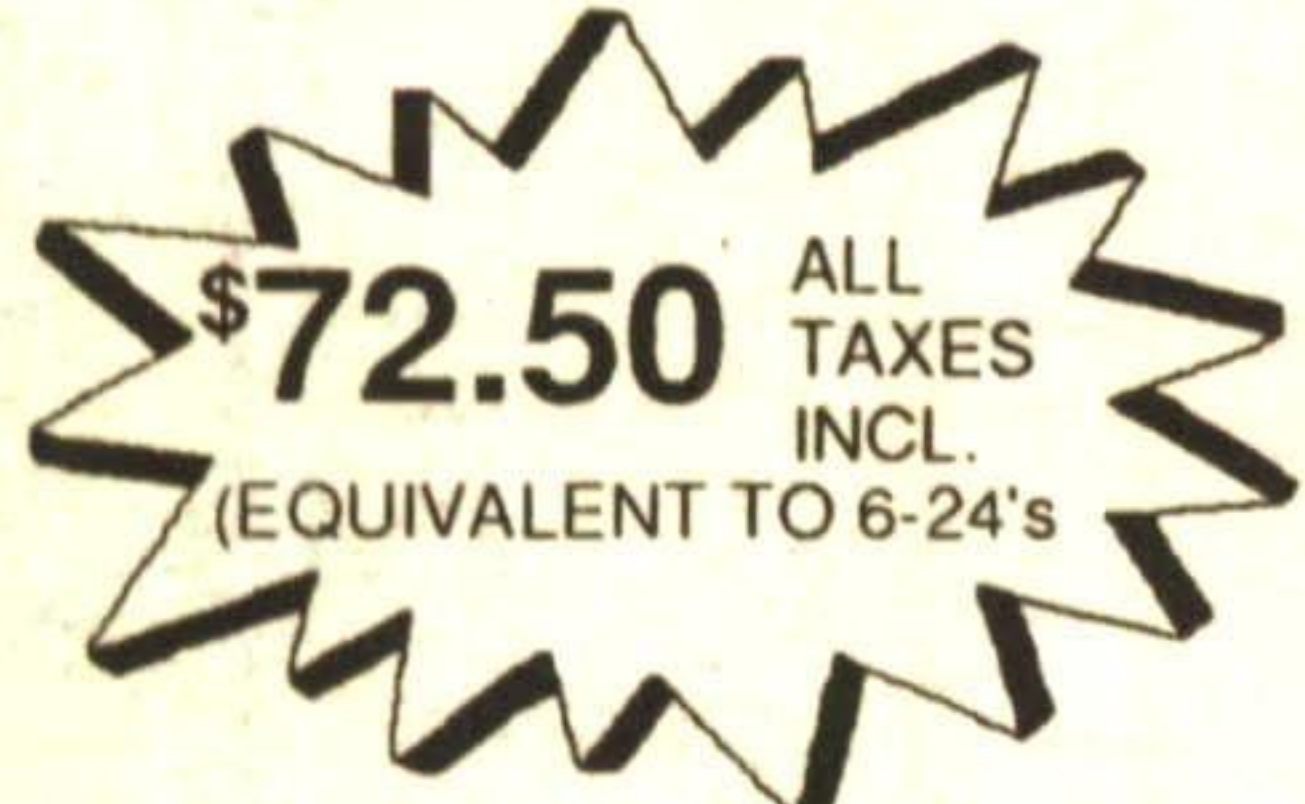
"The Minister of Environment ultimately decides if he will accept the report, or if it will go through a more rigorous environmental assessment," Owen said.



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#### It's official

It's official, the town will have a smoking bylaw in place beginning Jan. 3 next year. On Tuesday council upheld it's decision to pass the bylaw it passed the week before at the committee meeting. The bylaw will prohibit smoking retail stores, shopping mall concourses, service lines in commercial establishments, reception areas, elevators and escalators. Smoking will only be allowed in properly ventilated designated areas in health care facilities. Restaurants with gross sales more than 51 per cent in alcohol are exempt from the bylaw, but those under that must provide 25 per cent of their floor area for non-smokers.

### Council Briefs

#### Special weeks

At Tuesday's council meeting council declared Nov. 7 through Nov. 13 as Unity In Diversity Week in Halton Hills, as requested by the Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Halton Hills. The week is designed to allow Canadians to stop and think about the pluralistic society of the country.

Oct. 29 through Nov. 11 has been declared Poppy Week in Halton Hills.

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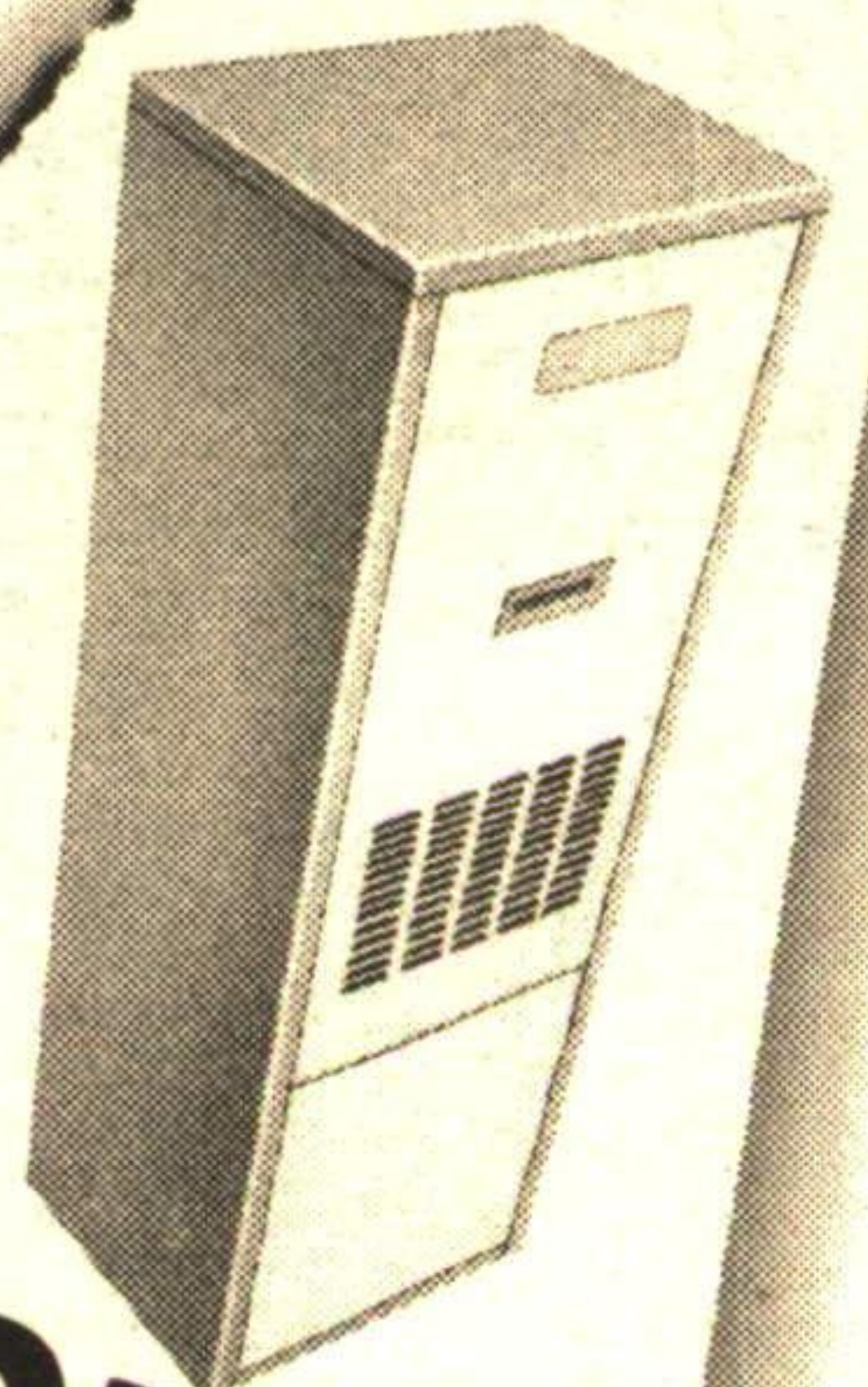
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