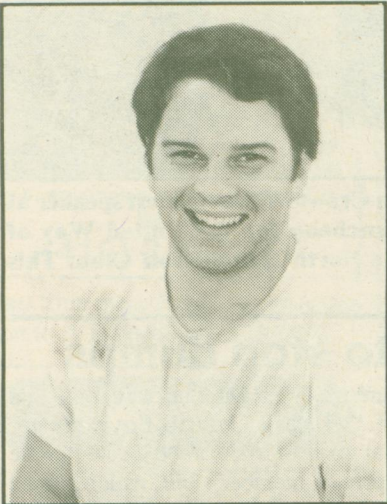


EDITORIAL

Ed. Notes



By Scott Kline

It is shocking how one small word can change the whole meaning of a sentence.

Last Saturday's editorial is a prime example of how a word can change the whole meaning of -- not only a sentence-- but a whole thought.

In the editorial I was trying to urge people to get out and find out all they can about the proposed changes to Canada's constitution.

Once they have all the facts, they should vote whatever way they believe is the correct way.

Unfortunately a key word was dropped from one of the editorial's most important sentences.

Toward the end of the editorial I was trying to make the point that no matter what way people vote -- if it is an informed decision -- that decision should be support by all.

The editorial stated: "We don't mean that people should not take the issue to heart, but it is vital that if someone says they are going to vote "no" they are labeled unpatriotic or anti-Canada."

The key word missing from the sentence is -- of course -- "not".

The sentence should read: We don't mean that people should not take the issue to heart, but it is vital that if someone says they are going to vote "no" they are not labeled unpatriotic or anti-Canadian.

In a letter to the editor J. Douglas Smith -- quite rightly -- rakes me over the coals for the statement that Canadians who vote "no" are labeled unpatriotic.

I agree with everything Smith says in his letter and will certainly work very hard to make sure this newspaper presents all the arguments surrounding the referendum in "a concise, accurate format."

I hope that the above explanation clears up my stance on the issue.

And as Smith puts it, this newspaper will strive to -- in his words

cover the referendum issue "untainted by either the politicians or third party views in order that the right decision will be arrived at in the end."

Here is Smith's letter in its entirety:

Dear Mr. Kline,

I was more than disappointed when I read your editorial, "The question is," in the Saturday September 12, 1992 issue of Halton Hills This Week.

It appears that you have set yourself up as the unquestionable authority on how all Canadians should vote the upcoming referendum, (this was indicated by your statement, "it is vital that if someone says they are going to vote "no" they are labeled unpatriotic or anti-Canada").

My belief, and I hope that of many other true Canadians, is that in a democracy the people are entitled to examine all of the information in order to make informed choices to the best of their ability by way of the ballot box.

The fact is that nothing could be more "anti-Canadian or unpatriotic" than attaching demeaning labels to people no matter what their view may be on this or any other ques-

tion.

It would be more meaningful if your newspaper could present the August 28 agreement terms in a concise, accurate format that would be readily understood by the general public in order that they could make the informed decision being sought.

Whether the overall referendum results in a yes or a no is far less important than the right of the individual to make that decision without such innuendo hanging over his or her head.

The people of Halton Hills can only hope that one of our local newspapers will make a point of providing the proposed terms of the agreement untainted by either the politicians or third party views in order that the right decision will be arrived at in the end.

Yours truly
J. Douglas Smith
Georgetown

Ticket to park?



Some fair goers at the Georgetown Fall Fair got a nasty surprise when they returned to their cars last weekend...a parking ticket courtesy of the Town of Halton Hills. These vehicle were parked on Hyde Park Drive.
Photo by Scott Augustus

Letter of the Week

The following letter sent to Halton North MPP Noel Duignan. A copy was filed with Halton Hills This Week for publication.

Dear Mr. Duignan,

Reference: Proposed Peel Dump (Landfill) Sties: B15B, B22C, B22D situated in the Credit River Valley.

Please will you tell the people of Halton Hills what you have done to assist them in opposing these sites. Have you also informed the IWA of your constituents' concerns and told them that you too are not in favour of these sites for a Peel Dump (Landfill) site?

It is common knowledge now that the Honourable Ruth Grier specifically excluded Halton from the GTA landfill site search. These sites are physically in Peel, but touching or very close to Halton's border.

This means that the impact zones are well within Halton Hills. As dump sites are not put within 5km. of an airport due to the impact, it also does not seem right for them to be put so close to the built up area of Georgetown.

It would appear that the choice of these sites would not be excluding Halton from the landfill search as the Minister had intended.

It appears that the IWA selected these sites without studying the full

impact in Halton Hills. Due to the close proximity of the Credit River and an Environmentally Significant Area within the Halton Region, many believe that there could be a serious environmental impact if one of these sites are selected.

Why did the IWA choose these sites without thoroughly investigating all of the impact area?

Did the IWA not study the impact in Halton because to do so would mean that the region has not been left out of the GTA landfill site search and this is contrary to what the Honourable Minister directed?

Was Halton left out of the pre-submission process for the same reason?

None of the IWA consultation meetings were held in Halton. Isn't this contrary to the MOE policy which states:

"The proponent should seek to involve all affected parties as early as possible so that their concerns can be identified and addressed before irreversible decisions and commitments are made on the chosen approach or specific proposals."

In view of this, why were these sites put on the long list? Why are they still permitted to remain there?

The IWA are making intervenor funding available to the people of Peel but do not have the authority

to extend this to Halton.

Is this fair when some of Halton's residents live across the road from the proposed dump site and closer therefore than many Peel residents who would receive funding?

According to the August 29, 1992 edition of the "Halton Hills This Week" the Environment Minister, Ruth Grier, turned down a personal invitation from the Mayor of Halton Hills to discuss the town's concerns about the IWA and the governments landfill policies. Why did she do this?

In the same newspaper article, it was stated that the Minister said she would not intervene in the landfill selection.

It is hard to understand why she would not intervene in the landfill selection. It is hard to understand why she would say this when it appears that the IWA, by selecting these three sites, are going against her wishes.

Please explain why the Minister will not intervene?

As you can see there are several questions which need to be addressed. Please will you answer them and give some clarification on this issue as well as telling us what you personally, as the elected representative of the people of Halton Hills, have done or are doing in order to resolve this situation.

Thank you
Pamela Soward

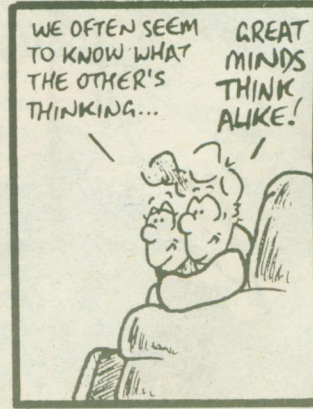
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For Pete's Sake



by Roe