

# Head of investigations moving to Burlington

By Wendy Long

Detective-Sergeant Mike Eacrett is saying good-bye to Georgetown and heading south - to Burlington.

Eacrett is a veteran of the Halton Regional Police Service who has been stationed at 11 Division for four years. This March he will celebrate 25 years of police service, all in the present Region of Halton.

"My years in the drug squad and criminal investigation were the best years in my career," Eacrett said in a parting interview last Thursday. "They were exciting times."

In Burlington, beginning January 4, Eacrett will go back into uniform as a staff-sergeant in charge of a platoon. It is a transfer, not a promotion nor a demotion. Currently there are only seven detective sergeants in the region, Eacrett said.

"Recently my most memorable investigations included the Boudreau abduction out of Milton and the Bettridge homicide, among other successful murder investigations," Eacrett said.

"I'm looking forward to going (to Burlington), I'm looking forward to the challenge of going back into uniform. I wasn't pleased to be transferred but in terms of career growth it's a good move."

At 19, in 1968, Eacrett applied for two jobs - one with the Oakville Police Department (the police force became regionalized in 1974) and one with the Ford Motor Company. He received letters of acceptance from both on the same day and chose the police force.

From beginnings as a rookie cop, a constable on uniform patrol, Eacrett progressed through a dynamic career. He worked extensively in drugs and intelligence over the years, spending a great



Detective-Sergeant Mike Eacrett is pleased with his work as the head of One District C.I.B. and is looking forward to working in Burlington that promotion in two to three years.

Eacrett will also act as the acting inspector whenever the inspector or superintendent of District No. 3 are away. Eacrett fulfilled this administrative position for about five months during 1992 at Georgetown's 11 Division.

"I'm judged by the success of my office," Eacrett said. "Although we have been lacking resources all year we have been successful in obtaining our goals. It was a real team effort, I have lots of respect for the officers and detectives who showed dedication and perseverance. There were many long, long days."

Eacrett is one of four staff-sergeants on a list to be promoted to inspector. He hopes to achieve

At this point in time he has no intention of retiring.

"When I turn 50 then I'll decide what my retirement plans will be," Eacrett said, which is in six years.

Eacrett and his wife have lived in Milton for 11 years and have a 13-year-old daughter and an 11-year-old son.

"I have no regrets," Eacrett said on his career. "My years in District No. 1 have been good and memorable...I know I'm going to miss the officers I've worked with and the people I've come to know."

Taking Eacrett's position will be Staff Sergeant Mike Kingston.

# Highway 7 access imperative

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7," he stated. A 25,000-square-foot food store is incorporated in the Coscan proposal. Petch said negotiations with Foodland to relocate into the plaza are ongoing. He urged council to take advantage of "the opportunity" to approve the commercial plaza plan and recover the money that Acton residents are spending outside their community at other shopping malls.

A representative for David and Michael Manes, proprietors of Acton IGA, also expressed concern "on the magnitude and scope of the (Coscan) proposal." He asked that the town give him a copy of a consultant's report which favor the commercial development so that contents of the document could be held up to "the prism of scrutiny." He also suggested that the application "is premature and may not be in the public interest."

Town planning director Ian Keith said a copy of the consultant's report is available at the town's planning department for those wishing to see the document. He also told council that a solicitor's report on various aspects of Coscan's residential plan of subdivision will be available for study next Monday.

Council made no decision on the commercial plaza proposal, but is expected to make its position known later this month after receiving a report from planning staff.

# No place for garbage

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Barrager flatly declared, "When I moved to the country (Stewarttown), I had a place to put my garbage; now, I don't." It's the town's responsibility to provide a local dump station for rural residents or find some other means of helping them dispose of their garbage, he argued.

While Councillor Pam Johnston said she felt the whole matter was a regional issue, most councillors and the mayor disagreed. "This is not a regional matter," Mayor Miller said. "It's a local responsibility and I want to deal with it."

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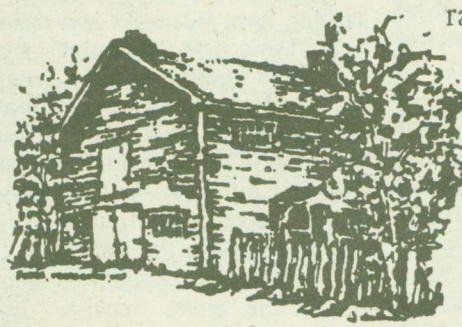
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