

# Public will have input in new property tax assessment system

By Oksana Buhel

The Halton's citizen committee on property tax reform has agreed to hold open houses on the new property tax assessment system, after a final report is presented to the Regional Administration and Finance committee, but before the

same report is presented to Regional Council.

The committee had been undecided whether to hold a public meeting or to publicly circulate the final report and invite comments. Oakville Councillor Kevin Flynn, who insisted market value assessment (MVA) is

"such an important issue," warned councillors at the Administration and Finance meeting July 7, it would be a mistake to "shove" the final report through council, without involving the public.

Following the Administration and Finance

meeting, Flynn met with Bob Beach, chair of the Halton's citizen committee on property tax reform, Burlington's mayor Walter Mulkewich (who maintained public circulation of the final MVA report would be sufficient), and regional treasurer Joe Rinaldo, to

determine whether a public meeting could be accommodated.

As a result of this meeting, open houses will now be held in each municipality in September, after the final report is presented at the Aug. 31 Administration and Finance meeting. At the

regional council meeting Sept. 28, the report, taking into consideration public opinion, will be voted on.



### STORE HOURS

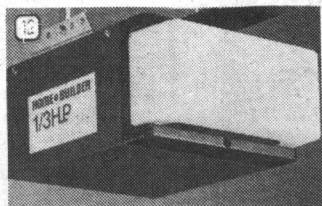
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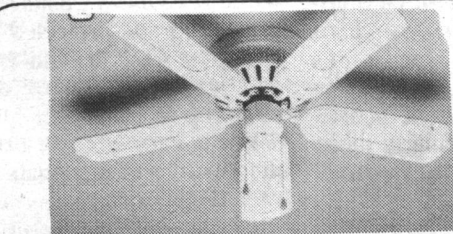
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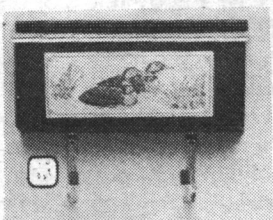
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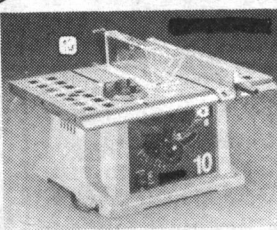
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