

Opinion

Halton Hills THIS WEEK

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Editorial

Entering the TwActon Zone

Warning! Read this column in a quiet place. Do not read it aloud. Do not spread word of its printing. You are now entering the TwActon Zone. Once you enter the TwActon Zone, reality takes flight.

We look into the sleeping community of Halting Hopes, located northwest of the creeping metropolis known as Tarantula. Fred is having trouble sleeping. He has just attended an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) meeting. Is he dreaming? - or is this in fact, reality?

Fred awakes to a cacophony of noise unheard of previously in these parts. He pounds on the wall to wake his neighbor and best-friend Red (nicknamed because he could get a sunburn from a 40-watt light bulb) and the two wander into the street.

They spot Town of Halting Hopes Mayor Rustic, decked out in a yellow Sou'wester, wearing hip waders and a fisherman's hat festooned with hooks - even though the temperature is hovering around the mid-90's - and ask him what's going on.

"It's great," enthused Mayor Rustic. "Ever since that guy got up at one of the OMB meetings concerning Black Widow Creek and said it has the highest concentration of Atlantic Salmon this side of the local swimming hole, things have gone crazy."

"Look t'over yonder," screeched Red, who had once been diagnosed as having acute American TV syndrome for watching too many episodes of Dukes of Hazard. "There's Red Fisher doing his show! And lookee there, that's Red Green and on the other corner there's my awl-time favorite country singer, Red Bovine. Why we even got revenue men settin' up tents selling fishing licenses. And whoeee, there's Sports Illuminated settin' up their cameras to film their swimsuit issue."

"Red," suggested Mayor Rustic, "I think it's time you changed channels."

Just then, a youngster ran up and proudly pushed an Atlantic Salmon under the mayor's nose. "Look, mayor Rustic," I got it in my toilet."

"I hope you didn't snag it?"

"Nope," replied the kid. "I hit it over the head with the brick we now keep in the toilet bowl."

"Good lad," praised the mayor.

"I think we got a problem," said Fred, pointing to the approaching Canadian Native Indian.

"My name's Red," said the Native Indian.

"We have a problem. You see around 3000 B.C. our people signed a treaty giving us exclusive fishing rights to Black Widow Creek. We weren't going to reveal this until we got our own Native Indian fishing show on TV, but since that OMB meeting... well!"

"Can you prove it?," asked mayor Rustic.

"Well, in those days, things were written in stone, so there's a lot of paperwork to do. But we're willing to cede the fishing rights if you give us exclusive rights to the Canadian Armed Forces campground area."

"What?"

"Don't play dumb. Once word leaks out Native Indians are involved here, they'll send in the army. Remember Oka?"

Just then, a pale, waif-like figure holding a bird cage approached the group. Rumor around town was that he used to work for the government, but was suffering from flashbacks after attending too many OMB meetings and was given medical leave.

"Why do you have a fish in the bird cage?" asked mayor Rustic.

"As a warning," intoned the former government employee.

"If you don't stop putting up tents, there won't be anywhere for the worm pickers to ply their trade. That means no more stories in the Tarantula papers about our area and the OPP in Milton will have to cut staff because we won't have any more van tip-overs on the 401. Also, the Atlantic Salmon in Black Widow Creek like to eat worms and in the long run, we have to think of their well-being."

Just then, one of the government gophers running one of the fishing license tents popped over.

"Don't listen to him!" he screamed. "Tell him to go through proper channels. That will take years!"

At that point, a police car drove up and an officer arrested the man with the fish in the bird cage.

The charge? Fishing without a bird cage license.

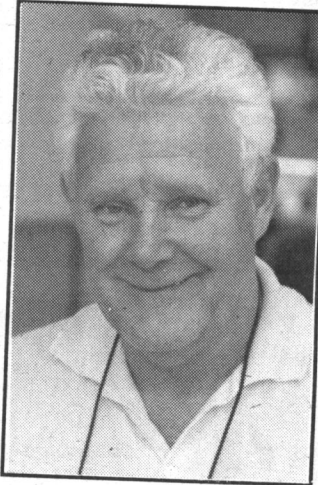
Colin Gibson

The People's Corner

Should the Senate be abolished?



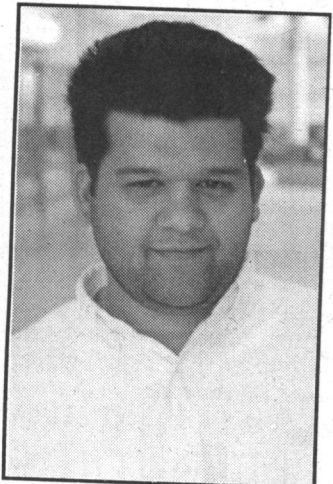
Barbara Phipps, Georgetown - Yes it should be abolished. It is old fashion and serves little purpose.



Edward McCaughtry, Georgetown - I think so. It would save taxpayers a lot of money.



Dianne Downey, Georgetown - Yes I do. We do not need a Senate. It is a waste of money and is not doing us any good.



Joseph Capolupo, George-town - It would save a lot of money and set a good example to the people if the government abolishes it.

Tenants do have the right to privacy

From the Halton Hills Legal Clinic

Your landlord goes into your apartment without your permission while you are away. Is he allowed to come in when he wants to?

Or he says the house you rent is for sale and he wants to bring interested buyers through the house. Do you have to let him show the property?

Under the Landlord and Tenant Act, a landlord may enter the property only under certain conditions. Your landlord can enter your apartment without notice to you if you have an agreement with your landlord that he will regularly clean your place. Secondly, if there is an emergency, the landlord may also enter without notice. For example, if a pipe bursts while you are away, and he needs to fix it, he can enter to do the repairs.

Thirdly, your lease may have a term saying the landlord can show the apartment to new tenants after you have given your landlord a proper written notice that you are moving or after your landlord has given you a proper written notice to move. If there is such a term in the lease, the landlord can show the premises to new tenants without notice to you. But he can only show the apartment at reasonable hours.

The landlord may also have a right to enter to carry out his responsibility under the Landlord and Tenant Act. He must give written notice at least 24 hours before the time of entry. The time of entry must be in daylight hours and be put in the notice. For example, if the lease says that he can show the house to interested

buyers, he must give you written notice at least 24 hours ahead of time setting the time he will come.

If you do not have a lease or your lease does not give the landlord any right to show the property, he can only enter to show it with your permission.

If the landlord should enter without permission in circumstances not permitted under the Landlord and Tenant Act, the landlord will be breaking the law. The landlord would be committing an offense and could be prosecuted under the Landlord and Tenant Act

and fined up to \$5,000. He may also be committing an offense under the Trespass to Property Act. The tenant may also have civil remedies against the landlord.

It is important that a tenant also knows that he cannot simply change the locks to keep the landlord out. Another section of the Act makes it an offense for either the landlord or the tenant to change the locks on a rental unit without first getting the consent of the other person. Those who unlawfully change the locks risk prosecution under the Landlord and Tenant Act. If

the tenant changes the lock, the landlord may also have grounds for eviction.

For further information on this or other related subjects, contact the Halton Hills Legal Clinic at 877-5256.

Landlord must give written notice at least 24 hours before the time of entry.

DOWN TOWNER.



Summer reminder! You always judge a suntan by the bottom line.



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SOCIAL CONTRACT LEGISLATION