

# Subsidized child care offered in Halton Hills

By Oksana Buhel

With the help of Halton Region and the Y.M.C.A., the Town of Halton Hills may be offering subsidized summer programs for children.

At Monday's general committee meeting, councillors

discussed entering a "purchase of service" agreement with the region, which would enable regional subsidies to be applicable towards summer programs in Halton Hills. Previously, families receiving subsidies had to send their

children out of town because they could not receive regional assistance for local programs.

To enter the agreement, municipal Recreational Services staff must meet various requirements set out by the region and province. In a

report, Joy Thompson, superintendent of Recreational Services, assured councillors her staff was able "to negotiate an acceptable arrangement through partnership with our Y.M.C.A., a licensed operator of child care in Halton Hills, therefore meeting the requirements of the region and province."

Councillor Bill Robson pointed out that if an agreement is reached, both private and non-profit day care should be considered. "We know full well the province is trying to drive down profitable business," Robson said.

Councillor Anne Currie maintained councillors should not be too critical of the subsidies. "It's money being offered to us," she pointed out. "The only ones hurt if we don't accept it will be the children."

Councillors agreed to execute an agreement with the region regarding the purchase of service for the provision of child care services, with the stipulation both private and non-profit day care will be considered.

# Candidates quizzed on environment

By Oksana Buhel

Surprising results of a survey, put together by local environmental groups and distributed to federal election candidates, revealed two passing marks (one barely) and four failures.

The survey was distributed by F.O.A.D (Furiously Opposed to Acton Dump) and I.C.E (Incineration Counteracts the Environment). Questions asked included:

- Are you opposed to the Acton quarry garbage proposal?
- If you are opposed to the Acton quarry garbage proposal, what measures will you take if elected to help stop the dump?
- Are you opposed to municipal solid waste incineration?
- Are you opposed to energy-from-waste?
- Are you opposed to tire-derived fuel?
- Are you opposed to hazardous waste incineration?
- If elected, would you oppose the location of any one of the above forms of incineration in your riding?

Candidates were rated according to accountability (if they signed the survey), thoroughness (if they answered all the questions), willingness to take action and consistency (if their answers reflect their parties' philosophy).

New Democratic Party candidate Norma Peterson displayed strong opposition to the quarry proposal and incineration, with the exception of biomedical waste. She scored a perfect 20.

Other than firm opposition to the quarry proposal, Progressive Conservative can-

didate Garth Turner's support was more discerning. He claimed if energy-from-waste production and hazardous waste incineration were not environmentally harmful, he would not oppose them. Turner maintained the subject of tire-derived fuel had to be investigated more carefully. Turner scored 10 out of 20, because he did not sign the survey, and his answers were not considered consistent with his party's policy.

Hilliard Cox scored the next highest. The Libertarian candidate said he was not opposed to municipal solid waste incineration, energy-from-waste production or tire-derived fuel, and did not answer the remaining four questions. He signed the survey, therefore receiving five out of 20.

Reform candidate Dick MacDuffee expressed strong opposition to the quarry proposal but did not oppose energy-from-waste production or tire-derived fuel. He explained until the waste stream is contained or eliminated, something must be done. "I feel that incineration, with positive by-products such as power or cement, is preferable to burying it to make it some other generation's problem," MacDuffee wrote. F.O.A.D and I.C.E gave MacDuffee a zero score.

The same score was given to Liberal candidate Julian Reed, who did not respond in person and did not sign his name.

Brian Patriquin of the National Party also scored a zero.



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by  
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Denture therapist

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