

Referendum countdown

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
Acton voters were urged to make up their own minds about the referendum on the Constitution at two separate meetings Thursday with Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner.

Turner started the day with senior history students at Acton High School and ended it at a public meeting at St. Joseph's Separate School.

At both sessions Turner gave a brief history of the 12 years of Constitutional debate, highlighted major proposed changes and answered questions.

To the students, some of whom aren't old enough to vote, Turner said the referendum is a rare chance of a lifetime to change how the government is run.

Turner was careful not to preach, telling both groups that he would follow the lead of his constituents.

"If Halton-Peel votes Yes then I vote Yes. If Halton-Peel votes No,

then I vote No, Turner explained.

"I'm not trying to convince you which way to vote but I want you to know all you can about this issue so you can make an informed choice on Monday, Oct. 26. I personally will vote "Yes" but have resisted listing my reasons at these public meetings."

The questions from the high school students centred on Quebec's part in the Constitutional debate, the need for senate reform and proposed immigration policies.

One Grade 12 student, David Blaser, questioned Turner why he highlighted only 10 major proposed changes.

"All the 60-odd changes are going to affect us and I wanted to know why Turner just zeroed in on the ones he did. I accept his answer that most of the changes fall under one of the main categories but I would have liked a little more detail," Blaser explained. "I also

would have liked to have someone here from the "Yes" side so we could have had a more balanced presentation."

Blaser, who is not old enough to vote in the referendum said if he could vote it would be No because he has too many unanswered questions. "It appears to me that Quebec wants too much and is unwilling to give anything in return."

Turner said he was happy that the students are well-informed and know the issues.

"The students reflect the same questions that adults are asking. I think these students have an excellent grasp of the issues and it's not just the students who are of voting age, but 16- and 17-year-olds are also really into it. I think that makes a good argument for lowering the voting age."

At the evening meeting, about 50 people jammed into the library at St. Joseph's to hear Turner explain the issues. Turner told the crowd he has broken ranks with most of his fellow MPs because he not actively campaigning for the Yes side.

"It's important that everyone make up their own minds. Politicians shouldn't tell you what to think."

When questioned what a No vote would mean, Turner said no one is certain.

"If the vote is No, nothing will be apparent. The schools will open, the phones will work and the mail will be delivered. We may see some movement in the financial markets. Already analysts have gotten out of Canadian currency markets and I see some risk. The results of this referendum will be binding. I can't imagine any level of government putting us through this kind of anguish again."

One constituent at the meeting, Richard Fife, said he came, wanting to be convinced to vote Yes.

"I hoped Turner would change my mind but I still can't vote Yes because of the distinct society clause, because of the 25 per cent representation for Quebec in the House of Commons, because of the self-government for aboriginal people and because of the composition of the Supreme Court. In my heart I want to vote Yes and I had hoped Turner would be able to convince me, but he didn't."

Tanner contest winners

Surprise, excitement and delight.

Those were the reactions of the three draw winners whose names were picked on Friday in the Tanner's Early Bird subscription contest.

Dianne Kayess of Danville Avenue won the grand prize of a weekend for two, courtesy of Acton Travel, at the Deerhurst Inn. "I'll take my husband, we both need a break," Kayess said. "I subscribed to the Tanner because I enjoy reading all the Acton news, but this is a real bonus. Thanks."

The second prize, a \$300 gift certificate from the olde Hide House was won by Art Ford of Crescent Street. His wife Joan took the call and couldn't believe that he had won. "He'll die when I tell him, he's never won anything before. That's great."

Third prize, a \$200 gift certificate from Acton IGA, was won by Acton senior Marion

Keelan of Elizabeth Street. "Oh, you're kidding," the excited Keelan exclaimed when informed of the win. "Is that ever good news. I always read the Tanner cover-to-cover because I want to know what's happening. I've lived here since I was 10-years-old and I'm glad there's finally a paper about my town."

We congratulate the winners and thanks the hundreds of others who have already signed on.

Although our early-bird contest is over, you can still keep the Tanner coming to your home by calling our office at 853-5100 or sending in the subscription form on Page 15 of this issue. Watch for our team of carriers who will be knocking on in-town doors over the next two weeks to sign you up. We haven't forgotten our rural readers — they can expect a phone call from a Tanner subscription representative in the coming weeks.

Urge Town to "butt" out

BY ERIC BALKIND

Two members of the public showed up Thursday at the Acton arena to provide input at the meeting of the committee charged by Halton Hills Council with considering the feasibility of implementing a bylaw to control smoking in public places. Gord McCutcheon and Anne Thorpe were outnumbered two-to-one by the committee of four but nevertheless, they made their points.

Gord McCutcheon voiced the concerns of the Acton branch of the Legion that limitations, or an actual ban, on smoking within the building would cause problems at the banquet-type events which the Legion frequently hosts. Also referring to the proposal, Ms. Thorpe, who works in a local office, sug-

gested that everyone should simply "mind their own business."

The process, which could lead to the enactment of a smoking bylaw, was prompted by a recent report from the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario entitled "Tobacco and Your Health" which highlighted the negative health impact of tobacco use throughout the province. It was also prompted by the results of a survey conducted in Halton earlier this year which showed support for regulatory action but suggested the need for further public input.

Currently, there is a regulation affecting municipal buildings and vehicles but in other establishments limitations on smoking are a matter of individual choice.



Committee members (clockwise from rear) Joyce See, Public Health Unit; Peter Wilnot, Director of Halton's Health Protection division; Janet Lunn Stewart, Halton Hills Town Clerk; and Bob Hart, Educator with the Regional Health Unit, display the Chief Medical Officer's report. (Eric Balkind photo)

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TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

TENDER F18-93-1 Winter Grounds Maintenance PARKING LOTS

You are invited to bid on the winter grounds maintenance — parking lots from various Town-owned properties, including the fire stations, arenas, community centres, libraries, cemeteries and the Civic Centre.

Tender documents and information are available from the Purchasing section of the Finance Department, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown.

Tenders are invited for any or all locations. Sealed bids in the envelope provided will be received by the Purchasing Agent until 12:00 Noon Local Time, Thursday, Oct. 29, 1992. Bids will be opened there immediately. All bidders welcome to attend.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Christine Campbell, C.P.P.
Purchasing Agent
416-873-2600

