

# Prospect Park well can be used for development

Continued from Front Page

ahead while requiring that water quality be maintained as the development proceeds.

The federal government will require the Region "to conduct baseline studies on the existing waste treatment facility" at a cost of approximately \$500,000.

Other points in the federal government position include:

- The ministry's awareness of all the potential impacts and its preparedness "to deal with them in a holistic manner;"

- The opinion that the position is "likely to be viewed positively to local fishing groups;"

- The view that failure to comply could lead to prosecution under the Fisheries Act.

The position means that the department will not oppose development as long as the safe guards are followed thoroughly. It also means, said Turner, that water from the well in Prospect Park can be used for the development.

Turner also told local government representatives that they will not be held liable, under the federal government's position. "Don't use the federal Fisheries Act as a reason for a lack of action," said Turner.

Acton councillor Norm Elliott said, in part, during the press conference that he was "thrilled to hear this (news). I hope that it is as broad and black and white as it sounds," said Elliott.

The ministry has been concerned about the integrity of the lake and Black Creek based on the assumption that the houses would be harmful to places where fish live.

Turner pointed out that Victoria, B.C. and Montreal, Que. discharge refuse in the water in contravention of the legislation and that these cities are not prosecuted.

"Everyone will not be happy with the federal government's position. Anyone can monitor the Acton situation and bring anything to the attention of the ministry," said Turner.

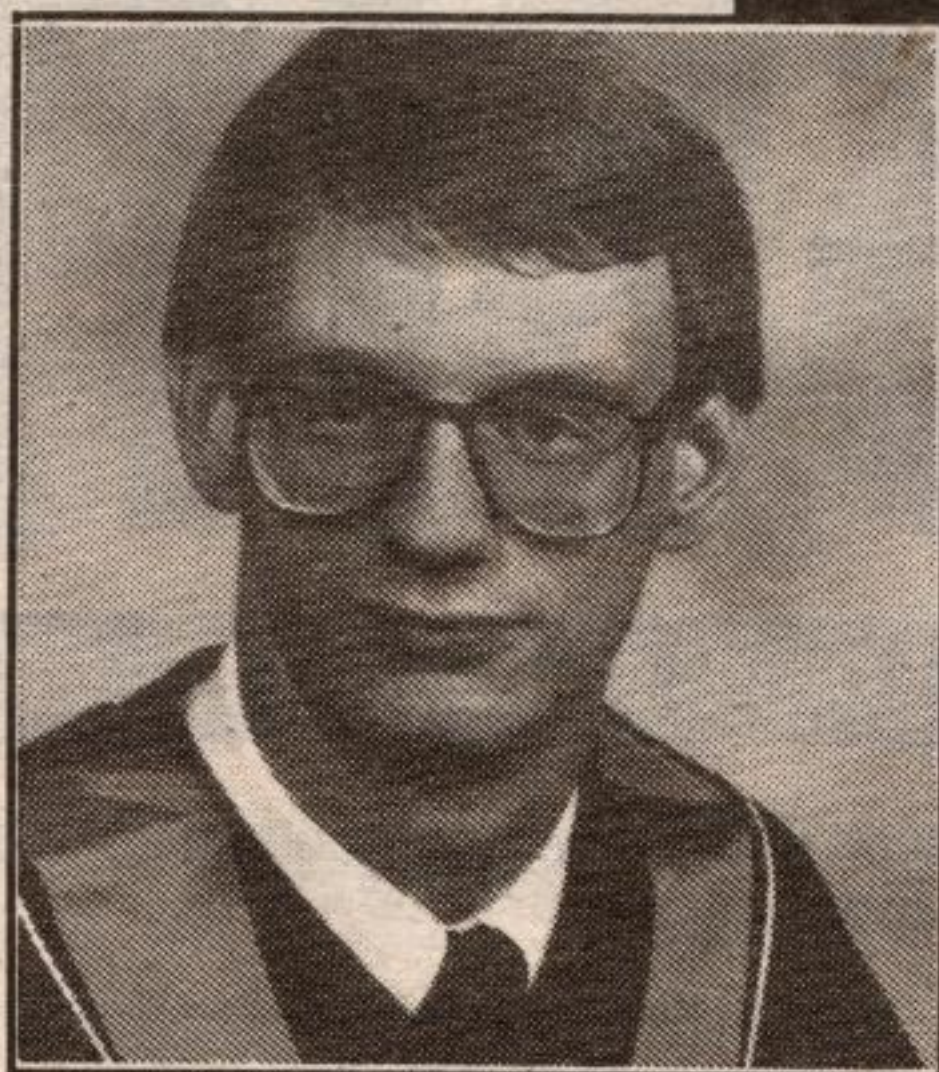
The baseline study by the Region should be carried out before development takes place, said Turner.

The MP also said that there has been a perception that the federal government has delayed development in Acton, and that that view

was partially true.

Members of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce attended the conference. Turner said that he had met Councilor Elliott and Councillor Rick Bonnette about the issue, but not Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller.

The mayor, during a telephone interview that afternoon, told *The Tanner* he had not been told of the press conference until after it was completed. "He (Turner) made no attempt to contact me. I don't know why," said the mayor.



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