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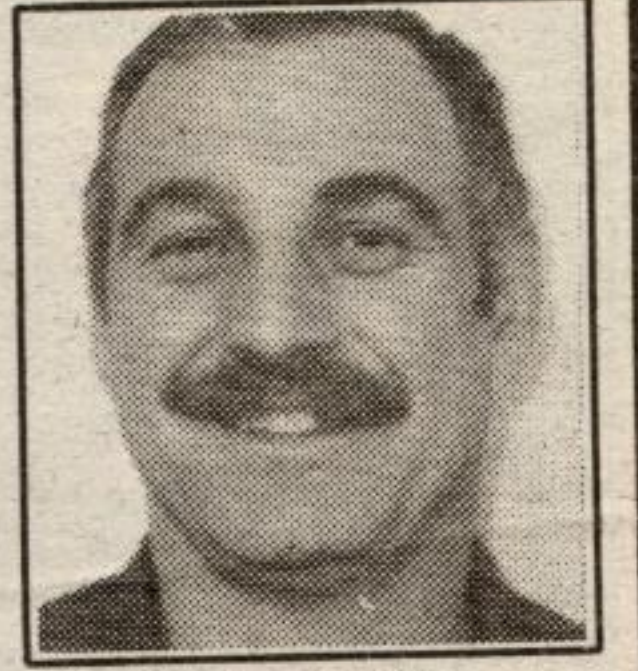


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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1994

Cash for Acton seniors' centre

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

An Acton Seniors Centre is one major step closer to reality following a surprise grant of \$30,000 last week from the Ministry of Health.

The one-time grant will pay the salary of an as-yet unhired co-ordinator, the rent and general operating expenses.

"The announcement was fantastic, just terrific," said Acton Councillor Gerald Rennie in a telephone interview on Thursday.

Rennie is chair of the Acton Seniors Recreation Centre Committee.

"Without this money there wouldn't be a Centre in Acton."

Rennie said the next step is to firm up a location for the Centre now that the old Town Hall has been eliminated from the running.

"I have some regrets that the Fire Hall didn't work out but the Town wasn't getting capital funding from Queens Park for the Fire Hall unless it was a multi-use facility.

"Next week we will be negotiating with the receiver — the Laurentian Bank — that is controlling the FlightLine building to see if we can work out a rent we can afford," Rennie explained.

"I think the Mill Street location would be a good temporary home, and then it's conceivable that we can build a Seniors Centre in the new Acton arena. That's a possibility."

Rennie said there is some opposition from downtown merchants who feel that another store should locate in the FlightLine building.

"As I see it, if we have a lot of seniors coming downtown it will mean more business for the existing stores as people do their shopping on the way to or from the Centre.

"What we want downtown is people. We can have stores downtown but if people don't go to them they won't stay in business," Rennie said.

The Acton Seniors Centre Committee has saved \$40,000 and also has a \$21,000 New Horizons grant.

Rennie said it will cost about \$68,000 a year to operate a Centre in Acton with the Town kicking in 75 per cent of the cost above the \$30,000 grant.

"There is something like 1,200 seniors in Acton alone and this money is great news for all of them," Rennie said.

The Province also gave Georgetown seniors \$30,000 to fund a temporary centre.

Head-on crash kills Acton man

Cory Wilson, 22, of Acton, died early Sunday morning after a head-on car crash on Hwy. 7.

Wilson was travelling alone toward Acton at about 2:30 am when his car veered into the eastbound lanes and struck two oncoming vehicles.

Milton O.P.P. say they haven't determined why Wilson's '83 Chevrolet left its lane, but the roads were wet with rain at the time of the accident.

Arthur Sousa, 21, of Georgetown, was driving the car which Wilson hit head-on; Sousa and passenger Lisa May Johnston, 23, were taken to Georgetown Hospital. Georgetown's Victor Longo, 26, driver of the other car, was uninjured.



PICNIC IN THE PARK!

What's a picnic in Prospect Park without some potato chips? Clockwise, from left: Jenny Prins, 3, Dianna Prins, 7, Jeremy Ligterink, 5, Evelyn Prins, 5, Stefanie Ligterink, 7, and Denise Ligterink, 3, agreed as they capped off their meal last week. (Doug Harrison photo)

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