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'HOMETOWN PAPER, NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS!'

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1996

Swimming lesson rates to increase

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Beginning next month it will cost 30 per cent more to enroll in most of the Town's learn to swim programs, and the significant increase is just the first of many as the Town grapples with increased program costs and dwindling provincial dollars.

General committee members approved the new aquatic program rates and fees on Monday night and the increases are expected to be approved by Town Council at its next meeting.

The new rates reflect the Town's move towards having programs and services become more supported by user fees and service charges and less by taxpayers.

In commenting on the new fees the Town's Director of Recreation and Parks, Tom Shepard, explained the Town policy is to have the fees recover the cost of the program and a 35 per cent profit. The old aquatic rates gave the Town only a 5 per cent profit.

Shepard noted that the new fees put the Town's rates in the middle, or lower, than those of Milton's and the YMCA programs and that the fees would have to be much higher if the Town had to pay for the operation or maintenance of

the two indoor pools in Acton and Georgetown.

Both pools are owned by the Halton Board of Education and the Town trades services with the Board for their use.

Town Administrator Ray King told councillors that he had asked Shepard to prepare a report on increases for other Town services and programs, in light of provincial funding cutbacks which resulted in a \$1 million shortfall this year.

Shepard said that some of the increases he will be suggesting may be "significant enough" that he will suggest they be phased in to cushion the impact.

The new fee for the half-hour, 10-week learn to swim session is \$35.75—up \$8.25. The 45-minute, 10-week session cost is \$52.90—up \$12.20 and the one hour, 10-week lesson cost is \$71.50—an increase of \$16.50.

RSI can't sue Rae

The landfill company that wants to turn part of the Acton quarry into a massive dump can not sue former Ontario premier Bob Rae for \$8 million in special damages and \$480 million in general damages.

Reclamation Systems Inc.'s (RSI) suit was struck out by Ontario Courts General Division Judge Peter Cumming, who ruled the suit had no reasonable chance of success and should not proceed

any further.

RSI filed the suit based on what they thought was negligent misrepresentation in relation to a change in the Environmental Protection Act, which banned the establishment of any new waste disposal sites within the Niagara Escarpment Plan area.

RSI began preparing a mined-out portion of the Acton quarry for landfill in 1989 and had written

See LAWSUIT, Page 2



PIG DETECTIVE!

This lovely Vietnamese pot-bellied pig, 16-week-old *Ace Ventura: Pig Detective*, is being sold by rural Acton resident Christopher Yundt, 6, left, who received the pet recently as a birthday gift from his aunt. Apparently, he enjoys playing video games more. That's Christopher's brother John, 12, holding *Ace*. See Grapevine on Page 7 for more details. (Doug Harrison photo)

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