



JUST SAY NO: Area residents are wearing buttons voicing their opposition to the sale of the McKenzie-Smith Bennett land. Left to right, Bill Sanford, Karsten Paulsen, Norm Paulsen, Clark Somerville, Val Manes, Roz Edwards, Kathy Verbeek, Arlene Bruce, Rick Bonnette and Kathy Sanford. The buttons are available at Acton Home Hardware. - Ted Tyler photo

Fate of MSB land on tap tonight

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
The New Tanner

areas, including Georgetown south and north Oakville and Burlington.

Wearing protest buttons and armed with a "remarkable" 2,650-name petition and a fair dose of righteous indignation, a bus full of Acton residents will try to stop the sale of surplus school land at a Halton District School Board meeting tonight (Wednesday) in Burlington.

Three acres of heavily used playground and sports fields fronting on Churchill Road at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School could be sold as surplus property and the suggestion has sparked a ground swell of protest that surprised even veteran Acton politician, Councillor Rick Bonnette.

The Board is poised to deal with its strategic plan and accommodation report that recommends selling surplus land and closing under-utilized schools to be eligible for provincial money to build new schools in high growth

"I can't remember an issue that has provoked the anger of so many people from Acton," Bonnette said, adding there are still seats on the bus, scheduled to leave the

pool entrance parking lot at MSB at 6:45 p.m.

Both Bonnette and former Halton Board chair Arlene Bruce of Acton, will appeal to trustees not to approve the land sale cash grab.

Close schools in south first

Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh recently told Halton District School Board officials that they need to address school closure issues in the southern part of Halton Region before making changes or selling any property in less populated areas in the north.

Funding for new schools is contingent on the need for new pupil places. The Halton District School Board is operating several schools well below student capacity. By narrow margins, trustees have voted against closing any schools.

"There is a perception that the need for cash, brought about by the trustees' refusal to close schools, is fueling a proposal to sell property in Acton," Mr. Chudleigh said. "People believe the school board needs the money and is willing to get it, at the expense of Acton residents rather than residents of Burlington or Oakville. I think they should leave Acton alone until they fix the larger problems in the south."

"The lack of new public schools in the growth areas

of Halton stems from an inability of several public school board trustees to face their responsibilities," said Mr. Chudleigh. "The suggestion that these irresponsible trustees want to hide their mistake by selling land in Acton before taking care of accommodation issues in the

south is reprehensible."

"These issues need to be addressed across Halton," agreed Mr. Chudleigh, "however there is a much greater flexibility to deal with these problems in the south and a greater urgency in that area given the mass influx of population."

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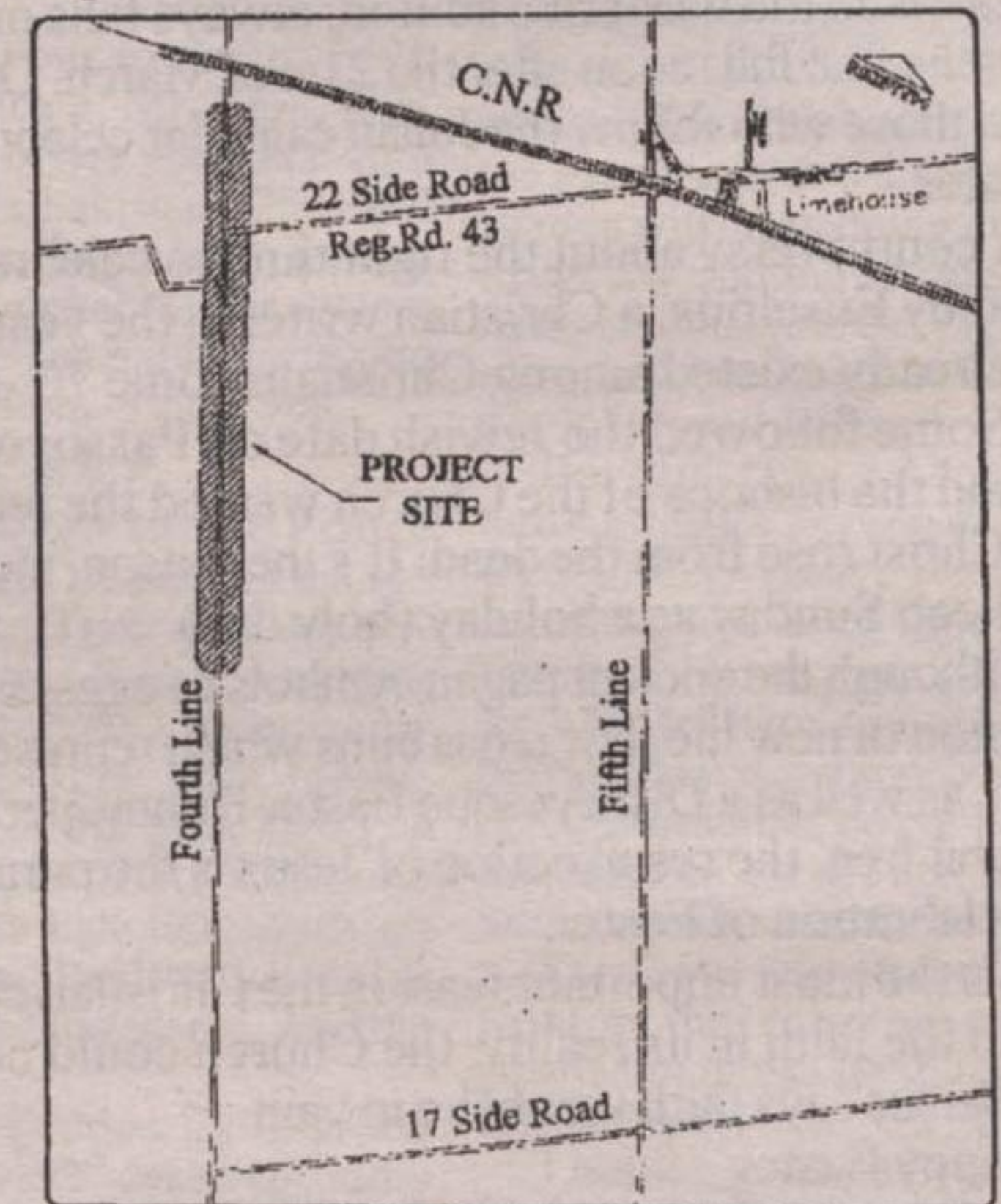


NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 300 (1) of the Municipal Act, being Chapter M. 45 of the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1990, that the Council of the Twon of Halton Hills, at its meeting to be held in the Civic Centre at 6:30 pm, Tuesday, May 23rd and Monday, May 29th 2000, will consider passing a by-law for the reconstruction of the 4th Line from Lot 20 to Lot 23.

Plans detailing this project and the proposed by-law are available for viewing during normal business hours at the Engineering Department office. Any inquiries should be directed to Mr. R. A. Goddard, C.E.T., Supervisor of Capital Works at 873-2601, extension 2310.

The Council will hear, in person, or by their counsel, any person who claims that their lands will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard. Persons wishing to be heard should notify the Clerk's Department prior to the meeting dates.



NEW LOCATION AUCTION SALE NEW LOCATION ALL NEW FURNITURE AND DESIGNER ACCESSORIES INVENTORY BLOW OUT

To be held at the **Optimist Club**
311 Commercial St., Milton (off Main)

Friday April 21, 10am - Preview 9am

This extremely large auction consists of brand new excellent quality furniture from several major manufacturers. These items will be sold to the highest bidder. An excellent opportunity for those hoping to refurbish a room or redecorate an entire home.

Living Room Furniture: (15) 3 piece sofa sets. A variety of colours and styles from traditional to country, Art Deco, Contemporary and French Provincial. Accent chairs, wing chairs, recliners, glider rockers, odd sofas and loveseats. Sofa beds, futon mats and frames, coffee and end tables, and adjustable big screen entertainment units. Wide selection of decorator colours and finishes in cherry, oak, pine and mahogany. Lamps and plant stands. Tremendous solid pine handcrafted Mexican bar. 36" round bar table and stools in oak finish and black and chrome.

Dining Room and Kitchen Furniture: 5 pc and 7 pc dinette sets in solid pine, oak and cherry wood finishes. 8 pc Mexican rustic pine suite, table, 6 chairs and china cabinet. One 1950s reproduction 5 pc kitchen set. Stunning 9 pc oak finish dining table with 6 padded chairs, buffet and hutch. Fabulous double pedestal dining table, solid wood, with 6 highback catkin chairs. Baker's rack, breakfast nooks, large and small microwave stands, wine racks, bar stools, utility carts and more.

Bedroom Furniture: 7 pc distressed pine look from Bassett, includes, headboard, footboard, dresser with mirror, wardrobe and two nightstands. 7 pc pine suite. A number of top quality box spring and mattresses, from single to queen, firm support to pillow top. Three hand carved solid Mexican wardrobes, 5 drawer dressers, computer desks, bunkbeds and more.

Accessories: 54" rolltop, computer compatible desk in oak. Selection of designer prints, paintings, lamps, foliage, trees and centrepieces. Mexican bar, microwaves, bread makers, beautiful clocks and statues, Indonesian, hand carved wooden ducks, cats, chickens, roosters, etc. Giraffe lamps, tribal art and masks. Mexican hall bench and trunks. Coke memorabilia, 5 x 8 Egyptian area rugs, candleholders, giftware, beanbag chairs, CD holders and mirrors. Wrought iron birdcage, your "knight in shining armour". Telephone benches, centrepieces, knick knacks, and intriguing home accent pieces. Plus many other items you won't find anywhere else.

Special Feature: A few signed, numbered, museum mounted and framed "original" prints by such artists as "Bateman", "Parker" and "Solberg".

Subject to Additions & Deletions

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Auctioneer: Norm Webster (905) 873-7633

For more information (519) 821-9331

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BIA Post Box

The Acton BIA is interested in what you have to say! The BIA Post Box, located next to the Bank of Montreal, is the place to "post" your thoughts and ideas about what's happening downtown. Each letter is reviewed by the Board of Managers at the BIA monthly meeting. We are continuing to request information about what downtown Acton was like in 1960, to assist in the planning of the pedestrian market on June 24. Your comments and reminiscences are welcome! The BIA Post Box is also the place to drop off your nominations for Community Champion, the recognition program run by the Acton Concerns Group. These nominations are delivered, in confidence, directly to the Acton Concerns Group.

Spring is coming!

Forty-three hanging baskets have been ordered by the Acton BIA and this year the floral colour scheme will be red and white, in celebration of the Acton High School Reunion weekend. Many thanks are extended to Pat and Dobbie Frizzell, who have been hanging up these baskets on our behalf for many years. The Acton Horticultural Society will be out later this spring, to fill all our downtown sidewalk planters with a colourful array of plants, keeping to the red and white theme. This dedicated group of volunteers assist the BIA every spring, by planting the concrete street planters with plants selected for their hardiness (and replacing any plants that have inadvertently been pulled out over the summer).

DOWNTOWN ACTON
P.O. Box 21, Acton L7J 2M2 853-1031 ext. 274



Happy EASTER



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