

Talks with high school teachers resumed

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The job action by 32 full and part-time secondary school teachers has produced "no significant degree" of impact, so far, at Acton District High School.

The teachers, members of the Ontario Secondary School Teacher's Federation (OSSTF), hope the job action - refusing supervision and fill-in duties and not taking part in school or board committees - will help pressure the school board and union into a settlement at bargaining talks today (Thursday).

Halton teachers, who haven't had a raise in almost eight years, voted 92 per cent in favour of a strike in August before their contract expired, and Larry Chud, president of the Halton local of OSSTF, said the "pretty measured" job action is aimed at putting

some pressure on those at the bargaining table.

Chud characterized the most recent contract talks that broke off last Thursday, as "very amicable," resulting in offers and counter-offers on monetary issues. Workload is also a major issue, as new provincial legislation requires teachers to carry six-and-a-

half classes a year, not six.

In response to Halton District School Board concerns about safety without teachers supervising halls, lunchrooms and in some cases, bus lines, Chud said the union asked teachers to "act responsibly, rather than turn and walk away."

At Acton High School,

Principal Greg MacPherson said they'd try to cover any teacher absences with supply teachers, and he and Vice-Principal Caroline Conn-Smith would continue to supervise the halls and after-school bus lines, with the ultimate goal of maintaining student and staff safety.

Withdrawal of extra-curricular activities remains the individual choice of teachers. At Acton High School, senior students and parents have stepped in to supervise some sports teams and bands, normally supervised by teachers.

Heritage Acton seeks funds to complete old town hall

Heritage Acton has formed a sub-committee to seek funds in the New Year for complete restoration of Acton Town Hall.

A grant of \$75,000 from the Trillium Foundation is a major contribution but is not enough to finish the job. Already about \$25,000 in additional funds has been raised.

The committee welcomes donations from public-spirited citizens to help reach the goal of another \$50,000. Anyone can make a donation now and receive a tax receipt for this year by contacting Kathy Sanford at 853-0784 between a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday or Wednesday or by mail to Heritage Acton, 379 Queen St., East, Acton, L7J 2N2.

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A half wall and an open doorway lead to the great room, which has a gas fireplace and a window overlooking the covered patio at the rear.

The spacious kitchen has a central island with a sink to expand the working area. The dining room is intriguingly designed into a bay with sliding glass doors leading on to the covered patio.

The main-floor master suite is also located toward the rear of the house and includes a walk-in closet and three-piece ensuite bathroom with shower.

Stairs from the great room lead upstairs to the two secondary bedrooms, which share a main bathroom. Bedroom no. 3, at the front, has an attractive window seat.

A railing beside the stairs offers an open view of the great room below. The double garage has a side door and access to the house through the laundry room.

Stone accents and a covered porch highlight the exterior of the house, which is 40 ft., 4 in. wide and 53 ft., 6 in. deep with 1,719 sq. ft. of finished living space and an unfinished basement.

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