

New Town Council sworn in on Monday

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Accountability, competence and open dialogue will be the hallmarks of office Rick Bonnette will strive for in his tenure as mayor of Halton Hills.

In his address to the new council at its inaugural meeting on Monday at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown, Bonnette,

the sixth mayor of Halton Hills, detailed his vision for the next three years.

"We are facing challenges, again, no different than any other community. We all campaigned against a 10 per cent hike in taxes. Now that we are elected, we must deliver. There may be cuts in service," Bonnette warned, adding that hard decisions will be made.

From stronger policies to preserve the Town's natural assets and to protect Halton farmland, Bonnette said they would enhance and manage growth inside the existing urban boundaries, using both an annual review of the Town's strategic plan, and the Official Plan, which is under review.

After listing the initiatives he hopes to achieve,



OFFICIAL OATH: Mayor-elect Rick Bonnette (left) listens as Mr. Justice Kenneth Langdon reads him the oath of office at the inaugural meeting of the new Town Council on Monday at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown. — Frances Niblock photo

including a safe community, additional water and parkland for Acton, a new firehall in Georgetown, Bonnette suggested how it will all be paid for.

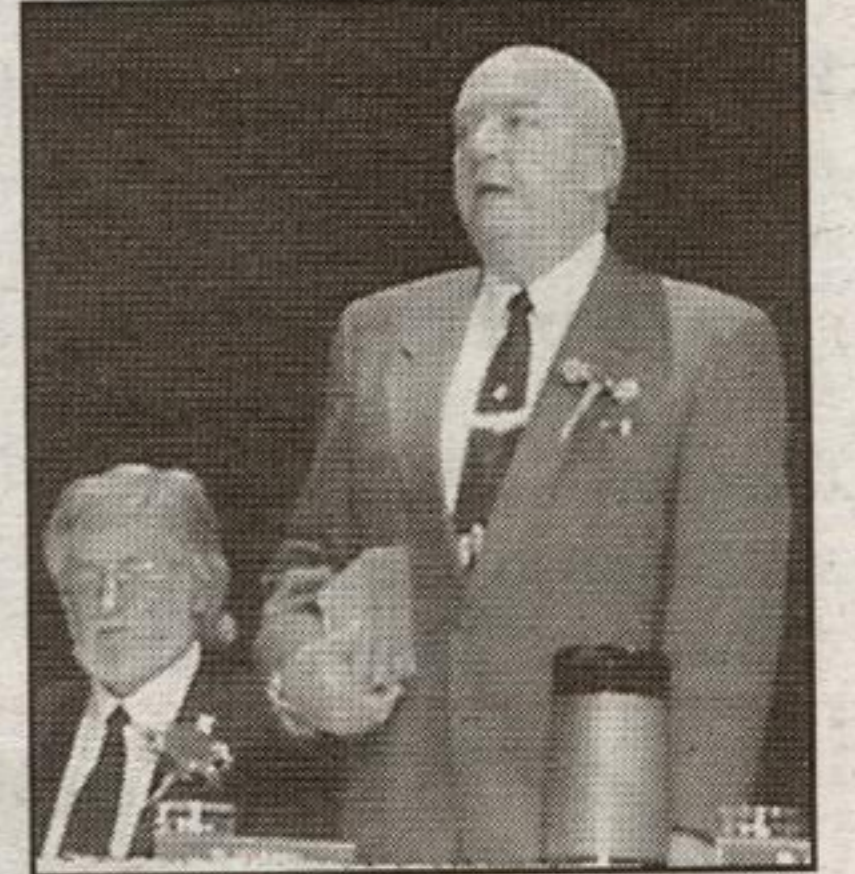
"This is where we will need strong industrial and commercial growth,"

vited guests.

"We will have (development) activity along the 401/407 corridor. It is not enough to say we are 'Open for Business.' We must be ready for business," he said, adding the Town expects to issue over 1,050 building permits with a construction value of approximately \$120-million.

Bonnette said, as mayor he will work with council to ensure Halton Hills is a safe community to start a business or raise a family with a quality of life "second to none."

He said Halton Hills



SOLEMN OATH: Holding his grandmother's Bible, newly-elected Acton Councillor Mike O'Leary took his oath of office during the inaugural meeting of Halton Hills Council at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown on Monday. — Frances Niblock photo

would compete with other municipalities within the GTA to attract industry and commerce, and continue to make safety a priority.

"We will not mislead the public with indecisions. We will face the issues head on," Bonnette said, promising an open ear and open door.

There was an intentional Acton theme to the ceremony and reception — the Reverend Gerald Rennie, a former Acton councillor, led the invocation and read the benediction, and Acton's Bev Boisvenue sang O Canada.

Following greetings from Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh, and comments read by Carol Lawson for absent MP Julian Reed, Mr. Justice Langdon read the oath of office to each councillor — including three new ones — officially swearing them in for the next three years.

The new council holds its first meeting on December 15.

Bonnette told the crowd of approximately 250 in-



OATH OF OFFICE: Mr. Justice Kenneth Langdon (left) gives the oath of office to rookie Acton Councillor Jon Hurst at the inaugural meeting of Halton Hills Council at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown on Monday. — Frances Niblock photo

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3 Time Line PG
Daily 6:45 pm - 9:00pm
Sat-Sun 2:00 p.m.
Violence-Not recommended for children

White Christmas
Dec 10th, 11th, 2003
2pm-7pm

It's A Wonderful Life
Dec 17th-18th, 2003
Daily 2pm-7pm

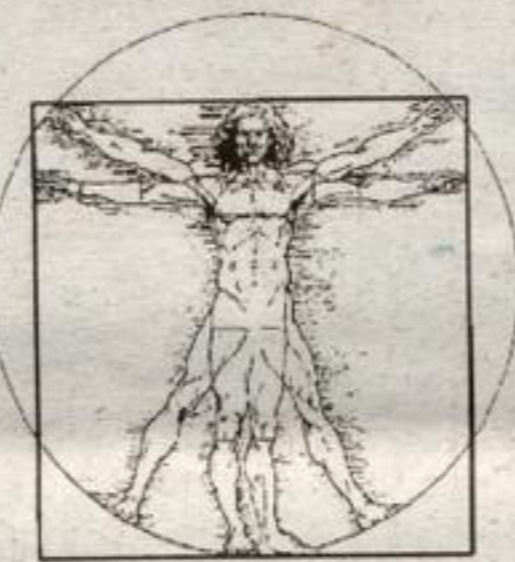
Lord of the Rings
Dec 17th, 2003
12:01pm

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Lotto Centre - Georgetown Market Place
Theatre parking available at the rear.

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