

# WEEKEND



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*News*

**Digest**

**Opposed to Super City**

Monday night committee passed a resolution put forward by Councillor Gerald Rennie confirming council's opposition to the "Super City" concept for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). In the motion Rennie said the Golden task force, "while finding a cure for ills that infest the heart of the GTA does not in so doing cause a deterioration in the quality of life enjoyed in smaller outlying municipalities like Halton Hills which have managed their resources and revenues over the years." A copy of the resolution is to be forwarded to Halton-Peel MPP Ted Chudleigh, Premier Mike Harris, Halton Region and the three other municipalities in Halton. Council endorsement of the resolution is required before it is official.

**Inquiry denied**

Al Leach, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, has denied the Hornby East Ratepayers Organization's (HERO) request for a commission of inquiry into the actions of the Town of Halton Hills relating to Equity Waste Management's planning application for a composting facility. The minister stressed in his letter to HERO, the town is responsible for interpreting its zoning bylaw, not the province. He added the only planning application to the town by Equity was for site plan approval and there is no legislated requirement for public consultation on the application.

Leach said the town did provide the opportunity for public participation however. He added the three councillors dealing with the Equity issues is in accordance with present legislation.

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**Oh, Christmas tree....**

The sounds of children's voices cut through the clear cold air as members of Georgetown's east and west Guides and Brownies sang carols at the annual Georgetown District and Memorial Hospital tree lighting ceremony on Wednesday night. In addition to the Guides and Brownies singing, visitors were treated to a number of songs by Georgetown Children's Chorus and Georgetown District High School Jazz Symposium. TED BROWN Independent/Free Press

## Taxation decision reversed

By LISA TALLYN  
Staff writer

In a reversal of an earlier decision general committee of town council decided Monday night the full effects of region wide reassessment will be passed on to taxpayers next year rather than spreading it out over two years.

Two weeks earlier committee supported a two-year phase in plan for the reassessment. That would have resulted in taxpayers facing increases having the hit spread over 1996 and 1997 and those expecting decreases not receiving their full decrease until 1997.

After much discussion Monday night councillors decided to abandon the two-year plan largely because Treasurer Andy Koopmans said in a report the implementation of the plan would result in the need for a full-time contract employee to be hired at a cost of \$30,000.

Koopmans also said if council intended to implement enhancements to the pre-authorized tax payment plan or a phase-in plan for business taxes even more additional staff resources would be required. He said one or two of the current part-timers in the department would have to work full-time hours in 1996 resulting in a cost of \$17,000 to \$35,000.

Councillor Norm Elliott said none of the councillors who supported a phase-in plan a couple of years ago realized there would be a staffing cost attached.

Norm said in light of drastic funding cuts from the province he finds the \$30,000 (for the new employee) "almost unpalatable" because money is going to be so tight during budget deliberations.

Koopmans said the additional person would be required due to increased workload and the necessity for absolute accuracy.

Councillor Ron Chatten said he saw the phase-in plan as too complicated and costly.

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