

Halton
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GEORGETOWN

Halton Hills Ambulance officer Wally Williams (left) along with Halton Hills firefighters carry a man injured in a motor vehicle collision to a waiting stretcher. The man was driving a pickup truck involved in a three-vehicle accident Thursday morning on Highway 7 at Trafalgar Road. The man was taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. Photo by Scott Kline

Group confronts dumpsite reps

By Dianne Cornish

Angry accusations and non-committal answers to questions marked a public meeting Tuesday night at the Interim Waste Authority's (IWA's) Community Information Centre in Brampton.

The meeting was arranged at the request of rural Halton Hills residents David and Pamela Soward to give homeowners along Winston Churchill Road and area an opportunity to give comments and ask questions about three candidate landfill sites for Peel Region bordering on Halton Hills.

The sites are among 21 on a long list of possible landfill locations for Peel. By next spring, the IWA will select one site, Bob Dormer, the IWA's program advisor for the Peel study, told Halton Hills This Week. After going through an environmental assessment, it's expected that the new Peel landfill will be operational by late 1996, he added.

The Sowards, who live within 500 metres of the sites bordering Halton Hills on Winston Churchill Boulevard just south of Mayfield Road, have launched a campaign to make local residents aware of the sites' proximity to Halton Hills. They were among close to 55 people who gathered at the Information Centre where there was standing room only for most attending the two-and-a-half-hour meeting.

In an interview following the meeting, Mrs. Soward said she and her husband were pleased with the number of residents in attendance.

"At least, we have people who care," she remarked. "It's up to us, now, to get the word out to other people and say, 'Do you realize how close these sites are to Halton Hills?'"

There were several emotion-charged exchanges between residents and the three men given the task of fielding their questions—Dormer and two consultants hired by the IWA, Don Gorber and Robert Sculthorpe.

One man, after listening to Gorber explain the criteria used to help select the local candidate landfill sites, exclaimed: "I never heard so much said with so little content."

Other outbursts throughout the meeting clearly indicated that people weren't satisfied with the process or criteria being followed and were not happy with answers to some of their questions.

When Dormer said that every resident within one kilometre of the potential sites received an information package from the IWA in early June, there was an audible murmur from the audience. He then indicated that the location of all sites was advertised in local newspapers and he added: "You had to have seen it on television."

To that, several audience members responded, "We don't get cable TV." Another man shouted, "The rabbit ears didn't pick it up."

Later in the meeting, Mrs. Soward asked how many residents within one kilometre of the pro-

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Eagle fails in bid to have quarry expansion placed under EAA

The Halton Hills-based citizen group EAGLE has failed to have expansion the United Aggregates quarry in Acton placed under tighter restriction.

United Aggregates operates a 575-acre quarry in the north side of Regional Road 43 east of Highway 25 and has plans to extend to operation into a 315-acre parcel of land south of the road.

A request from EAGLE, (Ecology Awareness Group Landscape and Environment) had sought to have the expansion plan placed under an Environmental Assessment Act review.

The group has been working for several years to prove the expansion would be harmful to the environment surrounding the site.

But Ontario Environment

Minister Ruth Grier said that despite "a number of concern with the operation of the quarry," the expansion plan could not be reviewed under the EAA.

"I have been advised by legal counsel with both the ministries of the Environment and Attorney General that the working of the south part of the quarry cannot legally be designated under the EAA, Grier said in a media release Thursday.

According to the Ministry of Environment release, the United Aggregates plan for the south part of the quarry was included in the company's 1972 site license under the Pits and Quarries Control Act.

The EAA does not allow for the designation of private sector projects begun before the act was

established in 1977 "unless there has been significant change in a project."

According to the media release, Grier has asked Natural Resources Minister Bud Wildman to look after the issue pit licenses fall under MNR jurisdiction.

"I am confident that Mr. Wildman will ensure that the environment near the Acton quarry is protect," Grier added in the release.

The United Aggregates site is the one RSI hopes to convert into a landfill site, pending the outcome of a current Environmental Assessment hearing.

Watch Halton Hills This Week for reaction to the Environment Minister's decision Wednesday.

Trial date set for man accused of murder

A Georgetown man charged in connection with the June 26 shooting of Kimberly Thompson will make another court appearance August 10 (Monday) to set a trial date.

Keith Bettridge, 36, was charged with murder after Thompson's

body was found in the Eighth Line house the couple shared.

According to police, the 30-year-old died as a result of a gunshot blast to the face.

Bettridge has twice been remanded in custody following brief court appearances to set trial dates.

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