

Despite numerous changes to billing

Finance department escapes flood of tax bill complaints

By CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

Halton Hills finance department received fewer than expected calls about the 1998 tax bills.

With all the confusion surrounding tax bills this year—reassessment, town and region tax increases and provincial downloading—the town's finance

department had been expecting numerous calls, many in the complaint category.

"Given the experience of the City of Burlington and the Town of Oakville, it had been our fear that the finance department might experience some difficulty in responding to the customer inquiries with existing staff resources," said town treasurer Andrew Koopmans in a report to town council.

Instead, the number of telephone calls and counter inquiries were only slightly higher than normal—although the time taken to answer everyone's questions took longer.

"Understandably, from time to time, staff felt somewhat overwhelmed and exasperated by the levels of taxpayer confusion which resulted from the multitude of 1998 tax changes," said Koopmans.

"It is hoped that this type of confusion will diminish substantially in 1999 as our taxpayers adjust to the new system of taxation and assessment in Ontario."

One most frequently asked question concerned education taxes, with many property owners being convinced that they were no longer responsible for education taxes.

The provincial government, which had initially stated that

they would pay all the education taxes, changed their minds early in 1998 and agreed to pick up only half (province-wide). In Halton that worked out to a 42 per cent reduction in education taxes for property owners, Koopmans said.

Halton Hills Councillor Ron Chatten said he wants to see a future council resolution passed to remove all education tax dollars from the residential portion of the property tax bill.



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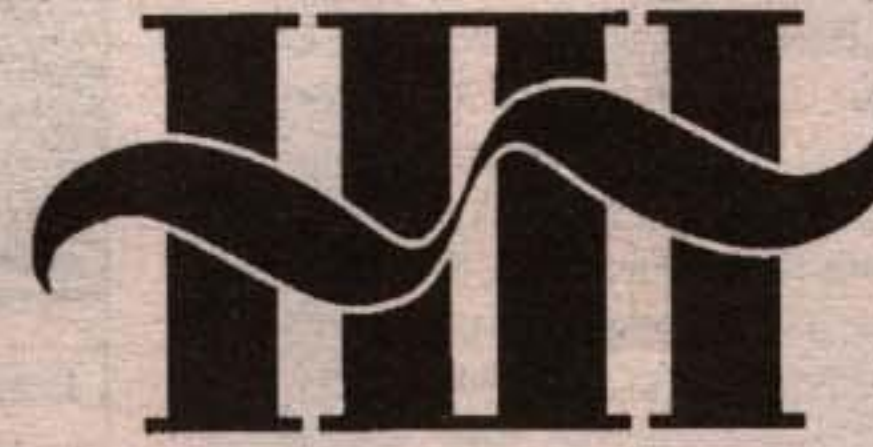
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

FACILITY B OPERATOR
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The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills, Recreation and Parks Department has an immediate opening for two Facility B Arena Operators.

Under the direction of a Facility Supervisor, the successful applicants will perform maintenance and other facility operational duties as required in the safe operation of community centre facilities, including arena operations.

General Qualifications

- possess a valid Ontario Driver's licence and able to operate ice resurfacing equipment
- able to work with minimal supervision
- able to converse effectively and cordially with the public
- willingness to work shifts, including some weekends
- mechanically inclined
- possess skills and knowledge in carpentry, mechanical and electrical disciplines
- previous experience with refrigeration plant operations

Educational Qualifications

- High School Diploma
- Class B Refrigeration Ticket or Stationary Engineers 4th Class Certification
- pool operator training and experience
- current first aid, CPR and WHMIS training/certification

Wage/Benefits

- probationary period of 3 months
- applicable rate as specified in the Collective Agreement between the Town of Halton Hills and C.U.P.E. Local 73 (Currently \$15.32/hr)
- benefit package

Interested applicants should submit a complete resumé with references, together with a letter of application in their own handwriting, to be received no later than **FRIDAY, NOV. 20, 1998 at 4:30 p.m.**

Applications are to be directed to: Town of Halton Hills, Attn: Mrs. K. Levere, P.O. Box 128, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 5G2.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act R.S.O. 1990, chapter M.45, and will be used to select a candidate. Questions regarding this collection should be directed to the Personnel Officer. We thank all those who apply, however only those persons being interviewed will be contacted.

QUOTATION

The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills Recreation & Parks Department is inviting bids for the operation of a **PRO-SHOP AND SKATE SHARPENING CONCESSION** at the New Acton Arena & Community Centre.

Bid documents for the contract to provide an arena Pro-Shop & Skate Sharpening Concession at the new Acton Arena, 415 Queen Street in Acton, can be obtained from the Purchasing Agent, Town of Halton Hills, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 5G2.

Completed documents will be received until **2:00 p.m. local time on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1998** to the attention of the Finance Department, Purchasing Services, same address as above. Telephone 905-873-2600.

Those interested are asked to contact the Arena Supervisor at 519-853-0020 to make arrangements to view the premises.

Under no circumstances will facsimile bids or late submissions be accepted or considered. Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted. 158

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Town of Halton Hills has purchased the former Georgetown Armoury, located in the Georgetown Fairgrounds, from the Federal Government of Canada after the building was declared as surplus property to their needs. At this time the Town of Halton Hills is requesting Expressions of Interest from groups, organizations or others for the rehabilitation and subsequent community use of the building.

Documents are available to be picked up from the Finance Department, Purchasing Services, P.O. Box 128, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 5G2.

Respondents are encouraged to inspect the site and existing conditions prior to responding to the Expression of Interest submission. Entrance into the facilities can be obtained by contacting Barb Anger, 873-2601 ext. 269 - 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. No alternative arrangement will be made available at this time.

Expressions of Interest will be received until **2:00 p.m. local time on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1998** submitted in a clearly marked envelope to the Purchasing Agent, at the above noted address.

Under no circumstances will facsimile submissions or late expressions of interest be accepted.

The Town of Halton Hills reserves the right to reject any or all expressions of interest. 159

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Wed., Dec. 23 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 28 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 29 8:00 p.m. to Midnight
Wed., Dec. 30 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

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Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 11:00 p.m. to Midnight
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Wed., Dec. 23 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 27 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Numerous daytime hours are available at all Town of Halton Hills Arenas.

Daytime Rate \$68.50 per hr.
Primetime \$137.00 per hr.
Non Prime \$116.45 per hr.

Hours are at the **Acton Leisure Pad** are available to rent at \$26.75 per hr.

Call the Facility Supervisor for more information.
Acton Arena 853-0020
Georgetown Memorial 877-9612
Alcott Arena 877-8488

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