

In an bid to appease taxpayers

Halton school board to scrutinize costs of administrative offices

Halton's public schools are currently under close scrutiny and now administrative offices will follow suit.

An updated report on the Halton District School Board offices, known as the J.W. Singleton Centre, was recently approved.

Oakville Trustee Debbie

Marklew said last year's report on the centre should be updated to satisfy the public.

"I know, through talking with parents, they're saying 'Why don't you look at your administrative space as well,'" said Marklew, who forwarded the motion. "In all fairness to parents and students, we need to look at the Singleton Centre at

the same time we're closing schools."

She suggested the update be ready for consideration prior to school closure decisions, which are slated for Dec. 16.

Education director Dusty Papke said an interim update will be made soon and further options will be explored in the spring.

"I'd like to do a more in-depth look at this issue," he said.

Superintendent Gerry Cullen said the previous report looked at the operational, custodial, maintenance and snow removal costs for the administration centre.

The use of spaces, such as meeting rooms and offices, were looked at when arrangements

with third parties were considered.

The updated report will look at several possibilities, such as sale or use of the J.W. Singleton centre, sharing the facility with a co-terminus board or other regional or municipal office, relocating offices to more appropriate and efficient space or any other innovative alternative.

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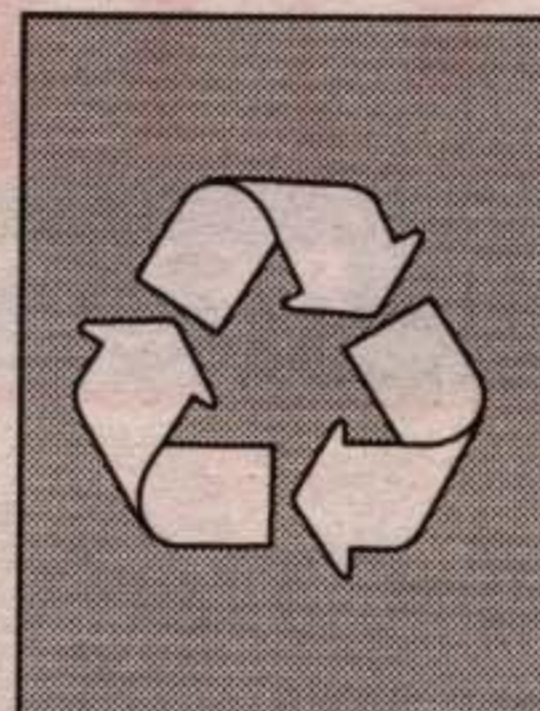
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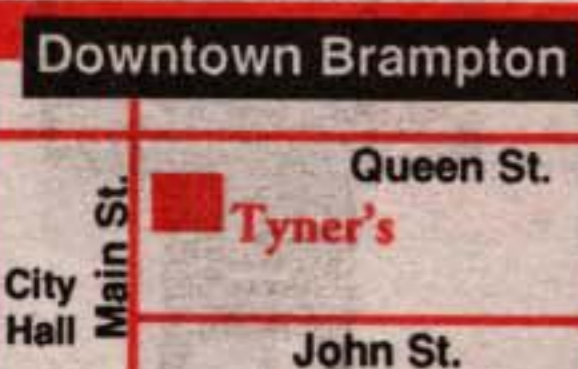
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