

# Halton Hills council won't give licence exemption to farm dogs

The Town of Halton Hills will not set a precedent and provide a dog licence exemption to farmers.

At a recent meeting, staff informed council that providing the exemption could be contrary to the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms. An exemption could be challenged on the grounds that any definition of "working dog" could create unfairness and partiality which a court may view as discrimination and that there exists no authority in the Municipal Act to allow the town to exempt a class or type of dog.

Staff surveyed surrounding municipalities and no exemptions for farm dogs were included in their bylaws.

Regional Councillor Rick Bonnette, who was one of the three council members who originally brought up the idea of exemptions, said there are no exemptions being considered in other towns because the enforcement officers

there are not making an issue out of licensing every dog in town as they are in Halton Hills.

Bonnette reiterated farm dogs play a role in protecting animals and property and, consequently save the town money when kill fees don't have to be paid to the farmer. He said there's been 19 cases of farm animals being killed, mainly by wolves, this year, and farmers have received \$5,874 in reimbursement. A portion of that— \$3,913 is paid by the provincial government (when the kills were made by wolves) and the rest, including the cost of the livestock evaluator is paid by the town— about \$2,000.

"There's a purpose to these animals," Bonnette said. "They're not like your household pets."

Staff suggested farmers apply to the municipal assistance committee for relief.

So far this year, 3,500 licences— totaling \$89,000— have been purchased in Halton Hills.

# Gardiner says province must change ways

Continued from pg. 1

Gardiner said disbanding the board is not the answer, though. She cited a case in Calgary where a school board was dissolved, which led to a large exodus in students to private schools.

"As long as we believe in public education, we need the school board to be there," Gardiner said. "That's entirely his opinion and he's entitled to it."

Gardiner said the EIC report was very fair and was right in saying that past decisions have certainly impacted on the situation today. However, she said if the province wanted immediate action on the report, "they should have put more teeth into it."

Gardiner said the province must also begin looking at municipalities rather than at the whole board. Under the current funding formula, the Halton board cannot get funding for new schools until 1,700 excess elementary pupil places are eliminated. In Halton,



ETHEL GARDINER

Gardiner said that means Georgetown schools are at capacity but a new school can't be built until spaces in Burlington are eliminated.

Chudleigh said underpopulated schools would continue to operate while the costs would rise to build new schools.

"If we were to do that it would have a significant cost on education," he said.

Chudleigh said the Halton board could eliminate the necessary spaces and trigger the building of two new schools if it were to offer junior kindergarten, as almost all other boards in the province do.

Gardiner said she "would be more than happy" to have Chudleigh visit the board to discuss the problems and the funding formula.

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## LATE DEATH NOTICE

LINDLEY, JAMES HOWARD, 82, of 3 Park Avenue, Georgetown, passed away after a short illness on November 16th, 1999, at Mississauga Hospital. Born in Hamilton to the late Charles Jackson and Edith Jane Lindley on June 19th, 1917; he married Muriel Jane Ferguson MacDonald on March 14th, 1942 and she survives him. Mr. Lindley was preceded in death by his brothers Clifford and Earle. Mr. Lindley is survived by his older brother Russell Henry Lindley (Mae) of Ancaster, by his daughter Jane Ellen Hoddinott (Boyd) of Bellefontaine, Ohio, and son David Jackson Lindley (Roe-Anne) of Ottawa. He was "Poppa" to 4 grandchildren, Jennifer Jane Dionne (Paul), Andrew Boyd Clifford Hoddinott, Jessie Anna Lindley and Jenna Jane Lindley. He was a successful business man who owned "Lindley Equipment and Supplies" and with his 2 brothers "Lindley Bros. Ltd." (Hardware Stores). He was a Mason and an avid curler. He was a Past President of the Burlington Curling Club and with his team won the Quebec Winter Bonspiel in 1962. Friends will be received at the J.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home, 11582 Trafalgar Road, Georgetown, 905-873-3611 Friday, November 19th from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. A Memorial Service will be held in the chapel on Friday, November 19th at 11 a.m. Rev. Peter Barrow officiating. Cremation. Contributions may be given in Howard Lindley's memory to the Alzheimers Association.

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Roos Travel is pleased to announce that Janet has joined our team. Janet would like to invite her friends to call and visit her at the Georgetown Office. Janet brings 14 years of travel experience with her to the Roos Travel Group. Janet and her husband Tom now reside in Georgetown. Having just returned from Cuba, Janet has several excellent suggestions for your winter holiday. Don't forget to ask Janet how you can win a VW Bug and help the United Way.

**HOURS:**  
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