

## NEW FACILITY WAS BADLY NEEDED: MAYOR

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The facility also has a separate and dedicated training room and classroom, state-of-the-art forensic labs, special bays for the examination of vehicles involved in fatal collisions, a gym and an evidence/seized property warehouse.

Halton Region chair Gary Carr said making these investments in policing not only allows existing officers to better do their jobs, but also serves to attract the best police officers and future police officers to Halton.

Oakville Mayor and Halton Police board chair Rob Burton said the new police headquarters is badly needed and noted it is a demonstration of the commitment of the community to the police service.

"It has been a few years in the planning and a couple years in the making and while this facility does stand as a symbol of justice and of policing in Canada, what it is really here for is to serve the men and women who work here, sworn and civilian, and to serve every citizen of Halton."

— Halton Police Chief Stephen Tanner

Halton police are gradually moving into the new building and some elements, like its training bureau and 911 call centre, are there already.

Tanner has previously said the new structure would house several headquarters-related units, which have had to stay at the Oakville station on Oak Walk Drive due to lack of space in the existing headquarters.

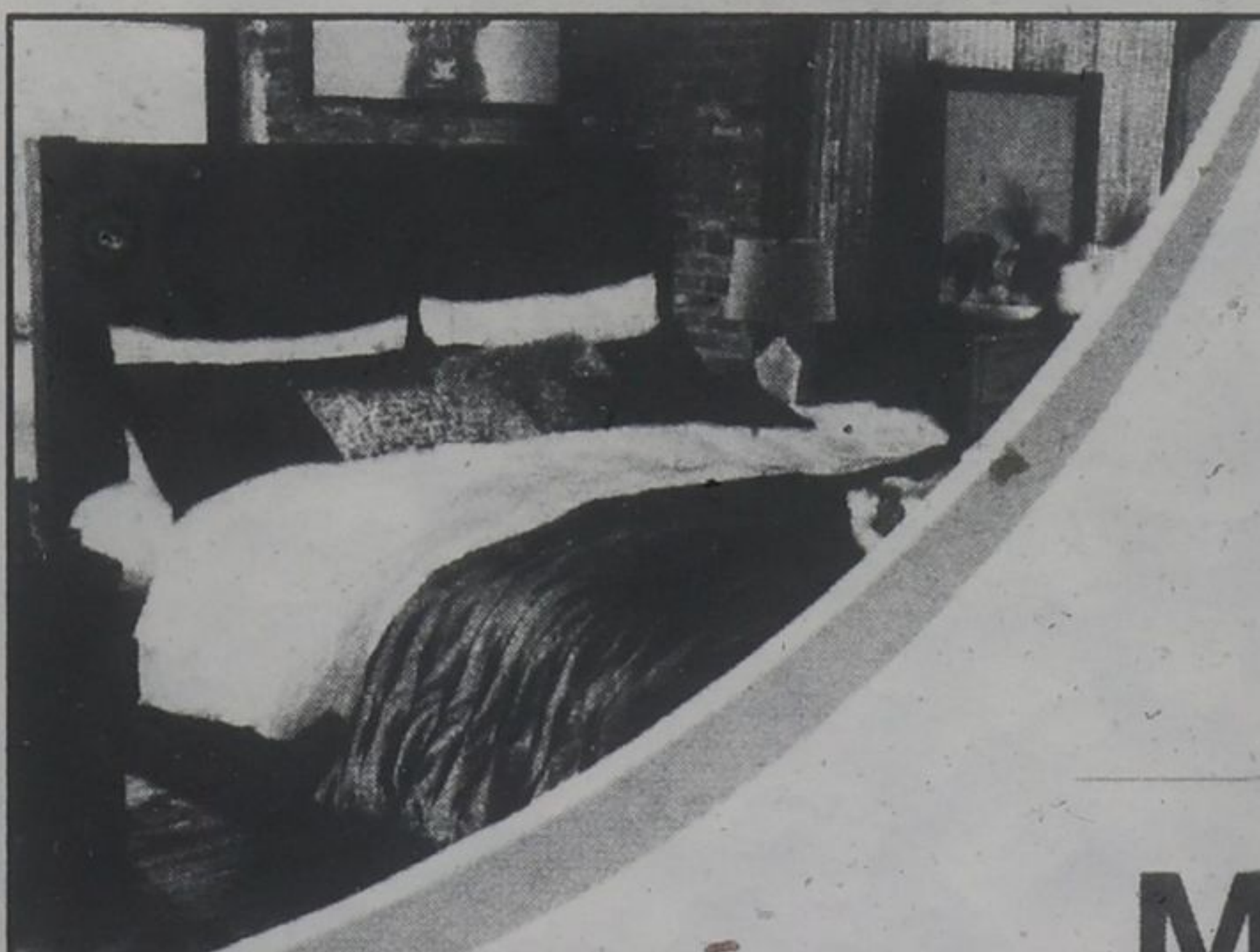
The Halton police drug and morality unit and the training unit will be among the groups housed within the new facility.

When police move out of their existing headquarters, the space will be used by Halton Region, which is itself dealing with the problem of outgrowing its facility to the point where space has to be rented off-site to accommodate all employees.



The Halton Regional Police Service's ceremonial guard unit raises the Canadian flag during the commissioning of the new police service's headquarters as Chief of Police Stephen Tanner salutes.

Graham Paine/Metroland



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