

Reviews conservation year

"Serious" shortage of funds hamper projects

"There is much that must be done if we are to keep pace with the growing needs of our time," Chairman Barry Humphreys told members and guests Wednesday as he presented the annual report of the Halton Region Conservation Authority.

Reviewing 1968 and forecasting into 1969, the chairman warned "serious" shortage of funds was causing a "retrenchment" which began last year and would carry over into the new year. The money shortage was so great, some schemes may not be proceeded with this year, he warned.

Ever-increasing costs of schemes and the tremendous expansion in population were blamed. The H.R.C.A. budget in 1968 was \$2,549,876—a far cry from the combined 1958 budgets of its predecessors the 12 and 16 Mile Creek Conservation Authorities, of \$17,000.

"Certainly the role of the conservation authority in community affairs has increased considerably, and the needs for conservation work has also increased."

"The Authority has done much in the fields of flood control, pollution control, greenbelt acquisition, wildlife conservation and public recreation," he continued. In the 10 years since the first conservation authorities were formed in this area, more than 4,000 acres of land has been acquired for public use.

Two other areas which the Authority owns but are not open to the general public are Mount Nemo Conservation Area and Esquesing Conservation Area.

At Mount Nemo the Authority completed the purchase of 38 acres of land from the Town of Burlington and further, worked out an undertaking with the subdivider to preserve the escarpment land.

At Esquesing the Authority rebuilt the dam on this property which had washed out due to ever-increasing run-off.

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other than some landscape planting. However, this area is ever-increasing in popularity. The big event of the year for the Kelso Conservation Area, which now attracts more than 125,000 people per year, was the holding of the first annual Ontario Boy Scout Jamboree from August 17 to 24. A tent city was built to accommodate more than 3,000 Boy Scouts from all parts of North America, and the Authority assisted in the development of this tent city.

The occasion will be memorable in the minds of the boys as on the second last day of the camp, a severe wind and rain storm forced the abandonment of the camp, but brought the community closer together through its generous assistance in looking after these boys.

Further development work that took place during the year included additional landscape planting, road and parking improvements, erosion control works and the acquisition of the food concession. For the winter program, the Authority undertook extensive renovation to the ski hill, improvements to the tow facilities and the extension of the snowmaking equipment.

The success of the programs of the Authority can be seen in the fact that during the summer, more than 550 students took part in the swimming lessons and during the winter, the increase in the number of skiers from 3,200 in 1967 to more than 6,800 in 1968.

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plantings in the fall. Studies are being undertaken to determine the comparable survival rates of spring planting versus fall planting. The Authority also prepared a new tree nursery and was responsible for collecting several thousand hardwood seedlings to augment its program. With the large number of acres of forest lands, the Authority's forestry crew has been busy with a Dutch Elm disease tree removal program. A small sawmill was purchased and put into production to assist in the utilization of these tree products.

Another major step forward was the setting up of a special committee under the leadership of C. C. Sweetman to examine and recommend ways and means of implementing a Conservation Education Program in co-operation with the local school boards.

A pilot project with the Oakville Board of Education brought more than 5,000 children to the Moutsbeg Conservation Area for study, during the fall season alone. The Authority constructed a classroom with facilities at Moutsbeg in order to assist this day centre program. Board members attended several conferences dealing with this aspect of Conservation and considerably more activity is anticipated in the future.

Several members of municipal councils in the region sat in on the annual meeting. A reception followed the business session.

The daily route that the letter carrier takes is officially called a "walk".

The sub-committee structure of the Authority has been revised this year. The following are the committees, with the first named being chairman and the second vice-chairman.

Public relations, Sweetman, Martin, MacArthur, Sweetman, Land Use, Harris, Sherwood, Currie, Drew-Brook, Goodrow, Fielding, Coverdale.

Conservation Areas, Wright, Fielding, Harris, Hall, Sargent, Coverdale, Middleton.

Education, Sweetman, MacArthur, Wright, Fielding. Water Control, New, Martin, Drew-Brook, Hall, Middleton, Goodrow, Sargent.

Activities of the program involved the official opening of the Mountsbeg Reservoir, a series of conservation tours, orienteering programs, essay and poster contest, a competition among youth groups in conservation projects, a skeet shooting program by the Halton Sportsman's Association, a dog derby, model airplane competition, canoeing, swimming, etc.

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Cut down fire area? call special meeting

A proposal by Burlington Council to cut down on the size of the North Burlington area presently served by Milton Area Fire Department raised a few hackles when the Milton Area Fire Committee held its January meeting Friday.

A special meeting of the committee is to be called in the near future to discuss the Burlington announcement. Milton Fire Department presently serves all of Burlington north of the Lower Base Line Road in Concessions One to Five, and the lands north of Highway 5 in Concessions Six and Seven. The assessment in this area last year was roughly \$5,000,000.

The bombshell dropped at Friday's meeting when Burlington's representative to the Milton Fire Area Committee, councillor W. A. Reeve, presented a motion his council had approved in December, to alter the boundaries served by Burlington and Milton brigades. According to Mr. Reeve the assessment in the area Milton will serve in future is just \$2,300,000—indicating less than half of what it now serves.

No boundary lines have yet been drawn but the fire area committee intends to investigate.

The Milton Area Fire Department is operated by a five-man committee of representatives from Milton and the four neighboring councils. The brigade serves the lower portions of Esquesing and Nassagaweya Township, and the upper portions of Oakville and Burlington in addition to the town of Milton.

Committee members doubted that Burlington could legally withdraw from the agreement that set up the fire area in the 1950's.

At the same meeting, councillor Charles Fay was elected Chairman of the committee for 1969, with Nassagaweya representative A. R. Service as vice-chairman.

Others on the group are Oakville representative councillor Donald Gordon, Esquesing Reeve George Currie and Mr. Reeve representing Burlington.

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PEOPLE OF NASSAGAWEYA DO YOU CARE? WRITE NOW! AS YOUR DEPUTY REEVE I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THEIR EFFECT ON NASSAGAWEYA. UNLESS CITIZEN OPINIONS ARE EXPRESSED IN SUFFICIENT VOLUME THERE WILL BE NO HOPE OF PRESERVING THE TOWNSHIP. It is proposed that Nassagaweya be split and scattered with one section attached to Milton and another to Wellington County.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The main project of the Public Relations Advisory Board was the setting up of a "Conservation Week" which was held from July 8 to July 14. The purpose of this "Conservation Week" was to focus attention on the activities of the Conservation Authority and to involve people in Conservation. The week was considered highly successful and is, in fact, being considered for implementation throughout the Province this coming year.

Sargent vice-chairman of conservation group

William Sargent of Brone was re-elected vice-chairman of the Halton Region Conservation Authority for 1969, when the group held its annual meeting on Wednesday afternoon of last week. Mr. Sargent is one of three men appointed to sit on the Authority for the Province of Ontario.

Barry B. Humphreys of Burlington, another provincial appointee, remains as chairman. The third provincial man on the Authority is H. H. Fielding. Other members are appointed by the nine councils which support the Halton Region Authority.

Three new members joined the 16-man Authority this year, Don Coverdale replacing Azel Bates for East Flamboro, Gordon Goodrow taking the place of James Redman from Burlington, and Don Middleton replacing Orley Gunby for Waterdown.

Others on the Authority include Ralph Sherwood of Puslinch, Brock Harris and Allan Wright of Burlington, Dr. C. A. Martin of Milton, George Currie of Esquesing, Mrs. Anne MacArthur of Nassagaweya, William Hall of West Flamboro, and C. C. Sweetman, R. J. "Kelly" New and Geoff Drew-Brook of Oakville.

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Canada Pension Plan A Field Officer from The Department of National Health and Welfare will be available for interviews the THIRD WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON each and every month beginning February 19th, 1969 at the Municipal Office. He will answer your questions and assist in completing applications for Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement Pension. THE TOWNSHIP OF NASSAGAWEYA J. C. MCINTYRE Clerk - Administrator

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THE HALTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION wishes to advise that arrangements have been made regarding the installation of Zenith telephone numbers so that anyone wishing to phone the Board offices may do so without incurring long distance tolls. The following are the numbers: CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE - OAKVILLE - ZENITH 19220 NORTH EDUCATION CENTRE - GEORGETOWN - 877-9782 Residents of Campbellville should note that the Zenith number for the North Education Centre is not effective until February 12 and will be Zenith 55910.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America Your Prudential agent wants you to understand exactly what you've got, what you're getting and what you're getting into. CALL... BILL GREENFIELD 417 Woodward Ave. 878-9171

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