

Centre for severely retarded opens in Milton

"The limitations are not so much the students' as our own," Lawrence Smuckler told an audience of 100 Saturday as he traced the establishment of the Halton Developmental Centre.

The director explained "It's so easy to say 'it can't be done' and leave it at that. If you expect nothing, you get nothing. It's very tempting to label people, and the expectations created by such labelling tend to generate limitations where there were none."

Official opening of the new centre, located in facilities at the E. C. Drury School and funded by the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, took place Saturday.

Staff specialists

The centre is for up to 30 severely retarded and multiple handicapped school age children between the ages of five and 18. The centre includes a teaching staff of 10

full time teachers with specialization in occupational therapy, kinesiology, language acquisition, behavior modification, therapeutic recreation, physiotherapy, Montessori and special education.

The main purpose of the Developmental Centre is to provide basic training for the children for whom existing programs in schools for the trainable retarded are inadequate or inappropriate.

The Centre is operated by the three Associations for the Mentally Retarded in Halton, with Alex Hosie of the Burlington District group as chairman of the committee of management, Alan Beeny from the North Halton association and Mrs. Edythe Stafford of the Oakville association.

MP, MPP attend

A. B. McBurney served as chairman of the program at the opening which included an invocation from Rev. T. J.

Lewis of Knox Presbyterian Church Milton, greetings and congratulations from Mrs. E. Etchen of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Mrs. Barbara Snow on behalf of the Hon. James Snow, MPP for Oakville, Julian Reed, MPP for Halton-Burlington, Dr. Frank Philbrook, MP for Halton, and Ms. M. Pollard of the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Following the official declaration of the opening of the centre by Mrs. Etchen, visitors toured the centre. Refreshments were served by the auxiliary of the associations.

Grows to 25

Director Smuckler told this newspaper there are currently 18 children enrolled in the program and the number is expected to reach 25 by mid-July. He emphasized the need for volunteers to assist in the one-to-one ratio required to help the youngsters enrolled.

Transportation for the students is provided from all parts of the region. He pointed out that by providing a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. year-round school program, it was also possible to offer the parents some relief from the constant care otherwise necessary and frequently avoid or at least delay a placement in a large residential facility.



HALTON DEVELOPMENTAL CENTRE



PARTICIPATING in the opening of the new Halton Developmental Centre at the E. C. Drury School Saturday were provincial and federal representatives as well as those associated in work with the retarded. Here MPP Julian Reed chats with chairman A. B. McBurney and Dr. Frank Philbrook, Halton MP.



SPECIAL EQUIPMENT is included in the new Halton Developmental Centre for handicapped children. Director Lawrence Smuckler explains its use to Mrs. Barbara Snow, Regional Chairman Alan Masson and Ms. M. Pollard of the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded. The centre is located in the E. C. Drury School, Milton.

OFFICIALLY OPENING the new Halton Developmental Centre for severely retarded and multiple handicapped school age children in Milton Saturday were these officials. Mrs. E. Etchen representing the Ministry of Community and Social Services declared the centre open. She is shown with representatives of the three Halton associations for the retarded, Mrs. Edythe Stafford of Oakville, Alan Beeny of the north Halton association and Alex Hosie of the Burlington association. The three form the committee of management for the centre.

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—Milton Senior Citizens Orchestra is entertaining at the Joseph Brant Museum's annual strawberry social, Thursday July 1 in Burlington.

—HRCA has started charging admissions at its Rattlesnake Point Conservation Area on Appleby Line. A new gatehouse was erected. Fee is \$1 per car.



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON LOCAL IMPROVEMENT NOTICE (By-law No. 65/76)

TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to Section 8 of the Local Improvement Act, R.S.O. 1970, Chapter 255, the Council of the Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Halton intends to construct as local improvements, the following work:

IMPROVEMENT	STREET	FROM	TO
PR-215 12" diameter sanitary sewer	Steeles Ave. West	Bronte Road	Old Highway No. 25
	Old Highway No. 25	Steeles Ave. West	Existing manhole 200' north of Canadian National Railway

and intends to specially assess a part of the cost upon the land directly abutting on the work, and upon lands that are immediately benefitted thereby being all of the rateable property in the Improvement Area as described below:

Estimated Cost of Work	Corporations Improvement Area Share	Owners Estimated per foot frontage cost	Annual Rate	No. of Installments	
PR-215 12" diameter sanitary sewer	\$157,000.	\$54,600.	\$20.00	\$2.6295	15

Application will be made by the Corporation to the Ontario Municipal Board for its approval of the undertaking of the work and where this notice is published under subsection 3 of the said section 8 of the Local Improvement Act, any owner may, within twenty-one days after the publication of the notice, file with the Clerk his objection to the work being undertaken.

The Board may approve of the work being undertaken, but before doing so, it may appoint a time and place where any objections to the work will be considered.

Dated: June 30th, 1976
Milton, Ontario.

John E. Byrne,
Deputy Regional Clerk.

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