

# Will honor community-minded clergyman



REV. W. R. "ROD" LEWIS, Milton's Citizen of the Year for 1976, will be honored by Milton Chamber of Commerce at a banquet Saturday, Jan. 29.

**By Bob Burt**  
The citizen of the year award given annually by the Milton Chamber of Commerce usually goes to someone who has given of his or her time willingly and unselfishly for the betterment of the community.  
Having determined that as one of the main criteria, it is difficult to imagine anyone more deserving of the award than Rev. Rod Lewis.  
After only six years in the community, Mr. Lewis has involved himself in a variety of ways and has made a contribution that will be hard to equal.

Mr. Lewis said he was "surprised and delighted" with the honor to be bestowed upon him.  
"It's the first time I've ever been honored in this way. It will stick in my mind. Milton is the first community I've lived in with my own family. Milton is another first for me, and firsts are lasting."  
A dinner in his honor will be held Saturday, Jan. 29, and is open to the public.  
"I'm looking forward to that in many ways. I want to say thanks to the community. Whatever I've done in and for the community, I've benefited through personal satisfaction and in more tangible ways."

Mr. Lewis noted that all of the groups and agencies he's become involved with have also borne fruit for him. By working on community projects he has come into contact with people who have helped to open up doors and helped him in his role as a minister.  
**Cast your bread**  
"I've made a lot of contacts I am able to return to when I'm called on to help people. It's opened up the doors of communications...the kind of things you can't buy."  
He acknowledged it might sound corny, but his philosophy on life runs close to the Biblical saying, "Cast your bread on the waters and it will return 100 fold."

He refers to a term out of the computer industry to describe the converse situation: GIGO, or garbage in, garbage out.  
"That's how a computer works."  
Probably the thing that makes Rod Lewis stand apart from dozens of volunteers who offer their time and contribute in meaningful ways is that the minister has moved to fill needs in the community which are not being served, as opposed to just taking seats on boards and commissions already established.  
Rod Lewis came to Milton with his wife Olive in August of 1970 prior to completing studies to become a minister. He served for a short period of time at Boston Presbyterian and Omagh Churches while he was still a student and was officially called here upon graduation.  
AA  
He became involved in the Milton chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous for what he called "selfish reasons" in 1971, and continues with that involvement.  
His attendance at the Tuesday night meetings has proved to be a continuing learning experience for the young minister.

"It was important to me to learn about alcoholism. It was something I knew nothing about and I came to learn how important that is, even in a town like ours."  
He explained that he was often being called into family counselling situations where alcohol was the root of the problem.  
Like most of his endeavors, his involvement in AA had spinoff benefits. Not only was he better prepared to handle the family counselling situations he was called into, but he found there were ways he was able to help some AA members.  
In 1972 he was asked to

serve as an adult advisor to the Milton Youth Council. The council itself had grown out of a Halloween riot and was an attempt by some youths to provide a place for young people to congregate and be together.  
Rev. Lewis became involved in work in Milton Jail through the Community Contact Program. He explained that prior to this, inmates there had nothing to do and no way to spend their time.  
Through that program he and others went in and showed movies on a regular Wednesday night basis.  
That led to discussions he

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## The Canadian Champion

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Victory surprises everyone, including winner

# Ric Morrow region chairman

## Homeowner given instant satisfaction

**By Rod Jerred**  
One Dorset Park area resident with a month-old, \$80,000 home found more than just reading satisfaction from last week's Champion story on housing defects in Dorset Park homes.  
Monday morning, the woman phoned The Champion newsroom to complain that her house also had several construction defects, but said she was getting nowhere in her attempts to get the builders to come and fix them.  
Her problems included drafts which frosted all the living room windows, no storm windows, a garage door which was warped, no trimming around the base of the fireplace, ceiling plaster falling off and a toilet seat in the basement which rocked so badly it was impossible to use.  
**Thaws drapes with dryer**  
The woman was particularly upset with the draft in her living room, because she had just spent the morning thawing her drapes—with her hair-dryer. "We had a man come over to check the heating and he said there wasn't anything wrong with the heating system, but told us we needed storm windows," she said. "It's so bad our babysitters complain it's too cold to babysit."  
The woman had included all the problems in her report to the builder but the builder had done nothing yet.  
After phoning The Champion the woman phoned the builder back and said she was thinking of having the Champion reporter over for coffee and showing the reporter her problems with the house.  
That afternoon she phoned the reporter back to say the builders were at her house now, "fixing up the mistakes."

**By Bob Burt**  
Halton Regional Council elected a dark horse candidate as regional chairman at the inaugural meeting in Burlington Wednesday. Ric Morrow, a 36-year-old pilot from Halton Hills and an eight-year veteran of municipal politics, won the five-man election but only after councillors had cast six ballots.  
Mr. Morrow was visibly moved by his victory. The decision came as a complete surprise to him and to the 24 councillors who elected him. No one was giving Mr. Morrow even a slim chance of victory prior to the meeting.  
Council spent the first half hour of the meeting debating whether or not secret ballots should be cast prior to the councillors being sworn in. Council finally voted 13-11 to cast secret ballots prior to being sworn in as a legally constituted body.

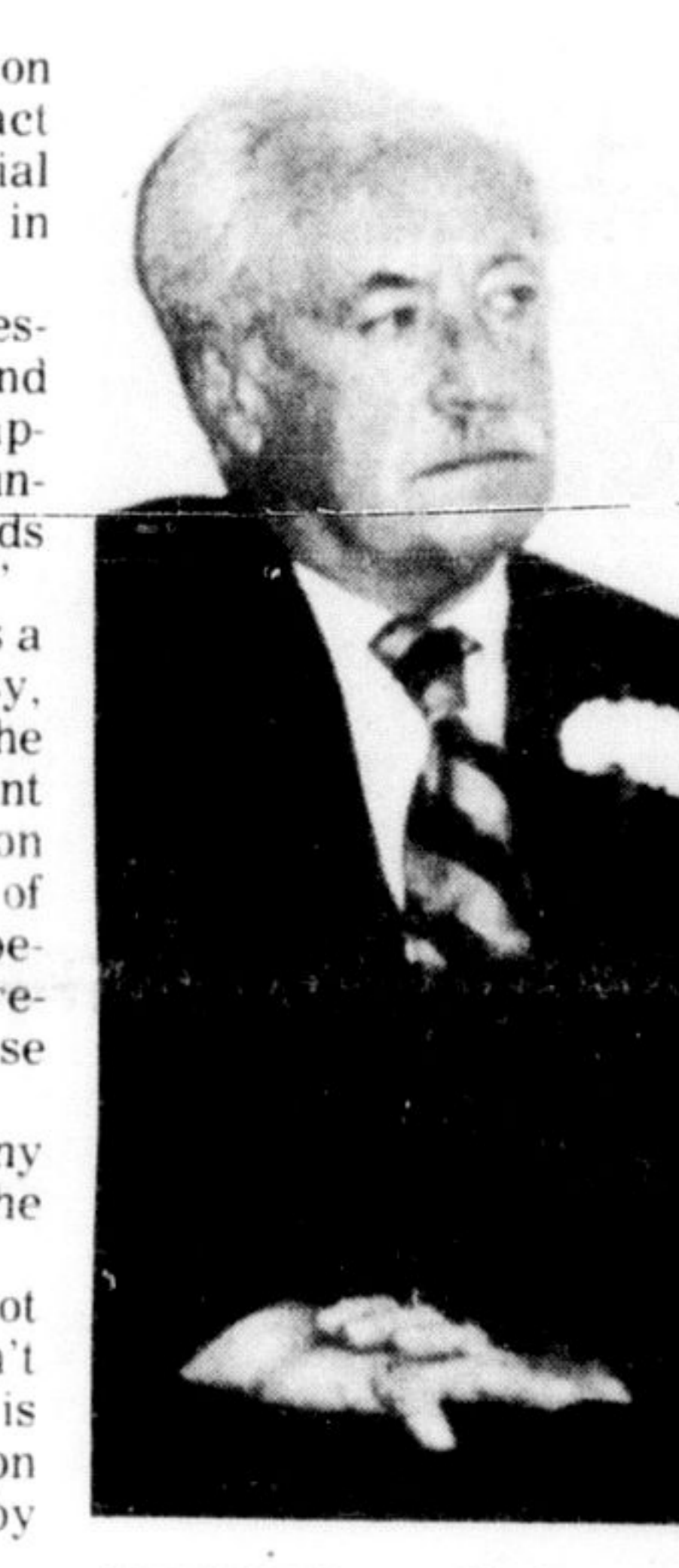
Finally ballots were circulated and votes cast in a tension-filled room. The results of the first ballot came in: Jim Swanborough 4, Ric Morrow 6, Allan Masson 6, Terry Mannell 3 and Jack Raftis 4. Councillor Mac Anderson protested the secret ballot and refused to vote on the first and second ballot.  
Terry Mannell's name was dropped off the list for the second ballot. His three votes went to Masson and Raftis. The results of ballot two were Swanborough 4, Morrow 6, Masson 7 and Raftis 6.  
Swanborough dropped out after the second ballot.  
On the third ballot Masson gained three of Swanborough's votes to jump to the lead with 10 votes, within just four votes of retaining his job.

But this time Mr. Anderson decided to vote and caused a two-way tie for second place with Mr. Morrow and Mr. Raftis each getting seven votes.  
**Same count**  
That vote was taken again and the count held the same. At the suggestion of Milton Councillor Jim Kerr, councillors voted on Morrow and Raftis only with Morrow surviving the test on a 14-10 margin. Council chose Mr. Morrow over Mr. Masson on a 13-10 sixth ballot with Mr. Anderson again abstaining from the vote.  
Many of the councillors had hoped that the four unsuccessful candidates would concede, freeing them of the mandatory stand up open vote once council was formally sworn in.

But when the vote came Raftis and Swanborough conceded and Mannell and Masson hung in, hoping for a change in their favor.  
Even though the die had been cast, six Masson supporters continued to support him and Oakville Councillor Laurie Mannell cast his final ballot for his son Terry. The remaining 17 councillors supported Morrow on the official stand-up vote.  
**Masson support**  
Two of the councillors supporting Masson to the end were Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill and Councillor Pat McKenzie, also from Halton Hills. Dave Coons of Burlington, Don Gordon of Milton and Carl Eriksen and Archie Donaghey from Oakville also supported Masson.  
Councillors voting for Morrow on the final ballot were from Oakville Mac Anderson, Harry Barrett, Ron Planche and Gord Reade, from Burlington Don Carter, Ben Ciprietti, Vern Connell, Mary Munro, Pat McLaughlin, Walter Mulkewich, Jack Raftis and Tom Sutherland and from Milton, Jim Watson and Jim Kerry and from Halton Hills Russ Miller, Ric Morrow, and Roy Booth.

Because Morrow only announced his intention to run for chairman a week before the meeting, he missed his chance to speak to the councillors. He had a prepared text but didn't deliver it until after the informal voting had been concluded.  
Mr. Morrow had told councillors that he would not serve in a full time capacity but would be available on the average of three days a week.  
**No competition**  
He said he would have a very "low profile" as chairman and would not compete with mayors for the public eye.  
The new chairman promised to provide an atmosphere conducive to decision

making for the council and to end what he called a "three ring circus".  
He told both the council during the meeting and reporters after the meeting that he felt there were areas of responsibility that should be returned to the local councils, where they could be more efficiently handled.  
Abolition of the regional roads system is one area that Mr. Morrow said he would want to look at. He claimed there was no need to have plows and sanders travelling miles to get onto roads that are under their jurisdiction, when local roads crews are working nearby.  
Morrow's victory concludes Al Masson's three year term at the \$38,000 a year job. Masson served as a Mayor of Oakville in 1964 and 1965, ran unsuccessfully for parliament as a Conservative candidate in 1965 and served as reeve of Oakville in 1971, 72 and 73.  
The salary for the job has not yet been settled and it won't be until a recommendation is made by the administration committee and acted upon by council.  
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MASSON... He's out!

## Consider arena location Jan. 31

Anyone wishing input into the location and construction of the town's second ice surface is being urged to make their comments to council in writing prior to Monday, Jan. 31.  
That is when Milton Council plans to have all of the costs and related information needed to make a decision concerning the location of the second rink.  
Four alternatives are still being considered. Council will consider twinning Memorial Arena, rebuilding or repairing the old one on Brown St., and building a new

rink at either Milton District High School or at the fair grounds.  
While council still has to consider the prospect of twinning, several councillors have made it known that because of the earlier uproar over the proposal, they have withdrawn support for that project.  
Prior to endorsing the construction of a second ice surface, Councillor Russ Powadiuk wants a report prepared that will show the per capita costs allocated to the various sports.  
Councillor Art Melanson



RIC MORROW... New Halton Regional Chairman

## Campbellville fights village school closure

A group of residents living in the Campbellville area will rally together to fight the proposed closing of Campbellville School.  
The situation in Campbellville bears definite resemblances to the Norval School closing which was fought so adamantly by citizens of that area. It was a direct result of that fight that Julian Reed sought and won the Liberal nomination and eventually the election in Halton-Burlington. A similar fight has been brewing in Palermo.  
Residents of the area concerned about the proposal have held one meeting with board officials. Bev Campbell, one of the parents who vows she'll fight the closure, claims closure would mean that four-year-old children would have to ride buses for an hour before getting to school.  
"I think it is most unfair and can't understand why anyone would want to do that. Most people in education feel that small schools are better for students and that the same students don't do as well in big schools. There are many factors that should be looked into before they close little schools."  
The school opened in 1927 and until 1972, served children up to grade five. There are some students at the school now whose fathers and grandfathers also attended the school.  
The historical and emotional implications will add fuel to the fire.  
**Everybody's happy**  
Mrs. Campbell said the teachers at the school are happy and the community is happy with the way things

are. She pointed out the pupil-teacher ratio is considerably lower than in larger schools.  
There are 61 students attending the school, 18 in kindergarten, 23 in year one and 20 in year two. According to forecasts by the board of education, those figures will decline in the immediate future.  
Milton Mayor Don Gordon was among those attending the meeting and he has offered to present a brief to the board after getting the permission of his council.  
"The people there are opposed to it, for some good reasons. It is the same old story, first you lose the train station, then the school, then the post office. It would be a loss to Campbellville and to Milton. Citizens there feel that if the school closes, a bit  
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### 'Politics' charged

## Richmond School controversy flares again

The last one-room schoolhouse to be closed in Halton, the Richmond School at Kelso is in the news again.  
Milton Council hopes, for once and for all time, to have the school preserved and hopefully operational as a learning resource centre for outdoor education. But who will preserve it and who will operate it—that's the question.  
Richmond, also known as Christie or Kelso School, is on Appleby Line south of Highway 401, a stone's throw from the rear entrance to Kelso Conservation Area. The first school was a wooden building erected in 1863, which was replaced by the present stone school in 1886, making the existing structure 91 years old this year. It was closed in 1965.  
**Passed on**  
Nassagaweya School Area Board, the owner when it

closed, turned it over to Nassagaweya Council for preservation as an historical building, and the Council leased it to Halton County Museum Association. However the Association has since become inactive and the building sits, vacant and forlorn, its roof leaking, its floor buckling and needing extensive repairs.  
Milton Council feels it inherited the school when regional government was introduced, especially since the Museum Association is no longer active. Halton Regional Council lays no claim to its ownership.  
Now to the problem of who is going to preserve it, and who is going to use it.  
At a meeting Monday evening, Council agreed to have the roof repaired at the town's expense, to prevent further damage, and funds

for this will likely come from a fund the town set up for rental fees on the old Nassagaweya Township office building. Councillor Jim Watson suggests there must be \$5,000 in that fund.  
**Ask proposals**  
Council also asked for presentations from any educational or community group interested in re-opening the school as an educational resource centre. Its motion

named Halton Region Conservation Authority, Halton Regional Museum, Campbellville Women's Institute and the Halton Board of Education, but it was stressed the competition is open to one and all.  
Another proposal, that a citizens' committee be named to study the school's future use, was dropped after Councillor Rick Day accused its sponsor, Councillor Jim Watson, of trying to "inject a note of politics into the situation."  
Councillor Watson's motion suggested former teacher Mrs. Florence Parsons and two former students, Lloyd Chisholm and former Mayor Anne MacArthur, would be ideal members for the committee.  
**'Prejudice'**  
Judy Goebelle, a Halton Museum supporter and active

### Features today

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THE OLD RICHMOND SCHOOL at Kelso is in the news again. Council has invited interested groups to submit proposals for its preservation and use. The photo is from an early postcard, loaned by Larry Phillips of Milton. The outdoor "facilities" have been removed since this photo was taken—and someone has stolen the school bell, too.