

# Children's Aid budget trimmed at the Region

Despite rapidly increasing costs and the threat of a strike, the Halton Children's Aid Society is getting little sympathy from regional council for its budget requests.

Executive Director Ron Coupland presented members of the Health and Social Services committee with a \$2.8 million budget.

Mr. Coupland explained the budget was a 16.6 per cent increase over last year. Committee members approved only a 15 per cent increase.

In his presentation, Mr. Coupland said increasing staff needs and expected salary increases are one of the major sources of the hike, about \$309,780 more than last year.

Under current arrangements, the provincial government pays 80 per cent of the CAS budget and Halton Region pays the balance. In 1981 the region's share is expected to be about \$566,694.

Among new programs and directions planned for 1981, Mr. Coupland said money was being requested for community development projects "to try to cut down on the levels of social disorganization and delinquency in some areas."

"We are especially concerned about the needs of people who have less than average resources and have no where to go to spend their free time," he said.

On the therapeutic side of the budget, Mr. Coupland said plans called for the number of children taken into the Society's care to be kept to the level of last year, or lower.

"The management and board of the society is committed to having

these children served their homes rather than in expensive institution arrangements," he said. Freshmen councillor Brad Clements (Milton) and Fred Oliver (Oakville) argued that increase being sought was excessive, given the general restraints under which the region operates.

"I think this increase exceedingly high for what the region can afford to pay," said Mr. Clements, a regional appointee to the board of the CAS.

Mr. Oliver argued that the 12 per cent increase granted to other social service agencies seeking grants from the region was "generous" and that the CAS should be kept to that increase.

His motion to the effect was defeated.

Councillor Walte Mulkevic (Burlington) said he was "surprised that the agency can bring in a bottom line of only 1 per cent given the demands of union and what is happening in the field."

"I'm not sure that I want to deal with the implications of cutting this budget because of what it will mean to human lives," he added.

Mike White, president of the agency, added that some of the highest cost increases being faced by the agency were attributed to the loss of foster parents and homes.

When foster parents are not available children in need of protection have to be placed in other institutional arrangements costing as much as \$100 a day.

The agencies budget forecasts adding 18 foster homes to the current total, while 30 will close during 1981.

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**THE PLANNING ACT AND THE PARKWAY BELT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT**  
Town of Milton

Take notice that application for amendment to the Parkway Belt Land Use Regulation No. 481/73 in the Town of Milton has been received.

Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. Barbic  
File No.: 13(170)  
Proposal: To construct a single family dwelling on a 4.047 ha. property. Part of Lot 5, Conc. 4, N.S.

All submissions received in the Office of the Minister of Housing, c/o Community Planning Review Branch, 56 Wellesley St. W., 8th floor, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2K4 on or before the 8th day of April, 1981 dealing with this requested amendment will be fully considered before a final decision is made.

Under Section 32(9) of The Planning Act, any interested person may request a hearing by the Ontario Municipal Board or an application for amendment to the Provincial Land Use Regulation.

Claude F. Bennett  
Minister of Housing

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