



Mike Harris

## Harris is in Milton for dinner

Premier Mike Harris will be in the village tonight for a Progressive Conservative fundraiser.

The traditional Tory event at Mohawk Raceway in Campbellville will start with a reception at 6 p.m., at which time Premier Harris is expected to make a speech.

A \$300 a plate dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m.

## Correction on delivery

A postal strike story in Friday's Champion stated that seniors' pensions cheques were delivered Thursday.

In actual fact, it was child tax benefit (baby bonus) and some employment cheques that were mailed by striking postal workers.

A Canada Post spokesman confirmed yesterday that old age security, pension and employment insurance cheques will be delivered tomorrow. The remaining employment cheques will also be delivered. The newspaper apologizes for the error.

# Bill 160 powers already there for most part, says RC director

By CAROL BALDWIN  
Special to The Champion

Fred Sweeney is not sure what all the fuss over Bill 160 is about. The director of education with the Halton Catholic School Board says many of the powers the bill affords the government were already under its control.

In an attempt to help Catholic trustees understand Bill 160, Mr. Sweeney and Steve Balogh, superintendent of human resources with the Catholic board, provided a step-by-step presentation at last week's English language board meeting.

"The bill says the government could regulate the school year, school holidays, the length of the term. Many of those powers the government had by regulation anyway," said Mr. Sweeney. "Anything that's there (in the governing amendments) the ministry could do before."

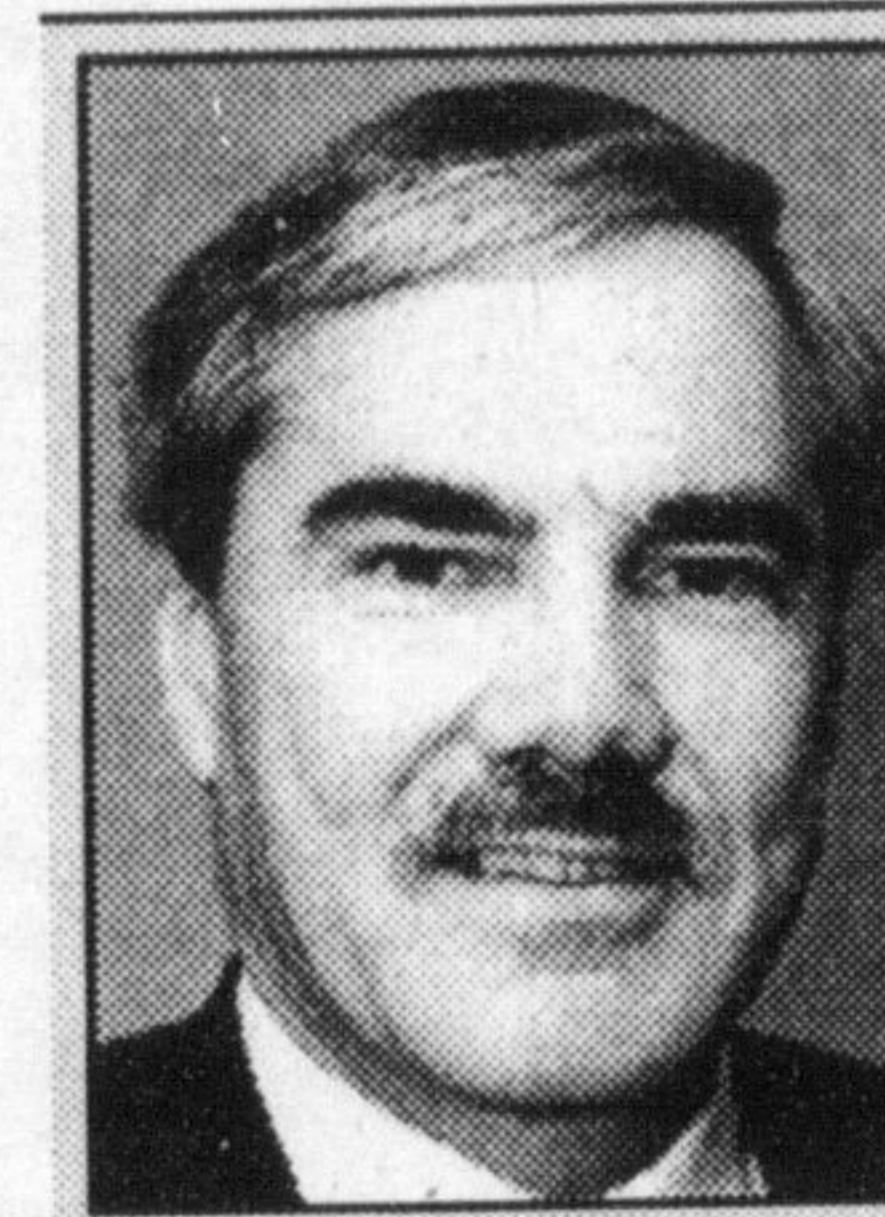
Mr. Sweeney told the trustees the stated goals of the bill were to improve quality and accountability, to focus resources in the classroom, and to streamline the organization. He questioned how the government would accomplish the second item while removing another \$770 million from the system.

"Over \$2 billion in a five-year period has been lopped off the education system province wide," he said, adding that the third goal was already being implemented by reducing the number of trustees and their salaries.

Removing the word "advisory" from the clause pertaining to school councils seemed to be the item that troubled Mr. Sweeney the most.

"It can mean that school councils will have more than an advisory role, or that they will be nothing at all, like a PTA," he said. "I tend to think the role of the trustees will be lessened... I think it is an attempt on the part of the government to change its mind on the role of school councils."

In the bill's amendment concerning the Education Improvement Commission (EIC), Mr. Sweeney said, "The EIC cannot give us direction, only advice." He noted that such a clause did not mean the government had given up on its "Great plan of wiping us (the separate school board) out. I still believe there's a possibility."



"Many of these powers the government had by regulation anyway"

— FRED SWEENEY

Finally Mr. Sweeney told the trustees that Bill 160 gave the boards of education the ability to "require teachers to work all or part of the five working days preceding the start of the school year. That way the boards will become the bad guys," he said.

Mr. Balogh followed Mr. Sweeney with a presentation on class sizes, teacher requirements and prep time.

According to Mr. Balogh, Bill 160 limits class sizes to 25 in elementary schools and 22 in secondary schools. "The formula for determining class size is entrenched in the regulations," he said. "And boards will have to publicize their numbers to the public."

However, Mr. Balogh said he is not sure how the government will average the elementary class size — from junior kindergarten to grade 2 and grades 3 to 8, or from junior kindergarten through to grade 8.

"Right now grades 1 and 2 are allowed a maximum of 20. They are already controlled. Our current class size is about 22.1 in junior kindergarten, 23.22 in senior kindergarten, 19.86 in grades 1 and 2, and 30.67 in grades 3 to 8," he said. "Right now, other than grades 3 to 8, we're in the ball park."

"But no matter how they look at it, we will be adding teachers," he said "We'll either be adding 18 or 64 teachers no matter what range they include in the average class size."

As for the secondary schools, Mr. Balogh said the numbers are not as clear, and the Roman Catholic board would either be adding or subtracting about 40 teachers.

Burlington Trustee James Sherlock interjected, "It's

• see Bill 160 on page 9

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Program Assistant**

The Department of Leisure Services requires a Program Assistant to work at the Seniors' Activity Centre and other community facilities. This is a 10 month contract consisting of a replacement for an employee on maternity leave and ongoing program support at the Seniors' Activity Centre. Period of contract November 1997 - September 1998 commencing at 2 days per week and increasing over the contract period to a maximum of 35 hours per week.

**DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Co-ordinate programs for a variety of age groups...children & youth, seniors, and adults.
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- Involvement in the areas of staff supervision, quality control, customer service, and some community liaison functions.
- Assist with the co-ordination and promotion of special events in association with a number of volunteer groups.
- Department representative to a variety of volunteer committees.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Degree/diploma in Physical Education, Gerontology, or Recreation Leadership.
- Possess effective organizational and communication skills.
- Willingness to work irregular hours including evenings and weekends.
- Computer experience in Word, Excel, and Publisher.
- Current and valid Standard First Aid and Level C CPR certification an asset.

**SALARY RANGE:**

- Town of Milton Salary Plan, Level 6 \$35,508 - \$44,390

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a resume by November 28, 1997 to:  
The Town of Milton  
Department of Leisure Services  
P.O. Box 1005, Milton, Ontario L9T 4B6  
Attention: Gloria Day, Staff Support Services Administrator



## Notice to EI, TAGS, Employment Trainee Programs, OAS and CPP Recipients

**Alternative cheque distribution and claimant reporting during the postal disruption.**  
Human Resources Development Canada has made alternative arrangements for picking-up and dropping off Employment Insurance, The Atlantic Groundfish Strategy (TAGS) and Employment Trainee Programs cheques and claimant report cards during postal disruptions.

Claimants may pick up their cheques and return their bi-weekly report cards through HRDC cheque distribution centres. **Clients will be required to show two pieces of identification in order to pick up their benefit cheques.**

Claimants served by:

LOP 1B0  
LOP 1E0  
LOP 1J0  
L6H  
L6J  
L6K  
L6L  
L6M  
L9T

Cheques available at:

OAKVUILLE  
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Trafalgar Village Mall  
125 Cross Street  
Unit #11  
Oakville, Ontario

Hours of operation:

Monday to Friday  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan and Government Annuity cheques will be delivered on November 26th as usual. Postal disruptions will have no effect on clients who receive their benefits by direct deposit.

Effective Monday, November 24th, Employment Insurance clients can phone a bilingual toll-free number and enter their postal code to find out where to pick up their cheque:

1-800-POSTAL3