

A strike looms for the Region

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said Mr. Dean.

"The MOE says we're certified and we've always been recognized," said Mr. Dean. "Now that there's wage increases they won't recognize us?"

If these issues aren't resolved a legal strike deadline has been set for April 9.

"We're hoping we don't go out but it has gotten to the point where police, management and other areas have gotten raises," said Mr. Dean. "We're at the point where enough is enough."

Regional management's position is that the issue boils down to money and Halton just doesn't have it.

"We understand the workers probably feel they need to have more money but as you know we've been heavily burdened from downloading," said Brent Marshall of Halton's Planning and Public Works Department. "We're looking at the bigger picture and the impact on the taxpayer."

Mr. Marshall refused to comment in detail about the issues involved, saying he didn't want to negotiate through the media.

In the case of a strike Mr. Marshall assured that all public health and safety matters would be addressed.

"The impact would be a delayed level of service on our customers for smaller things, like a watermain break," said Mr. Marshall.

"Anything from a health and safety standpoint would be taken care of on a priority basis."

Mr. Dean has warned that in a worst-case scenario improperly supervised wastewater plants could result in an overflow of residential sewage systems.

Awards night

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seen through their work with the Nassagaweya Art Show and Sale and Arts Milton — was deemed unparalleled.

The biggest single group response of the night came from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, whose employees took Business of the Year honours.

"We've got plenty of peanuts and jelly beans for sale," joked acting manager Sue Harrison of her bank's never-ending fundraising efforts.

Junior Achievement of Milton has been investing in the community's youth for many years. Their interest paid dividends as the winner of the Civic Organization of the Year.

Accepting the award was Junior Achievement president Mike Shepherd — who was also in line to accept for fellow nominee Halton Credit Union.

"I'm going to have a lot of explaining to do when I go into work Monday," Mr. Shepherd quipped.

Bergsma's Paint and Wallpaper was acclaimed for the Civic Improvement of the Year in recognition of the work done on their new Main Street location.

This year's Lifetime Achievement Award recipient was Mike Ledwith, who recalled with great fondness the day in 1946 he decided to buy a little grocery store in downtown Milton.

"The newspaper has a clever little phrase, 'Milton is a Champion Town', I couldn't agree more," he said.

Former Citizen of the Year Mark Curtis once again acted as Master of Ceremonies for the Community Awards Gala.

CAO taking a new job

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work on Destiny Milton, a comprehensive strategic plan to deal with Milton's expected population growth.

Mayor Gord Krantz said the CAO has been an effective liaison between the Town's various departments and has been invaluable during dealings with the province.

"David has done an excellent job and been very professional all the way," Mayor Krantz remarked. "His loss will be missed."

Town council was scheduled to discuss plans for replacing Mr. Hipgrave Monday night.



David Hipgrave

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