

# Small voices in big crowd would come from Halton in Tonks' plan



**Wally Hunter**

have very little impact at the GTSB level with less than one per cent of the vote. He added that Halton itself would also have scant influence with only about seven per cent.

"Milton is on record supporting the GTSB but with a reasonable representation, whatever that is," said Mr. Krantz. "I have a concern. I wasn't thinking of less than one per cent of the vote when I was talking about fair representation."

Alternatively, the parity model supported by Halton Region would provide one rep-

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By **BRAD REAUME**

*The Champion*

The puzzle of the future for local governing is starting to take shape.

Former Metro Chair Alan Tonks recently forwarded his recommendations guiding the formation of the Greater Toronto Services Board (GTSB) to Minister of Municipal Affairs Al Leach.

Legislation creating the GTSB is expected at any time. The new board is to coordinate big-picture municipal services including waste management, transit and economic development.

Mr. Tonks has completed consultations with local municipalities across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Perhaps the most controversial recommendation is for a weighted voting process.

The idea is to provide all GTA municipalities with a voice at the GTSB table, but maintain decision making on a basis of population.

Under the scheme championed by Mr. Tonks, Milton would get one representative and one vote out of 110. In other words, each municipality would be accorded voting weight based on its size. Milton's vote counts as one during each ballot. By comparison, Toronto's votes

count as five on each ballot, and there are to be 11 Toronto representatives.

Oakville and Burlington only have one representative apiece as well in the Tonks proposal, but each of their votes count for two.

The weighted averaging for the 40 representatives proposed comes out to 110 'votes' on each ballot, with 55 for Toronto and 55 for everybody else.

Halton Region would collectively get 7.3 per cent of the votes, roughly equivalent to the region's percentage of GTA population.

Other models for a representation structure would organize votes on a regional basis only.

At Monday's meeting of Milton's administration and planning committee, Milton's rural regional councillor Barry Lee said he noticed that Mr. Tonks' report assumes that the current organization of municipal governments within the GTA will remain as it is today.

"There is an ongoing turf war as to what level of government will survive," said Mr. Lee. "And in the report I see repeated references to government staying the way it is municipally."

Mayor Gord Krantz said Milton would

Dr. Ivan Hunter,  
Dr. Glen Hunter  
and staff wish to welcome  
Dr. Brian Watada  
to Hunter Medical.  
Dr. Watada will be caring for  
Dr. Glen Hunter's patients as  
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Hunter will be pursuing a  
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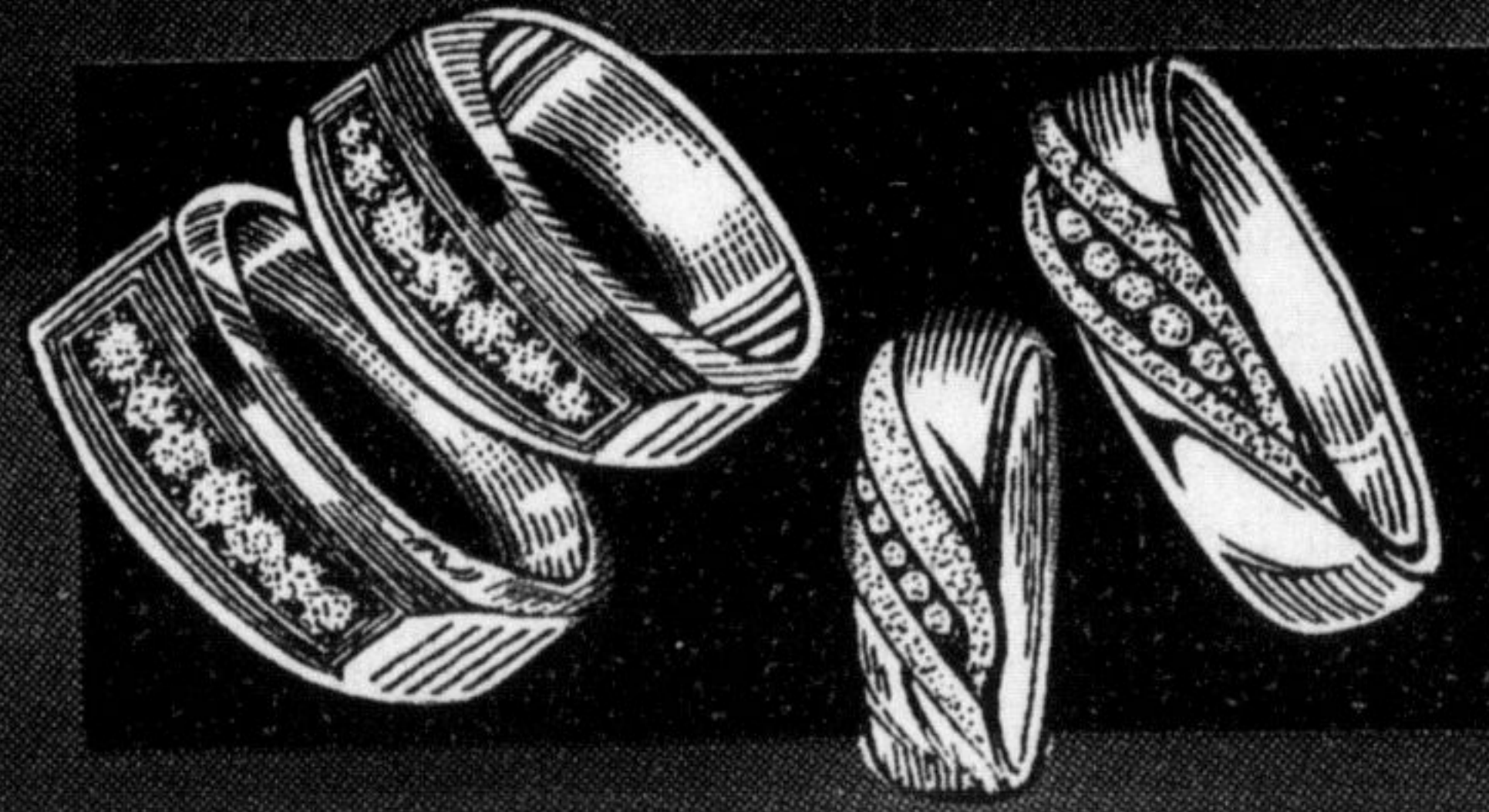
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