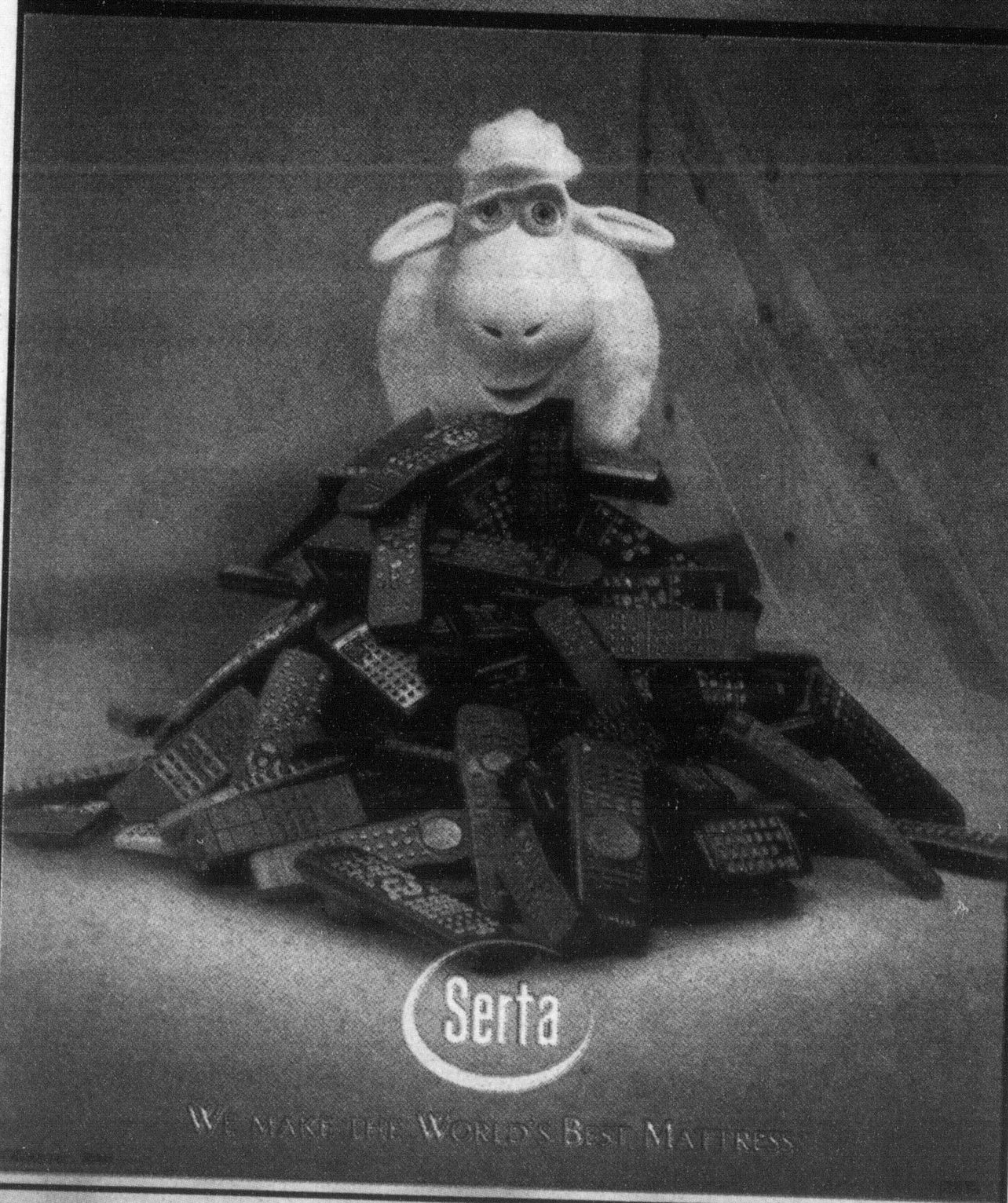


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CH chair is re-elected

By FANNIE SUNSHINE
The Champion

It was a night of saying good-bye to old faces and welcoming new ones.

Long-time Conservation Halton board member and Oakville Councillor Keith Bird bid adieu to the position he's had with Conservation Halton for more than two decades during the board of directors meeting Thursday.

"I never thought I'd be paying tribute to

Keith," said Jean Williams, chair of Conservation Halton.

During the 26 years Mr. Bird served with Conservation Halton, he's been a member of all the advisory committees and chair of the majority of them, Ms Williams said in her address to the retiring board member.

"It's been an honour and great pleasure to recognize one of our longest serving directors. You were always articulate and never backed down from spirited debate. We value your service and wish you all the best in the future."

Oakville Councillor Allan Elgar replaced Mr. Bird. Mr. Elgar will serve on the community relations advisory committee and the governance committee.

Mr. Bird told The Champion the reason for his retirement from the board was due to Oakville Council passing a resolution last year which stated councillors can't sit on a committee for more than two years.

"I'm not bitter, I accept the decision," he said. "I enjoyed my tenure there and I hope I made a positive contribution."

The board of directors also learned Douglas Macdonald, representing Burlington, had resigned, citing personal and professional reasons. "I sincerely regret that I must submit my resignation from the Conservation Halton board of directors," he stated in a letter circulated at the meeting. "I find I'm not able to adequately devote the time required to fulfill my committee responsibilities properly."

Following the board of directors meeting, the inaugural meeting got underway to elect the position of chair and vice-chair of Conservation Halton for 2002.

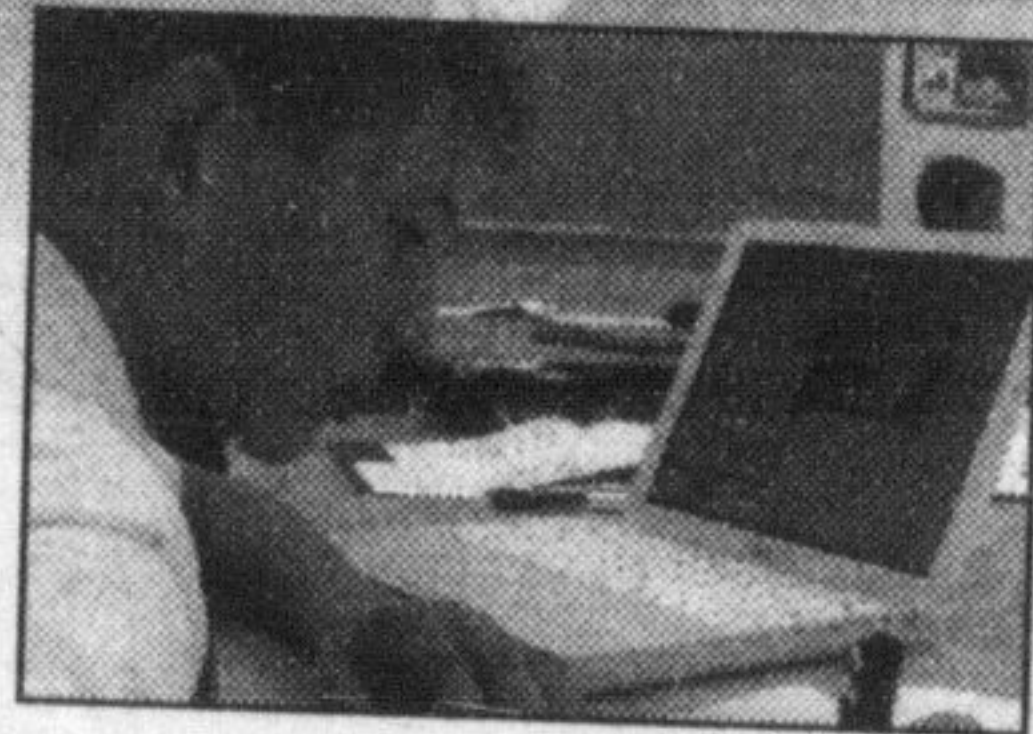
Ms Williams accepted the position of chair for the second year in a row, while Burlington Councillor Carol D'Amelio was voted in as vice-chair.

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