



Five employees of Milton Limestone received gold watches from company manager Bill Griffiths, left, at a recent dinner held in their honour. The employees from left are:

Olive Wallace, R.U.V. Gaeton, Dave Balogh, Bruno Gaeton, and George Cain.

Milton Limestone honors employees

Five employees from Milton Limestone with more than 25 years of service were honoured recently with a special dinner.

Engraved gold watches were presented to the five employees by

the company's manager, Bill Griffiths.

Those honoured were R.U.V. Gaeton, Bruno Gaeton and Dave Balogh, each with 28 years on the job, and Olive Wallace and George Cain

each with 25 years of service. The first three employees have been with the firm since it opened.

Milton Limestone is a producer of crushed stone for the construction industry.

Site said a unique opportunity

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to decide how much of that funding can be used for outdoor education. After other costs, there is not much left.

"It is an inadequate amount to support an active outdoor education program," said Mr. Richardson.

He said he wants the board to take a new direction.

"I would like to see more support going to environmental programs. But first there will have to be a change in philosophy," Mr. Richardson is responsible for budgeting and oversees the physical, health, and outdoor education programs run in Halton schools.

Mr. Richardson says Halton has had a tradition of purchasing services from conservation areas like Mount-Sterling and Crawford Lake. Parents of the students pay extra for the bulk of these outings. The board hasn't wanted to take on the responsibility of buying property and developing its own outdoor education program.

He said the Scotsdale property would provide Halton with an excellent opportunity to get their teeth into a strong environmental program. The farm has several buildings, including barns, sheds, and houses, a huge pond, and a herd of cattle. "It is an interesting offer, it's right in the region, and has a tremendous range of topography to offer."

Mr. Pillis says Halton is lagging behind other Ontario boards of education.

"Peel Board, our neighbours to the east, spends more than \$450,000 a year to keep its two Field Study Centres operational. They have seven teachers working full-time in the Jack Smythe Centre in Terra Cotta, and the G.W. Finlayson Centre in Caledon. Each property is approximately 170 acres, and offers a wide

range of environmental programs.

Students go to the centres for pond studies, orienteering, aerial photography, ecology programs and plant studies. They can also cross-country ski and go snowshoeing. Costs for all activities, including transportation, are absorbed by the Peel board.

"Over an eight- or nine-year period, Peel students should visit the Field Centres four or five times," said Hugh McPherson, Vice Principal of Outdoor Education Centres for Peel.

In Wellington County, west of Halton, the board of education spends at least \$80,000 a year to maintain its Outdoor Education School at Eden Mills. Two teachers are employed full-time. They also have a mobile unit which visits the rural schools.

"The Wellington Board's attitude is a progressive one," said Rick Fosse, Outdoor Education Co-ordinator for that board. "The only factor holding us back is money."

In Halton, Mr. Pillis has mapped

out some long-range plans for the Scotsdale property. He said its development should be phased in over five years. His plans call for it to be staffed by teachers familiar with the curriculum of all Halton schools.

"Every student should be offered one residential experience in their elementary school life," he said.

Resource material should be available to teachers, so they can integrate the outdoor education into several different classes, he said. As it stands, the Halton board's administration is waiting for the recommendations of an independent firm, hired by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, to determine the extent of all the parties' interest in the Scotsdale property.

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