

Students push welfare cases up

The number of welfare cases in Halton went up by 116 in October, an expected jump as students obtained added benefits with the start of the school year, said Halton's acting social services director, Karen Chan.

There were 3,258 cases in October, up from 3,142 in September. Each case, as a rule, is said to represent two people.

"We see this as a normal increase," Ms Chan said when the October figures were published last week. In fact, "we're quite pleased with how low it is."

So far in 1992, \$22,882,556 had been paid out to Halton welfare recipients. In most cases, the provincial and federal governments put up an 80 per cent share of the funds while Halton provides the 20 per cent balance. Roughly \$27 million will be spent in the system by year end.

The welfare peak to date was in March, when 3,452 cases were recorded. More than \$2.4 million was paid out that month alone. In October, the sum had ebbed to \$2,283,400.

There have been 33,143 cases in 1992, or roughly 3,300 per month, on average. In 1991 there were 29,983 claims. In 1990 there were slightly more than half the number of cases in 1992 — 17,396.

Clarke wants board to emphasize 'Canadian'

from TRUSTEE on page 16
parents and an anti-violence curriculum piloted at T.A. Blacklock for Grade 9 students.

The board morally supports CAVEAT (Canadians Against Violence Everywhere Advocating its Termination) a group formed by Ms DeVilliers' mother, Priscilla.

Turn Off The Violence Day was also promoted within schools and the community this month. Fashioned after a Minnesota effort, it challenged community members to recognize violent media messages and turn them off.

"Of necessity, the implementation of (the policy) has touched many peripheral and related social issues. Race and ethnocultural equity cannot be isolated from the broader so-

cial agenda," reported Mr. Stoness.

Next year the race and ethnocultural equity project will examine bias in learning materials and resources, assessment and testing procedures and the resulting student placements, hiring and promotion practices, inclusion of equity issues in high school restructuring, racism and student safety and well-being.

Leggatt said one of the fundamental places change is expected in curriculum.

The board expects to see a comprehensive equity policy dealing with gender equity, multiculturalism, race relations, discrimination, employment and promotion practices and human rights issues of race, culture, language, gender and religion by April 1994 upon recommendation of a committee of 12 to 15 staff, principals, senior administrators and trustees.

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