

Learning network gets gift from Matsushita

In keeping with the season, the Halton Adult Learning Network received a surprise gift from the Matsushita Electric Company of

Canada earlier this month. The company presented the Network with two Panasonic TV/VCR combinations units.

The Network is a partnership of those who provide adult basic education and English language programs in Halton, and includes both school boards, Sheridan College, community-based literacy groups, as well as regional social agencies.

The new equipment will be used by volunteer tutors, trainers, teachers, and learners in the wide variety of programs offered in Milton, Oakville, Burlington and Halton Hills.

More and more "high tech" tools such as videos and computers are being used as instructional aids in adult learning programs, said Rilla Hewer, director of the Network.

Matsushita has donated \$170,000 worth of the units to the literacy community across the country in celebration of the company's 25 years of operation in Canada.

Tender process upsetting to bidder

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council passed a transit committee recommendation to retender as the five-year term did not comply with the Municipal Franchises Act.

Town clerk Bill Roberts said the issue of the contract term came to light after Milton Bus Lines Limited claimed to have an exclusive franchise agreement effective since 1972. Mr. Roberts said the Act "precludes entering" into such an agreement.

Milton Bus Lines is currently under a five-year contract with the Town which has been extended until June 30 1993. By that time it is expected the Ontario Municipal Board will approve a new three-year contract. Mr. McLean is also questioning why the existing service contract is for five years.

He believes the Town should have awarded him the contract as the lowest bidder and worked out the details of a three-year contract with him. Mr. Roberts said putting forward the new tender was the proper procedure, however, as Milton Bus Lines could have asked for the same treatment Mr. McLean was proposing.

The bid by Milton Bus Lines offered the service at \$57 per hour for town-owned buses and \$48.50 per hour for operator-owned buses. Mr. McLean's price was \$40.95 an hour for town-owned bus operation and \$38.79 per hour for operator-owned buses.

"We're questioning the bidding process. Our bid was submitted in good faith," Mr. McLean said.

The bid, he said, exceeded the requirements in that he offered to purchase Milton Bus Lines equipment and retain staff.

"We looked at the possibility of us not getting the contract five years from now and how would we like to be treated," he explained.

Mr. McLean has 20 years experience in various managerial positions with three municipal transit systems. In all those years he said it would be "very rare" for the lowest bid not to be awarded the contract.

Tenders with the revised three-year term will close January 19 and will be considered by council at the January 25 meeting.



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MILTON

NOTICE

CHRISTMAS AND BOXING DAY — GARBAGE COLLECTION —

There will be no garbage collection on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 28**

Garbage Collection will be as follows:

WEEK OF DECEMBER 28:

REGULAR DAY

Monday, December 28
Tuesday, December 29
Wednesday, December 30
Thursday, December 31

COLLECTION DAY

Tuesday, December 29
Tuesday, December 29
Wednesday, December 30
Thursday, December 31

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