Trustees mull over budget-cutting considerations

• from PUBLIC on page 1
suggesting a 0 per cent millrate increase — or less.

Burlington resident Rick Craig leveled criticism at the board for discussing expenditure budgets only (two per cent increase) when taxpayers will look at a 4 per cent millrate tax hike. "It's misleading and inappropiate," he said.

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Scott McCammon of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce told
trustees they should be prepared to
reopen teachers contracts if necestance fund by

Trustees then put foward 10 areas for suggested further cuts. Staff will take two weeks to compile reports on the cost savings and impact of many of the cuts before debate oc-

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The proposed cuts include:

Reduction of temporary assistance fund by 50 per cent — Burlington trustee Linda Schreiber.

1993 budget based on 1992 actuals except where 1992 actuals are greater than the 1993 budget, excepting all contractural items—Oakville trustee Cheryl Reid.

Elimination of trustee conference/convention budget for 1993

— Oakville trustee Debbie Marklew.

Only trustees residing north of Britannia Road charge mileage expenses — Oakville trustee Debbie Marklew.

Marklew.

Administrative assistance for elementary panel reduced by 50 per cent — Burlington trustee Diane Leblovic.

☐ Elimination of "Our Schools"

magazine for \$43,470 — Oakville trustee Cheryl Reid.

Reduce budget for staff recruitment by \$28,943 — Burlington trustee Anne Barbu.

Eliminate a non-contractural staff development budget, \$293,270, — Oakville trustee Cheryl Reid.

☐ Eliminate driver education program for September 1993 — Burlington trustee Diane Leblovic.

Eliminate summer school transportation — Burlington trustee Diane Leblovic.

The previously suggested elimination of French Immersion busing, made by Milton trustee Flo Belford, wasn't considered and staff recommended detailed study at a \$5,000 to \$10,000 cost was required since such a move could have a significant effect on accommodation, staffing

and transportation routing.

Staff did look at other transportation issues, recommending many for study by the 1994 budget task force.

Among those were cancellation of high school transportation south of Hwy. 5; school to school busing for special programs, summer school for 1993, busing to Bronte Creek Provincial Park and Halton Regional Police Children's Safety Village.

Staff also recommended the board enter "meaningful discussions" with Halton's Roman Catholic School Board toward reaching an integrated transportation system.

Halton Taxpayers Coalition member Roger Love said his group has been pushing for shared transportation for some time and described the 1993 budget process as trustees once again "flailing around."

In the \$1.4 million cuts, the teachers' salaries and benefits budget was reduced by \$264,000 based on the carry-over of 1992 staff reductions and the \$20,000 worth of simultaneously saved mileage.

Another \$625,000 was achieved by cutting administration accounts by another 7.5 per cent and school supplies and services by a further five per cent (both had originally been cut by two per cent).

Board mileage rates will be reduced to 27 cents/km effective April 1, 1993 (\$40,000) while another \$70,000 was achieved through reductions in transportation accounts like reducing the numbers of late buses and revising the busing schedule to Bronte Creek park.

Yet another \$200,000 was realized through a partial reduction in both the lunchroom supervision and supply teaching budgets.

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New post for Duignan

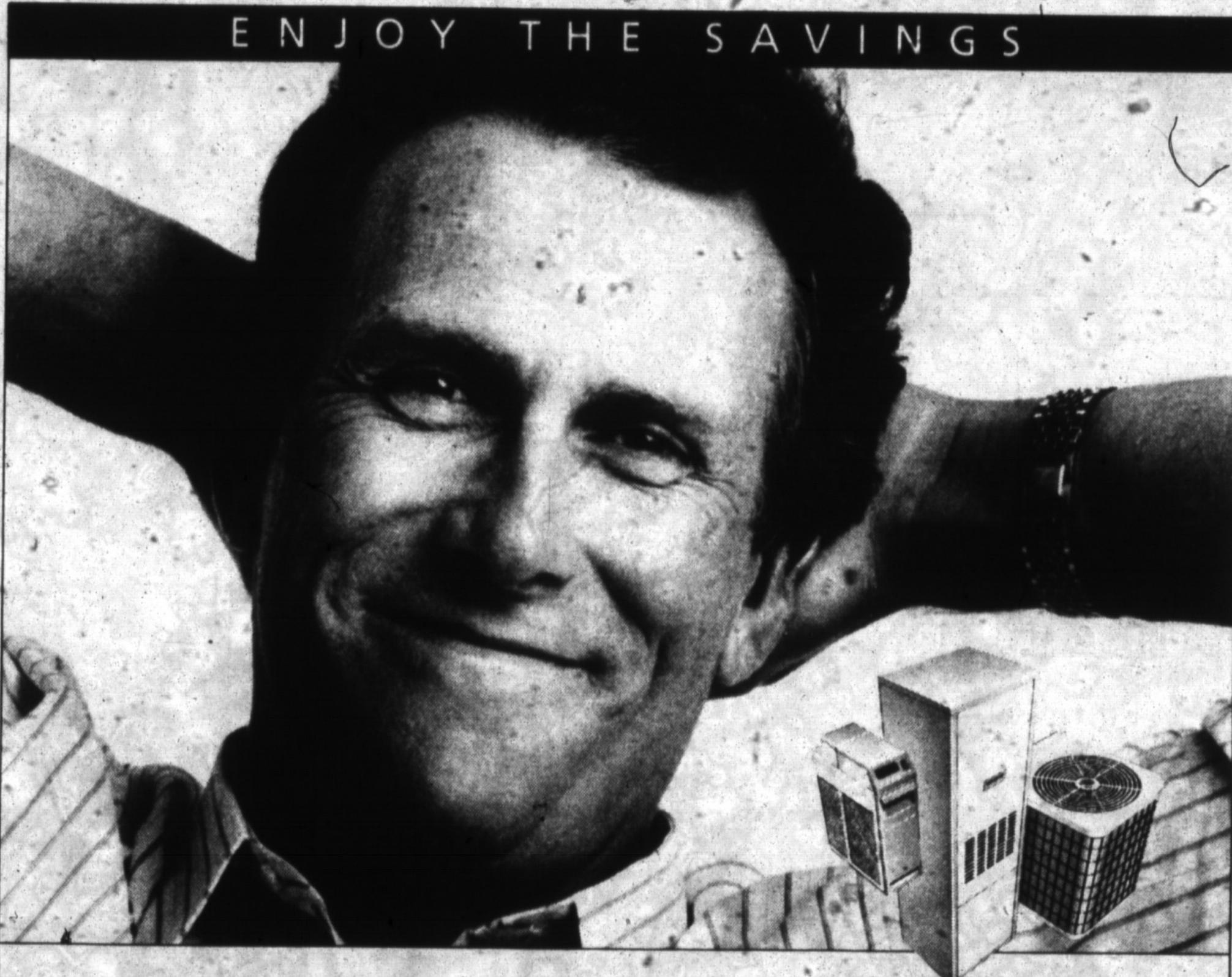
Halton North MPP Noel Duignan has been appointed parliamentary assistant to Consumer and Commercial Relations Minister Marilyn Churley.

Among other responsibilities, the Ministry operates agencies such as the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, the Film Review Board, and the Ontario Racing Commission.

The Ministry also defends the interests of consumers against unscrupulous business practises.

Since gambling and horse racing come under the Ministry's jurisdiction, Mr. Duignan said he's particularly looking forward to his responsibilities as they relate to those endeavours. The horse industry, an important one in rural Milton, has opposed more widespread gambling across Ontario for fear it will harm horse racing. Mr. Duignan has supported that position.

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