

# Day pushes for Krantz as regional chair

'I have a lot of trouble thinking of this council without Gord as mayor': he says

By ANGELA BLACKBURN  
The Champion

Mayor Gord Krantz' bid today for the job of Halton regional chair wasn't far away as the Mayor's chain of office was once again dropped around his shoulders at Monday's inaugural town council meeting.

A standing room only audience was reminded it may have been the last time Mr. Krantz sits in the mayor's chair. Today, he's vying for the \$71,226 a year job of regional chair, to replace Peter Pomeroy.

"It may be the last time Gord sits in that chair as mayor. If he gets the nod Wednesday, that's it for Gord Krantz as mayor," said Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day on Monday night.

After 29 years in politics, the 57-year-old Mr. Krantz has been Milton's mayor 14 years. He retained the job with an easy victory in the Nov. 14 municipal election over challengers Glenn Botting and David Lloyd.

"If he is chosen as the new regional chair, I'm not sure everybody understands what will happen," noted Mr. Day. "He'll have to resign from this council. He'll be gone from that chair, council and he can't come in the in-camera meetings. I have a lot of trouble thinking of this council without Gord as mayor."

#### 'Much respect'

The councillor described Mr. Krantz as confident, approachable and stern when necessary. "He is hardworking and has so much respect from other regional councillors, he may be regional chair."

Mr. Krantz is in a fairly lengthy line of hopefuls eyeing the Halton regional chair's job, one that includes Burlington councillors Joyce Savoline and Ralph Scholtens, defeated Burlington mayoralty candidate Doug Greenaway, Oakville councillors Kevin Flynn and Stephen Sparling and Halton Hills municipal Councillor Rob Heaton.

"I want to go on record in wishing you all the best in your pursuit of the regional chair's job. I think you'd do a good job," offered Ward 2 Councillor Ron Furik, who first introduced the topic of Mr. Krantz's aspirations at Monday's inaugural meeting.

Should Mr. Krantz become regional chair, he would have to resign as mayor. Council could then appoint someone from council, or the community as mayor, call an election or appoint the runner-up in the mayoralty race, Mr. Lloyd.

Any local councillor seeking election as mayor would have to resign his or her position first.

Mr. Day, who joked councillors should have all had their new council

photos taken with the chain of office around their neck, highlighted the boost in Milton's regional representation should Mr. Krantz become chair.

"We'd have four representatives instead of three. That's a one-third increase and is very, very important to Milton."

Most of Halton's future growth, as planned in the Halton Urban

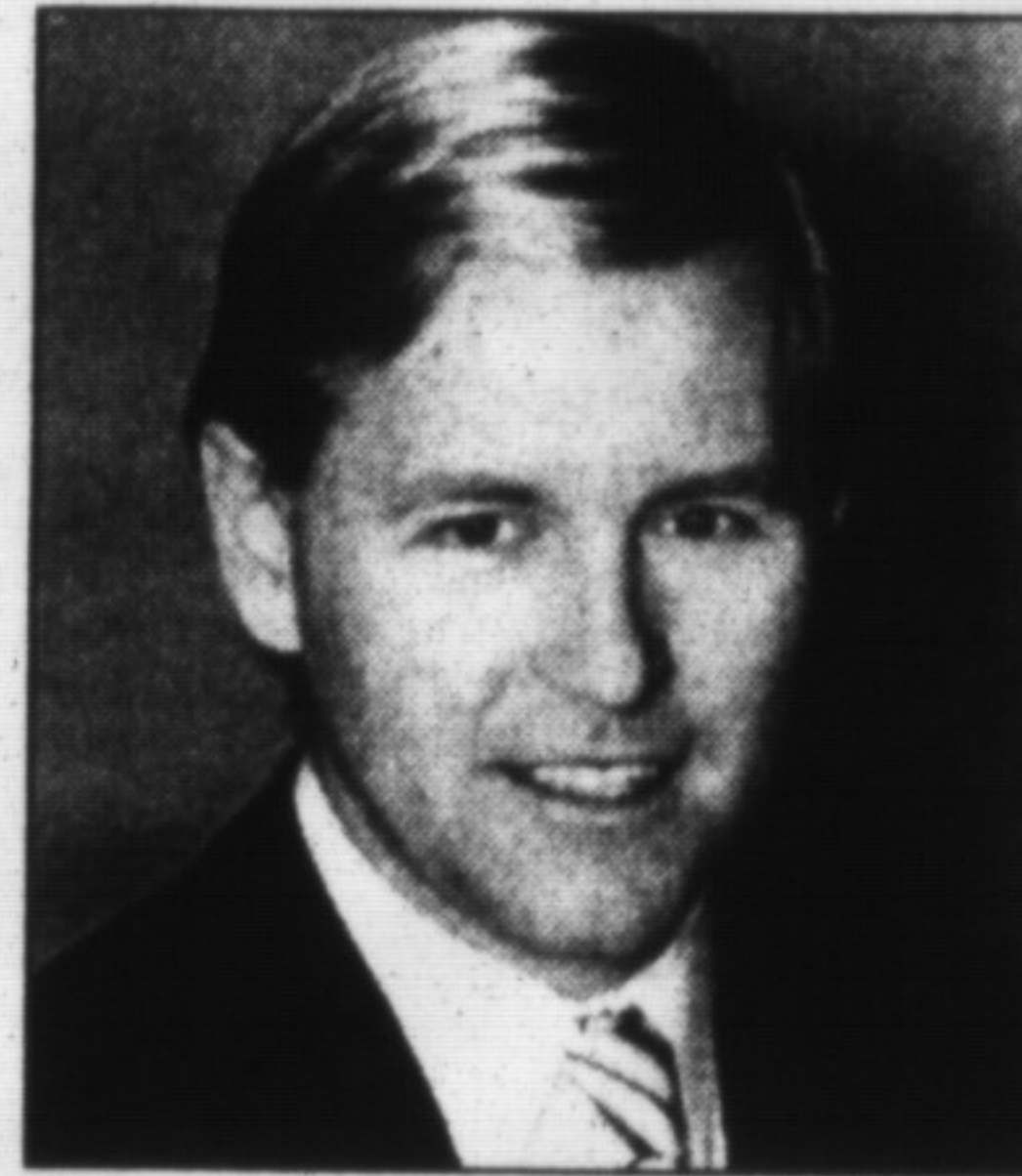
Structure Plan (HUSP), is to occur in Milton and north Oakville in the next 20 years.

#### Broad knowledge

In support of his bid, Mr. Krantz has touted his broad knowledge of Halton, his wealth of political experience and the balance a north Halton chair — as Mr. Pomeroy, a former

Halton Hills mayor was — could bring to council where the majority come from Oakville and Burlington.

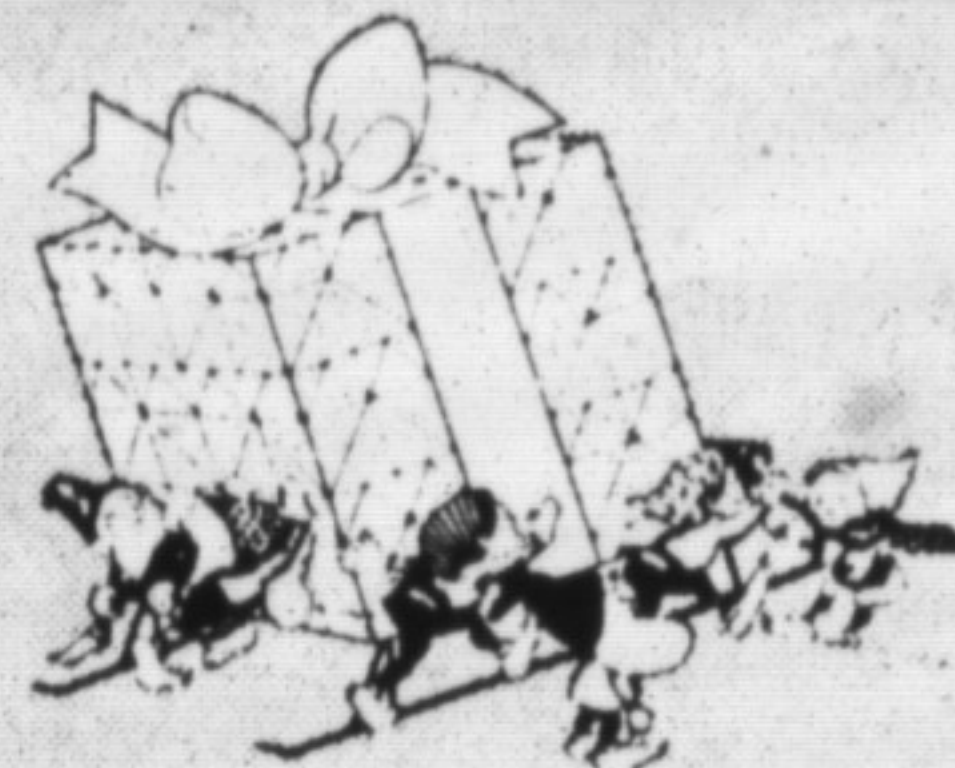
The regional chair is chosen by a vote of the 24 regional councillors and could be nominated from among sitting councillors or appointed from outside regional council ranks. The choice is to be made at today's inaugural regional council meeting.



Rick Day

5—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, December 7, 1994

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Although I did want to replace that old lumpy sofa in the rec room ... yea, a brand new sofa bed would sure be great.



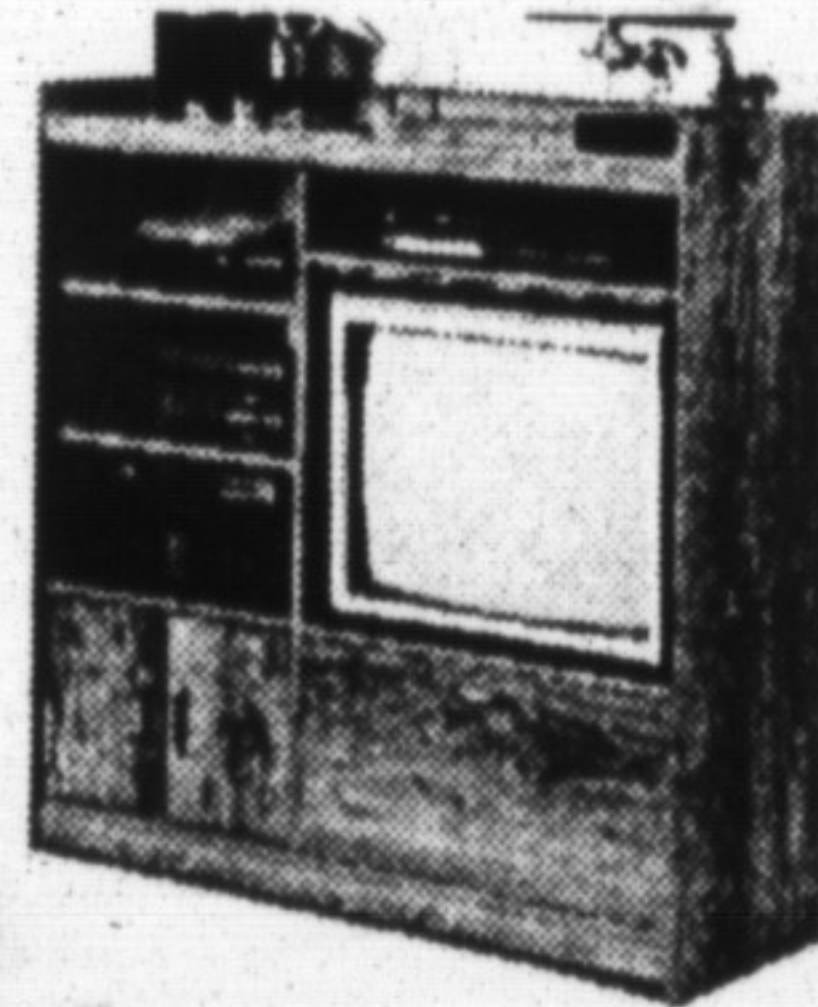
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