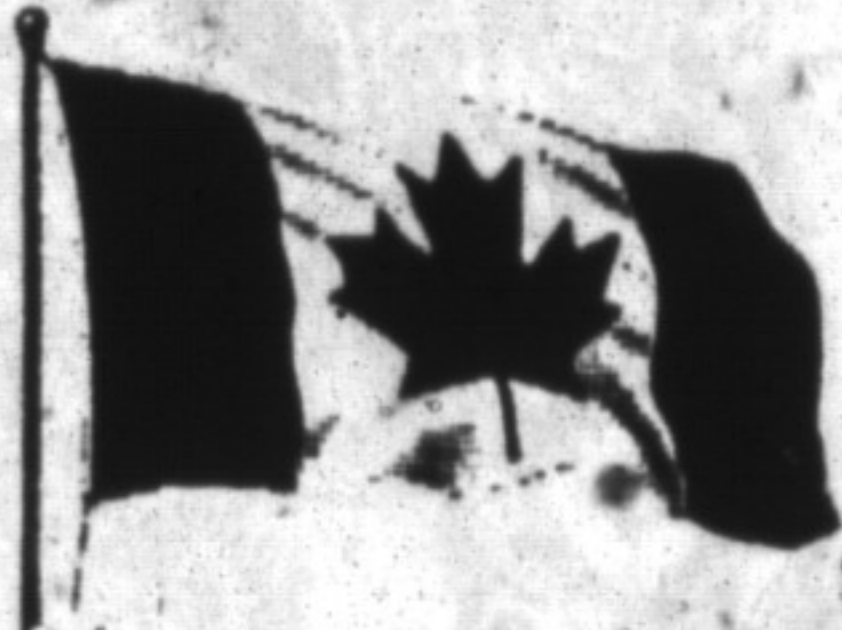


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# RC council decision muddies water, says a frustrated parent

By **BRAD REAUME**  
*The Champion*

A Catholic-only policy for parent councils was recently overturned by Halton's separate school board, but not all non-Catholics are satisfied with that.

Milton's Alison Filteau, the mother of two St. Peter's School students, called the revised policy

vague and contradictory. "The trustees have missed the point," Ms Filteau said, adding that both Milton trustees voted to accept the revised policy. "The trustees have passed the buck to parents."

The new policy allows for as many as two non-Catholics on each parent council. Non-Catholics must be elected by sitting board members, rather than by general vote.

According to Ms Filteau individual councils could decide among themselves to have no non-Catholics, or one, or two.

She also indicated the new guidelines contrast with the prevailing board policy, which provides votes to parents or guardians of students.

"The policy asks local councils to decide the issue, which puts those on councils in an awkward position," Ms Filteau said.

"This has opened up a can of worms. It is not a clear, concise policy."

Ms Filteau said the decision is only an interim measure. If the provincial government does away with school trustees and lets the job fall to parent councils, the revised policy on outlining the makeup of those councils will become void, she believes.

Ms Filteau said some parents were talking about pursuing the issue at the Ministry of Education. She, however, wanted some time to consider the fallout.

"The trustees thought they did a great job but many of the parents booed the decision. It would have been better to define the numbers exactly," Ms Filteau said. "The trustees did come quite a distance, they just need to come a little farther."

A petition with 156 names supporting the inclusion of all parents as eligible members of parent councils was handed to trustees last week at the board meeting, where the matter was decided. According to Ms Filteau several people addressed trustees, but no one spoke against allowing all parents to be eligible for the councils.

## Car windshields shattered

Someone went on a rampage in Milton earlier this month and Crime Stoppers wants to know who it was.

Overnight June 8, three cars windshield were shattered at the hands of vandals. One of the cars was parked on Wilson Drive near MacKenzie Drive. The other cars targeted were parked

*Crime Stoppers of Halton*

in the townhouse complex at 741 Woodward Ave. It isn't known what was used to break the windows, but grass was found on the windshield of one of the cars on Woodward. Police pegged the total damage at approximately \$1,000.

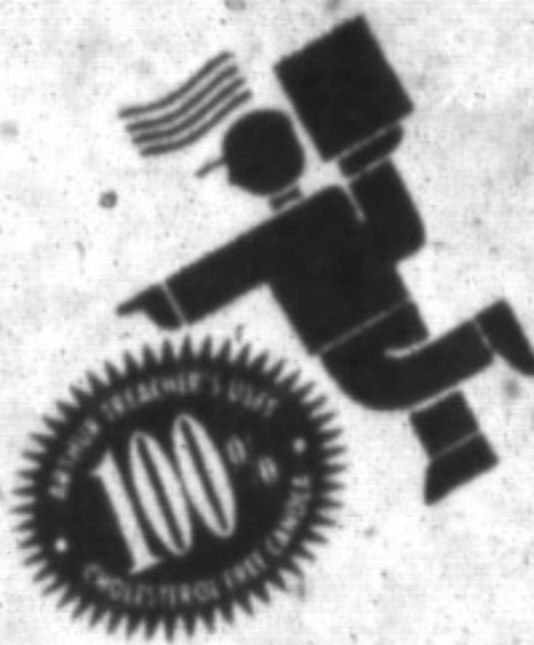
Everyone pays for this type of senseless mischief through insurance premiums. Help control the cost of vandalism by reporting the person responsible.

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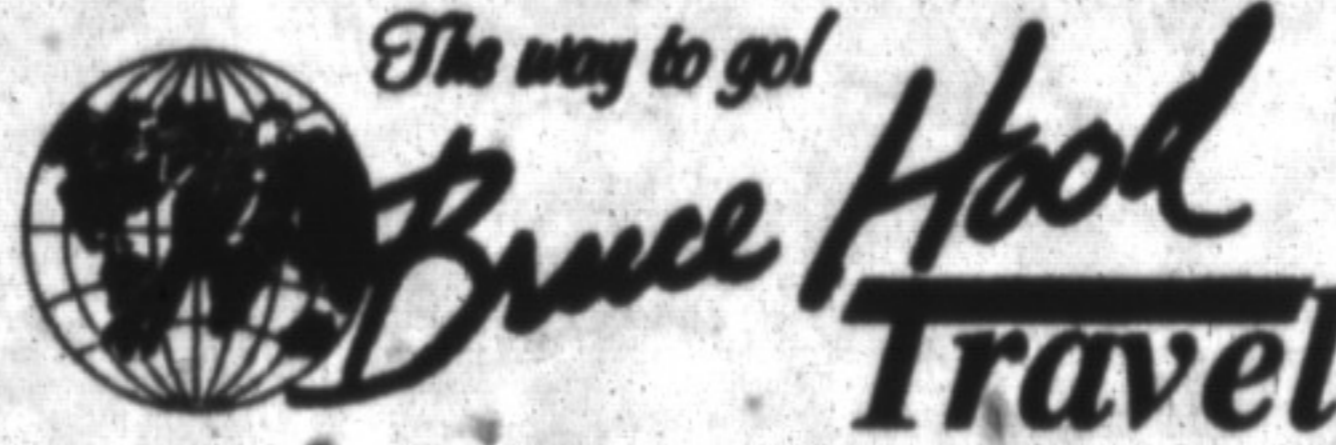
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