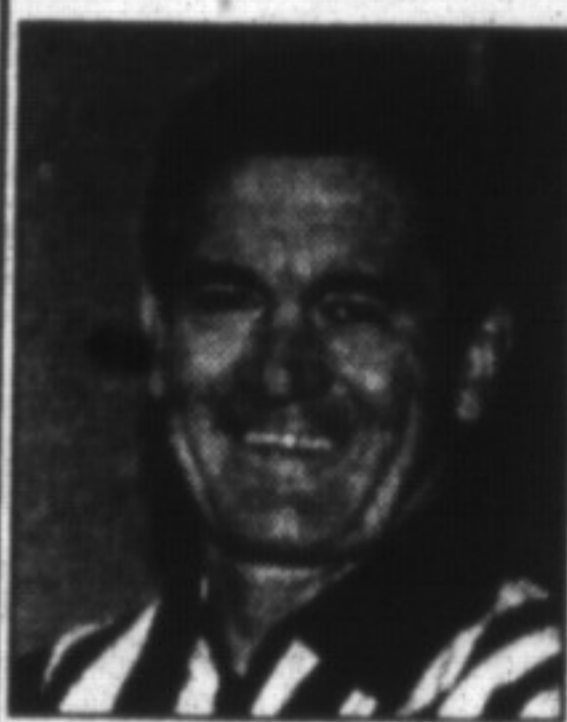


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TRAVEL ACROSS CANADA and you see two things right away - a variety of BEAUTIFUL SCENERY, and a VARIETY OF BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE! Recently it was our pleasure to have the honour of attending a COURT OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP, and if you want to renew your PRIDE IN BEING CANADIAN you should attend. 21 people originally from some 12 countries were very 'PROUD TO BE CANADIAN, EH!' as they received their citizenship during the ceremony.



IT IS INDEED VERY STIRRING to see all levels of government represented, as well as all levels of officials in the form of policing throughout our country. All are there to participate in the SWEARING OF THE OATH by individuals who have applied and met the standards. A very impressive ceremony, indeed, made even more memorable when the members of the audience are later invited to stand up and re-affirm their Canadianism by reciting the "SWEARING OF THE OATH" TO CANADA. What a thrill - makes one even more PROUD TO BE CANADIAN - why not everyone do it at least once a year!

CANADA IS ONE OF THE MOST ADMIRE D COUNTRIES in the world as confirmed at the UNITED NATIONS where we are voted #1 in this department. WHEN YOU TRAVEL, BEING CANADIAN has its benefits of recognition. A VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA a few years ago while they were still a part of the SOVIET UNION OF COUNTRIES was an example of the view of Canadians by countries far away. When handed our travel documents, the immigration officer, who peers out through a two foot square opening and studies you intensely, looked and saw the CANADIAN PASSPORT, looked back in our direction, broke into a broad grin, stuck out his hand and said: "CANADA, WELCOME!" "Nuff said!"

AZORES, BRAZIL, ENGLAND, CHINA, IRAQ, NETHERLANDS, PAKISTAN, POLAND, PORTUGAL, AND TAIWAN are some of the countries which were represented with this new group who have chosen our country, and are now PROUD TO BE CANADIAN. All of these countries are among those Canadians choose to travel to, for a visit, or for business reason, and are Proud To Be Canadian in doing so.



GET INVOLVED, VOLUNTEER, BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, MAINTAIN FAMILY TIES, A TRUE SENSE OF BELONGING, ENJOY OUR DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, were some of the comments passed along by the authorities who spoke. From the CABOT TRAIL in NOVA SCOTIA, to the PLAINS OF ABRAHAM in QUEBEC, through the great province of Ontario, all the way west to the ROCKIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, such a variety, a variety of people, too, many of whom chose Canada to live and raise their children. We know they are PROUD TO BE CANADIAN, EH! GREAT!

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Williams' departure as director yet one more challenge



"He won't be bumping anyone. I'm not sure what we'll do yet. It also depends on who we get for director. They may have their own ideas."

Board chair
Linda Glover

By **TIM WHITNELL**

Special to The Champion

Trustees' decision to accept Bob Williams' request for re-assignment has created a couple of dilemmas for a board of education that is already knee-deep in work.

The current director's eventual switch to the subordinate position of superintendent means trustees with the Halton Board of Education, already saddled with ongoing teacher salary negotiations and the gargantuan Renewal reorganization project, must now deal with two new issues arising out of Mr. Williams' impending move.

The most immediate concern for the 18 trustees is to find a successor to Mr. Williams. "I know in the past it has taken three to four months for the whole process. That's why Bob said he would stay on until we find a new director. We need some stability," said board Chair Linda

Glover.

A committee of trustees was to be established this week to hire a consultant and develop a short list of candidates for consideration by the board.

Ms Glover noted that the job posting will be advertised within the board as well as outside the board and region.

The board chair also acknowledged that Mr. Williams' imminent move into a superintendent's role will create an overrun at that position.

The 1996 board budget included a reduction in the number of superintendents from eight to six. Ms Glover said that figure has been met since Ian Foster retires at the end of September and Graeme Barrett, currently on a paid leave of absence, is eligible for retirement next year.

However, Mr. Williams' addition makes seven superintendents, one more than allotted for in the 1996 budget.

"He won't be bumping anyone," assured Ms Glover. "I'm not sure what we'll do yet. It also depends on who we get for director. They may have their own ideas." Ms Glover said trustees have concerns that six superintendents will leave the administration "shorthanded."

As for the personal side of Mr. Williams' re-assignment, one trustee expressed dissatisfaction with the board's decision to accept his proposal.

"I support the man's decision to step down," said Cheryl Craig. However, the Burlington trustee said she did not support his re-assignment. "I preferred a different outcome," said Ms Craig, who nonetheless admitted, "There is a human component. It took a lot of guts to step down."

Ms Craig appear to be in the minority though as most trustees expressed their support for the director's decision to voluntarily relinquish his duties.

"For Bob, it was the right choice," said Ms Glover.

Former board chair Diane Leblovic believes that Mr. Williams' legacy will be felt through the Renewal project.

"The Renewal project, although I know there are many, many concerns, is the first time as a trustee on this board I have received a strategic planning document that we have an opportunity for public debate and consultation," said Ms Leblovic.

Public school board holidays

The following is the 1996-97 school year calendar of holidays and professional development days for the Halton Board of Education:

- Holidays
- October 14 — Thanksgiving
- December 23-January 3 — Christmas break
- March 10-14 — Spring break
- March 28 — Good Friday
- March 31 — Easter Monday
- May 19 — Victoria Day
- ELEMENTARY Professional Development/Activity Days
- September 20
- October 11
- November 29
- January 30-31
- April 25
- June 6, 25-26
- Kindergarten classes begin September 13. Home and/or school interviews take place prior to formal class commencement
- June 24, 1997 is the last school day for elementary students
- June 26, 1997 is the last working day for elementary teaching staff

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3. Obtain names, phone numbers and license plate number of witnesses.
4. Obtain information on other parties.
5. Keep calm. Do not admit fault at this time.
6. If your vehicle is not driveable, have it towed to a collision repair organization of your choice.
7. Call your insurance broker/agent to inform them of the details.

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