

Two-tier day care threat passes

By CHRISTINE STANTON

The concern about a two-tier day-care system, with one level of service for full-paying clients and another level for low-income clients receiving a subsidy, has been alleviated in Halton.

Private home day-care operators approached the Region in January about receiving more than the five per cent increase over 1983 rates. They said they would either have to stop servicing the Region because of the increased expenses for subsidized children, or they would have to develop two levels of service.

Halton has now received provincial approval for its day-care budget, with enough extra funding to clear up the two-tier threat by increasing the rates more than five per cent for private operators. They will also be able to add 70 spaces to the regional day-care program.

"The Province is not agreeing that such an increase is necessary, nor are they approving same per se, they are simply contributing dollars to the regional day-care program which the Region can use to increase spaces or pay larger fee increases than five per cent," says Karen Chan, Halton's manager of children's service, in her report to council.

The health and social services committee approved the \$4,800 expenditure last week, to give the private operators the increase they requested.

The 70 additional spaces will be available in August and will be split between the private operators and the licensed centres in Halton. The 70 will include four "integrated" spaces, for a special program for developmentally handicapped children.

Halton had requested enough money to increase the spaces by 130, but Miss Chan hopes between attrition and the 70 new spaces, the waiting list of 200 will be whittled down to a manageable number by the fall.

Business Voice gets raspberries

A spokesman for the Halton Chambers of Commerce Association came under heavy fire Wednesday when he appeared to say the chambers want Halton to move as quickly as possible in finding a new garbage dump.

Angelo Serafini, also a member of the Oakville Chamber of Commerce, said his group had asked him to come to regional councillors to request councillors "to do all in your power" to set up a garbage dump.

Speaking on behalf of the chambers, which he said like to think of themselves as "the voice of business for the region," Mr. Serafini was taken to task by several councillors who said they were working as hard as possible on finding a new dump and the chambers should know this.

Rob Forbes, an Oakville councillor, said he wanted to know just what Mr. Serafini was trying to accomplish.

"I am having great difficulty trying to understand why you are here," Mr. Forbes said. "Halton is doing everything possible to find a new sanitary landfill site."

The discussion lasted for more than an hour with councillor after councillor either thanking Mr. Serafini for coming or castigating him for the same reason.

In the audience were representatives of all chambers of commerce in the region including John Lawrence, general manager of the Milton Chamber of Commerce.

Drink-drive charges laid

A 19-year-old Hamilton motorcyclist was charged with impaired driving and driving with more than the legal amount of alcohol following an incident on Main St. Saturday evening.

According to police, a motorist was east-bound on Main St. with his family when a motorcyclist passed the car, mounting a curb and continuing along a sidewalk.

Police said the motorist had to brake hard in order to avoid an accident. The motorcyclist stopped east of Ontario St. when the driver pulled alongside him. A police officer in the area also stopped to investigate why the pair were holding up traffic.

A few minutes later the police officer arrested the motorcyclist after determining he had been drinking, and placed him in the police cruiser.

The suspect became upset and proceeded to kick and smash a section of the interior of the police car.

In addition to the driving charges, 19-year-old Brian Gordon Foote has been charged with mischief over \$50.

New bridge is going in

Regional council has approved a \$290,298 contract for the reconstruction of the Steeles Ave. bridge between Tremaine Rd. and First Line.

Gryan Construction Ltd. of Mississauga submitted the low bid for the bridge which now spans Sixteen Mile Creek.

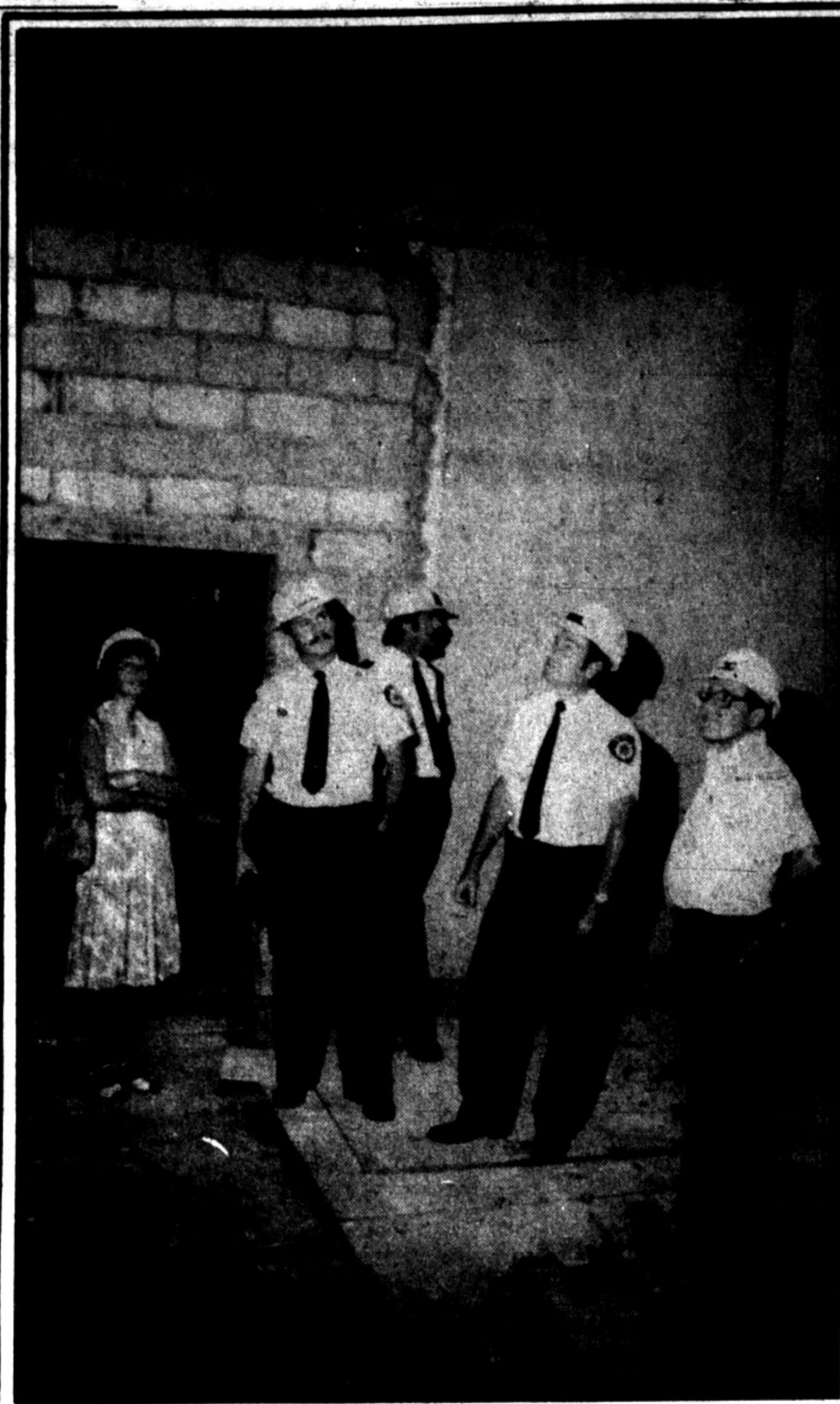
The work will consist of the replacement of the existing concrete bridge structure and the roadway regrading of Steeles Ave. 200 metres east and west of the bridge.

According to a regional report, the present bridge isn't wide enough and it is "structurally unsound."

The asphalt surface is badly cracked and irregular which is supposed to indicate the concrete beneath is scaling.

The scaling is already very evident at the base of the concrete railing where parts of the reinforcing bars stick out.

The work is expected to take 16 days.



Fire Tour

Construction work on the old courthouse is proceeding through the summer. Here representatives of the Milton Fire Department are shown during an inspection tour of the building last week.

Emergency land filling approved

It's not exactly what the region wanted, but the province has at least provided Halton with a place to dump its garbage after the Burlington landfill site reached capacity Saturday.

At the eleventh hour two weeks ago the province issued an emergency certificate permitting the temporary expansion of the current Burlington landfill site.

But it falls short of the region's expectation that it would last until an environmental assessment board rules on a permanent expansion until Halton's new, yet-to-be-chosen dump comes on stream in a couple of years.

But the director of environmental approvals made the certificate good for only four months until November.

"The length of four months was a surprise to us," said regional public works director Bob Moore.

Neighborhood Watch meet

Interested in fighting crime and doing something to prevent it?

A Neighbourhood Watch meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 8 at the Optimist Centre on Commercial St. at 7.30 p.m.

Halton Regional Police urge citizens to "take the time and prevent a crime."

Casual clothes

Milton Council (specifically the gents) can look forward to abandoning their ties for the month of August, a tradition that began three years ago.

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11 a.m. at Vista Promenade Park Bronte Harbour

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Norfolk Rebel
—United States
60' long, Tugentine

• Sailpast
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