



Ontario BIA officials welcome the news

Canada Post, distributors plans shelved

by PAUL SANDERSON

When Canada Post Corporation announced its plans last Wednesday to back out of a proposed partnership with Consumer's Distributing, the Georgian Bay Directors of OBIAA (Ontario Business Improvement Area Association) breathed a sigh of relief.

Canada Post was studying the possibility of having postal workers take orders, in post offices, for the retail general merchandise firm Consumer's Distributing. Consumer's would then use Canada Post exclusively for the distribution of its goods and advertising.

At OBIAA's monthly Toronto meeting last June, Board Member Liz Downer, manager of

Midland Town Centre BIA, was appointed to a two person committee to monitor Canada Post's plans.

In partnership with Consumer's Distributing, the Crown Corporation had embarked in the spring on a business evaluation trial in a number of communities across Ontario.

Midland was not among them.

Downer says, although the general public was not aware of the evaluation, she had strong feelings about the arrangement.

"It would be unfair," she claims. "Businesses already subsidize the Post Office through taxes."

She believes, the Canada Post question was especially relevant

to towns like Midland, where tax is a major portion of the generally small, owner-operated businesses.

Downer's committee sent letters of protest to Canada Post President Michael Warren and to Simcoe North MP Doug Lewis.

In addition they helped to co-ordinate a united position with the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses, and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Downer suspects strongly this combined effort of voices was a "big influence" on the Canada Post decision. The most rewarding thing for Downer was having a big corporation apparently willing to listen.

"You can fight city hall," she says.

Pretty scary, eh?

This old hag is just one more of the creepy folks who have been turning up with increasing frequency in the Midland-Penetanguishene area in the last couple of weeks. She flew down to earth on her broom in front of a house on Fuller Avenue on the edge of Midland for Hallowe'en '84.

Vandalism appears to be tapering off at SCBE schools

A report dealing with incidents of vandalism directed against Simcoe County Board of Education schools shows that the cost to taxpayers incurred by vandalism and theft declined in 1983 over the previous year and, that there appears to be a decline in 1984 over 1983.

The report was submitted at the Oct. 24 meeting of the board of

education. In 1983, vandalism and thefts cost Simcoe taxpayers \$147,859. That was down from \$162,226 in 1982. In the first eight months of 1984, the cost was \$57,195.

The board divides Simcoe County into six separate areas for the purposes of administration. Area Three includes Penetanguishene,

Midland, Port McNicoll, Victoria Harbour, Waubaushene, Fesserton, Wyebridge, Wyevale, and Hillsdale. In the first eight months of 1984, there were 145 incidents of vandalism reported in Area Three. In 1983 there were 260 reports and 235 in 1982.

A large portion of vandalism costs comes from deliberate breakage of school windows.



Making history

For the first time since the turn of the century, Elders representing Georgian Bay Region gathered in Midland to officially assist in policy-making for native people. Seated in the Board Room of the Georgian Bay Tribal Council Building in Midland are, from left to right: Vaughn Monague (Christian Island Reserve), Railey

Roote (Penetang Midland), Charlie Toby (Honey Harbour Metis and Non-Status Group), and Leonard Monague (Christian Island Reserve). Standing are, from left to right: Francis Toby (Honey Harbour Group), Fred Assance (Christian Island Reserve), and Roger Jackson Executive Director of the Georgian Bay Tribal Council.

Orser wins second Skate Canada

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