

# Garbage revolt squashed

The rebellion has been squashed.

Forget the brief excitement of last week when the NSWMA told the provincial government it would not send North Simcoe's garbage to the Keele Valley landfill site near Metro Toronto.

The waste is going there again.

The overnight turnabout occurred as a result of a meeting on Friday. The clerk and chairman of the NSWMA were invited to meet with Gary Posen, the Deputy Minister of the Environment. Clerk Yvon Gagne and Chairman Lionel Dion have returned with an agreement which amounts to little more than what they had in their hands before Friday's meeting.

Garbage will be picked up in all North Simcoe County municipalities this week. Garbage will immediately be dumped at the old landfill site on Golflinks Road, the location for the new transfer site.

Construction of that new transfer site will

commence immediately and a contract for the hauling of garbage from there to Keele Valley will be officially granted at a special meeting of the NSWMA this week.

What has the emergency meeting of last Friday accomplished? The Provincial Government has promised to subsidize 60 per cent of the cost of building the transfer site. It will not subsidize in whole or in part the hauling of garbage to Toronto.

According to Yvon Gagne, the NSWMA will be compensated for its \$2 million expenditure for Site 41.

The NSWMA will get a guarantee in writing from the Ministry about that compensation and subsidy. But Yvon Gagne has to write a letter to the Ministry first.

Effectively, North Simcoe is being offered much the same deal that inspired Penetanguishene Councilor Art Dyer to say "This decision has been imposed on us."

Gagne says that nonetheless, the rifts have been healed.

"We were offered an opportunity to let our frustrations out."

The Secretary adds that all the NSWMA really wanted was a chance to talk to the government officials and not have all the information passed on to them by the local press.

"At least we've been personally consulted instead of being told through another channel what's going to happen with the situation," Gagne says.

Chairman Dion concurs, "We did come away with a package that we can all live with."

But Dr. Peter Brasher is less than euphoric about the deal. The Deputy Reeve of Tiny Council says the garbage haul is still going to be "extremely expensive."

He says the Golflinks Rd. site is complete-

ly inappropriate.

"The base of the the Golflinks Rd. site is composed of sand and within striking distance of the Penetanguishene water supply. We have to be extremely careful that there is not a spill at the site," Brasher warns.

The doctor says he still feels the Pauze landfill site could have been used for a longer period of time than it was and that certainly for temporary use it was better suited than the Golflinks Rd. site.

The Ministry of the Environment's District Officer believes the NSWMA is really accepting the same deal that it rejected last week.

"I don't believe that anything has changed except that we have allowed them to store waste at the Golflinks Rd. site," Ian Gray says.

The District Officer called last weekend's deal the result of a "verbal commitment between all parties involved."



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### Recycling needed

North Simcoe Waste Management Association chairman Lionel Dion holds cans he picked out of garbage Monday morning. Dion

was visiting the makeshift dump off Golf Links Road to which all local garbage is going. Cardboard and skates were other items

Dion saw which he said should not be part of garbage which taxpayers will have to pay

to be carried by truck to Keele Valley for at least three years.

**Inside: Archeology saves Huronia**