

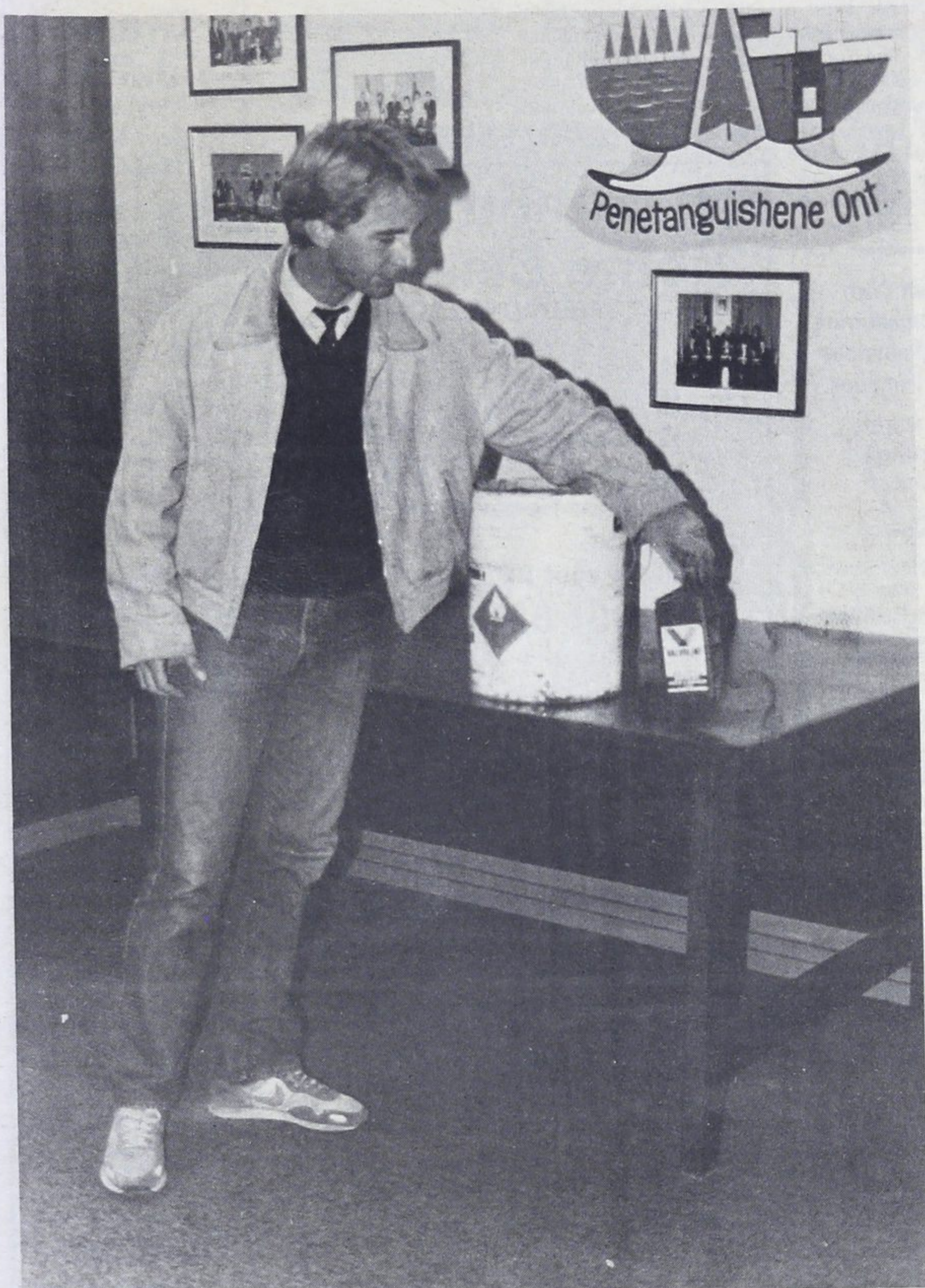


Penetanguishene Citizen

40 cents

Vol. 21 No. 35, Folio 70

Wednesday, August 31, 1988



Environment exhibits:

Peter F. Thompson attended the public meeting of the Penetanguishene Harbour Committee. Thompson complained about

some of the articles being tossed into the water. He brought some examples with him.

Committee listens to suggestions

by David Krayden
Citizen Editor

It was like a scene from the court room when Peter Thompson, a lawyer with the Symons and Grise law firm, addressed the Penetanguishene Harbour Committee. Thompson strode to the front of the Penetanguishene council chambers, where a public meeting was being held, and faced the committee members as well as an audience of some 50 people.

He entered his exhibits as evidence in the case against infilling.

Reaching onto the floor he grabbed a concealed plastic bucket. He lifted the bucket into the air, let it drop onto a table and poured out its contents.

Thompson said, "This is what's being used as fill."

The plastic bucket had some road paint in it; Thompson had also put other objects inside: empty oil containers, a steel net.

Thompson was representing his own interests as a citizen of Penetanguishene and Trout Unlimited.

The meeting had been called so the public could comment on the recently tabled draft report on the Penetang harbor.

People jumped at the opportunity.

Marina owners, cottagers, boaters and environmentalists were all represented. The attendance figures pleased the chairperson of the committee, Penetanguishene Councillor Bob Sullivan, who said, "It's nice to see that everyone is as concerned with the bay as we are."

People wanted to know how the report had been researched; who had the members talk-

ed to? Sullivan listed a number of people including the Remedial Action Program, the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Coast Guard and the Ministry of the Environment.

The committee is comprised of five members. From Penetanguishene are Mayor Frances St. Amant, Reeve Art Stewart and Councillor Bob Sullivan; from Tiny Township are Deputy Reeve Dr. Peter Brasher and Councillor Art Dyer.

A final report is expected in three weeks.

Before preparing the draft report, the committee heard public testimony on two occasions, June 2 and 23. The consequent report was accepted by the councils of Penetanguishene and Tiny.

The comments from the audience on Thursday night were generally positive and order was maintained rigidly by Sullivan.

Keith Sherman, representing the Remedial Action Program for Severn Sound, was the first person to comment on the report. Sherman had been contacted during the drafting of the report because of his environmental expertise. He applauded the committee's efforts in this "jurisdictional no-man's land," saying that it has always been difficult to know which branch of government controls what portion of the harbor.

But he discussed the amount of algae present in the water, said this was caused by an excessive amount of phosphorus and wished the committee had identified the source of this ingredient: "treated sewage leaching from cottages."

Here Sherman was talking about "grey water" which is usually considered to be washwater. It can be dumped into the bay legally.

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Conservatives prepare for battle at annual barbecue in Orillia

North Simcoe's Progressive Conservatives met at the Orillia Fairgrounds on Friday evening to hear Finance Minister Michael Wilson praise their MP, Doug Lewis.

"He's been able to push through legislation in an extremely effective manner. He's well-liked by members of the opposition. Doug, I look forward to seeing you back."

There was lots of talk about winning the next election but nothing definite about when that was going to be.

Lewis is also Minister of State for the Treasury Board and Deputy House Leader. Wilson was the guest of honor at the annual North Simcoe Progressive Conservative barbecue.

Both wearing almost identical plaid shirts, Lewis and Wilson went from table to table shaking hands and exchanging words with a crowd ranging in age from 25 to 75.

Before the dinner, Wilson held a brief con-

ference for members of the media. When asked what he thought of the latest poll, which showed the Conservatives leading in public opinion, Wilson said it showed "we have kept our promises." Although he refused to speculate about when the next federal election would occur, about the main issues in the campaign, the finance minister ruled out a one-issue campaign based solely on free trade.

"We're going to campaign on our entire record, not just free trade. Look at our social policy, our commitment to multiculturalism and daycare. We're going to focus on all these elements."

Wilson elaborated on these elements when he addressed the audience later in the meeting. He emphasized that the government had merely "provided the environment" for economic growth by "removing the obstacles to the private sector."

"Consequently, we have the best job-performance record in the industrial world."

He compared the Canada-U.S. free trade agreement to the reciprocity between Australia and New Zealand. "Which country do you think is pushing the agreement hardest? Large, powerful Australia?"

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Grant makes exchange possible

Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School will be receiving a grant from the federal government so the school can participate in an exchange program.

Doug Lewis, Minister of State for the Treasury Board, made the announcement last week. The funding will come from the Secretary of State.

The exchange will occur in two segments. In October, 23 students from Gravelbourg, Sask. will visit Penetanguishene for one week. In April 1989, ESPSS students will travel to the prairies.

Lewis called programs like this "a wonderful out-of-class experience."

Without government money, Lewis said, "this kind of trip ... may not be possible."

Craig Hawkins, the vice principal at ESPSS, said the exact amount of money is as yet unknown. The trip was organized by the history department at the school and its students will be hosting the Saskatchewan guests. While here, the visiting students will be touring the local sites "and getting a feel for the area."

An exchange was arranged with Gravelbourg because Hawkins says "similarities between the two communities." Both are located in rural areas and both are "bilingual areas" and have two school systems, English and French.



Wilson

A sacred moment at The Martyrs' Shrine...See page 13