

Town passes chamber 'hot potato'

by Robert Risk
Staff Writer

A request by the town council to have the Chamber of Commerce create and put out a survey on Sunday shopping drew

criticism at the chamber's Feb. 21 meeting.

Councillor Bob Klug, a member of the chamber, made the request on behalf of council in the hopes of using the organization's business contacts to get feedback on the shopping issue.

Patricia Mueller, a board member, ac-

cused the town of passing the responsibility of dealing with the issue onto the chamber.

"It's just another case of passing the hot potatoe to somebody else, just like the province who gave it to the municipalities."

Chairman Steve Robillard raised the

question of who was going to pay for the materials and work required to contact more than 100 businesses in town.

"We have costs. We'll have to pay our secretary, it'll take time to put out a mailing list, photocopying, mailing, and time for sorting and reviewing the replies. It'll cost a few hundred dollars."

The chamber receives a \$10,000 annual budget, most of which goes to pay employees. As a result, Robillard said the chamber's budget is already stretched to the limit.

When Robillard asked Klug if the town was prepared to fund the chamber for this project, Klug said he hadn't been given instructions regarding money from the council.

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40 cents

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Butterflies in motion

Several younger members of the Penetang Figure Skating Club dressed as butterflies for their part in Alice in Wonderland. The

production was part of the club's annual carnival at the Penetang arena.

Why WYE expects the costs to be covered?

by Robert Risk
Staff Writer

Members of the Why Waste Your Environment group were relieved to learn they stand a good chance of recovering much of their environmental hearing costs according to their attorney.

The group, which is opposing the North Simcoe Waste Management Association's proposed dump site (Site 41 on Con. 2) was informed of this at a meeting by Peter Pickfield, their lawyer.

Pickfield said a recent decision by the environmental assessment board regarding a Halton area dump site hearing was a positive sign.

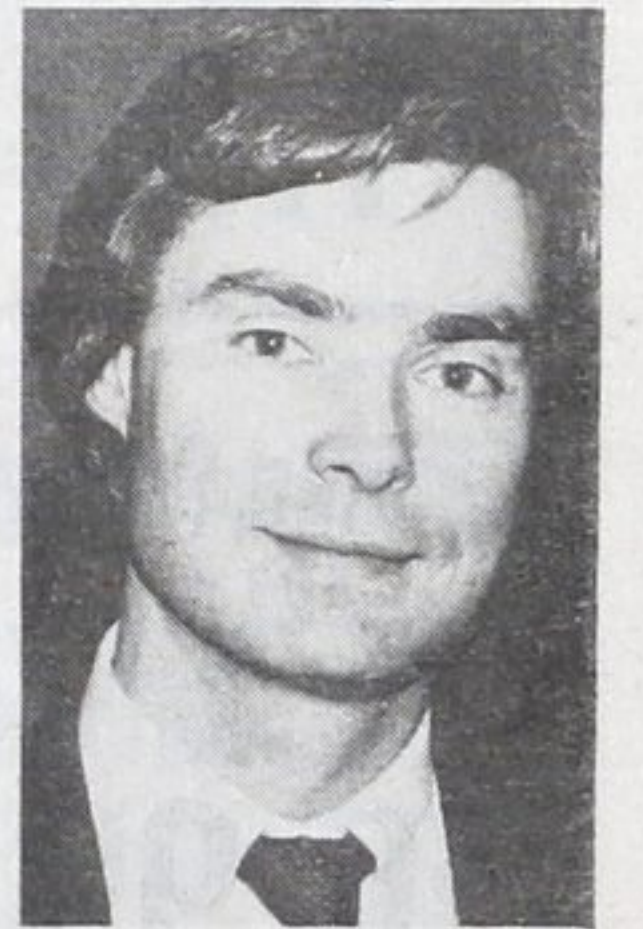
"It was the first landfill decision under the environmental assessment process... a lot of the costs were awarded to the ratepayers groups by the board."

As far as he could understand the decisions of the Halton report, Pickfield said the interest groups, who were judged to have made a meaningful contribution, got a large portion of their money back.

"Where the ratepayers didn't get their costs covered is the points that the board felt they (interest groups) were duplicating evidence and echoing or providing background that wasn't necessary."

As a result, Pickfield stressed the need for concentrating on local issues, such as the impact on the community.

"We can provide a unique point of view at the hearings. Right now we're developing a report on the impact that's going to be presented to the board."



Dahme

Pickfield also said he has been talking with Harry Dahme, Tiny's environmental lawyer, and believes they have come to an understanding of how both groups are going to oppose Site 41.

"The township (Tiny) is on your side (in regards to opposing Site 41) and I believe we have a lot of common ground. I think our cases before the board will be complimentary."

Pickfield said many of the aspects of the case will be presented and argued by Dahme, which will help save the group some money, as well as time and effort.

This is in accordance with a directive by the environmental assessment board for the various parties to eliminate duplications of witnesses and arguments before the hearings begin.

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