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## Need Financial Data

On two occasions recently at town council meetings, Councillor Lois Hancey has expressed deep concern about financial commitments the organizational committee and 1969 council are making for the 1971-72 council of the new area municipality of Richmond Hill, as they deal piecemeal with the various departments of local government.

Mrs. Hancey believes that a "guesstimate" of the amount of revenue that will be available to next year's council should be obtained, and that an estimate of the cost of providing basic essential services also be obtained. Then the additional staff and equipment requirements could be intelligently considered in light of what council may expect to be able to spend.

So far Mrs. Hancey has not won any vocal support for her plea, and other members of council seem to be of the opinion that a tight rein is being kept in the hiring of staff by requiring the additional members to be phased in over a period of months, where that is practical.

The only woman councillor also maintains that council should be consulting NOW with the finance branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs to determine the "rules of the game". For instance, "Will there be a uniform tax rate over the whole municipality or will there be area rates within the new town?" and "How much money (if any) will be coming from Queen's Park to take care of the extra costs of transition?"

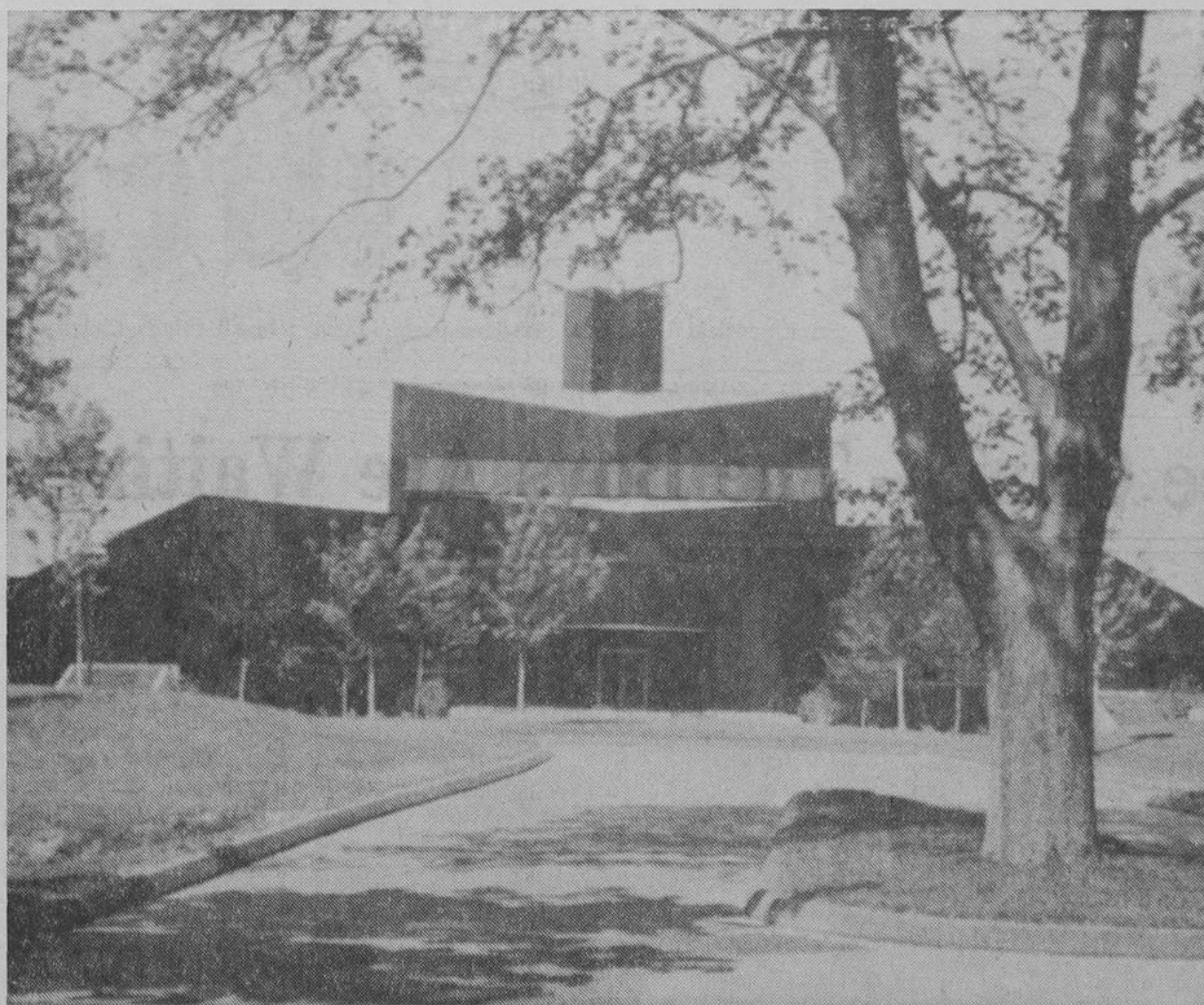
We realize that to cram all the planning necessary, or believed neces-

sary, to get regional government off to a smooth start and functioning as efficiently as the present municipal government would create a full-time demand on the members of this and next year's council, and they are not paid on a full-time basis. They must earn a living elsewhere and have an obligation to their employers, partners and employees. They also have an obligation to their families to spend at least a little time with them.

But it would seem a very wise procedure to ascertain as clearly as possible under what rules the game will be played in 1971.

And we also believe that Mrs. Hancey is making a point which should be seriously considered. Change of any kind in a municipality in the past, almost without exception, led to an increase in real estate taxes — and we have heard or read nothing as yet to indicate that this greatest change in more than a century will have any other effect. We know that the new municipal council will fight to keep expenditures to a minimum while maintaining a reasonable standard of services, but believe that appointment at the regional level at astronomical salaries will be reflected in an increased rate on municipal taxpayers.

Other increases, which cannot be avoided will occur in areas over which the municipal government has no control. Therefore their discretionary powers based on the most complete knowledge possible should be wielded with vigor in those areas which they do control.



Shell Canada's new Research Centre at Oakville, which will consolidate under one roof activities previously carried out in Montreal and Sarnia, won one of 17 Massey Awards for Architecture for the Toronto firm of Shore and Moffat and Partners. The building's design is strikingly modern and it is set in a park-like atmosphere.

## Shore And Moffat Again Win Massey Award

Toronto architects and engineers Shore and Moffat and Partners have been awarded a Massey Medal for architecture for design of the new Shell Research Centre at Oakville. Two of the partners live in this area — Len Shore in Thornhill and Jules Petrinec in Bayview Country Club off Steeles Avenue in Markham Township. The firm has nine partners and six associates.

They were the only architectural firm in the province to win a medal in the latest award of 17 by the internationally recognized jury of Eric Arthur of Toronto, Jean-Louis Lalonde of Montreal and Peter Blake of New York.

The Massey Medals are the premier architectural awards in Canada. They were instituted by the late Governor General Vincent Massey in 1950 and have been awarded every three years since. This is the third won by Shore and Moffat and Partners who on previous occasions received awards for the Imperial Research Centre in Sarnia and for a municipal building in Toronto.

The new Shell Research Centre, commended as an attractive contribution to the community, is located on a 78-acre site at Lakeshore Road near Burloak Drive and was ingeniously designed to overcome initial local resistance to the proximity of an industrial laboratory to a high class residential area. Harmony with its surroundings has been achieved by imaginatively incorporating into the natural, wooded landscape sloping earth berms, by retaining many mature trees and by planting saplings.

Completed in the spring of 1970, the building was designed around a simple cross layout accommodating physical and analytical laboratories, administrative offices and lunch room with a central service core at the junction. A separate industrial laboratory is immediately adjacent with direct access from the other building and the engine test laboratory in a separate wing has direct access into the industrial laboratory. Another building housing highly inflammable materials is completely separated from the main building to minimize possible fire hazards.

The building is of fireproofed structural steel frame and light-weight block construction and is completely clad in anodized aluminum bronze panels with hermetically sealed solar bronze glazing.

## Public Invited To Discuss Arts School

A public school for the arts, the first of its kind in Canada, is planned for York County.

A 66-page report prepared by Superintendent of Planning and Development Stephen Baesalmasi was presented and discussed at a special meeting of York County Board of Education on Monday.

More than two years of study has gone into the report outlining in detail the purpose and organization of the school, which would include classes from kindergarten to grade 12.

The public, teachers and students, were invited to attend the meeting which was devoted exclusively to the discussion of the school.

As envisaged by Mr. Baesalmasi, the school would offer both academic and art subjects, with English, social studies, mathematics and science compulsory. Art subjects would include sculpture, painting, music (instrumental and vocal), dance, theatre arts, writing and commercial art.

The school would be totally ungraded but it would take a hard line on academic disciplines, giving letter grades for achievement and allowing no more than one unexcused absence per course.

## A Special Christmas Gift!

Give yourself as a Christmas gift! This is the challenge to mature men offered by the Big Brothers of York County.

At least seven young boys in Richmond Hill, who are "fatherless" for one reason or another, need the assistance of a Big Brother — and so far volunteers for this rewarding experience have not been forthcoming.

This gift is "twice blessed" — it provides the young lad with needed male companionship for a minimum of four hours a week. A close relationship with a Big Brother develops as they visit places around Richmond Hill and Metro, attend sports events, go for drives and hikes, and talk "man to man". It also pro-

vides the Big Brother with a chance to enjoy all these through the eyes and spirit of the boy and to relive the pleasures of his own youth. Both give and both receive.

The Big Brother also is rewarded in the satisfaction he can feel in helping to create a good citizen, a well-balanced, reliable and dependable member of the next generation.

The need is great — it is a need which can be met only if a few men are willing to devote a few hours a week to being a Big Brother. Don't put it off any longer, contact Big Brother Counsellor Norman Opperman at 884-9121 on Saturdays or write Big Brothers of York County, Box 34, Aurora, so that your little brother will have the best Christmas gift of them all — a Big Brother.

## Wild And Free

I hear the call of a lonely Moose Echoing through the forest. Running wild and free is the Deer, Deer, a form of Lightning galloping by.

Across the green land A trickling brook. Low, low whispering its story.

A sea of rustling flakes of leaves The feeling of winter is close by.

Silence, except for the lonely call of a Moose.

JUDY BARBOUR, Age 11, Doris M. Patton Public School, King City.

## Capital Gains Tax Needed

The revelation last week that a land developer in Markham Township made a profit of \$248,000 on land he had owned less than seven months, then sold to the Department of Highways, points out the need, once again, for a capital gains tax.

Almost two years ago the Select Committee on Taxation recommended that the Province of Ontario introduce a tax on capital gains, but this recommendation is as yet unimplemented.

We fail to understand, in the face of the intolerable burden on real estate and the present deficit position of the provincial government, that this potential source of a large amount of revenue remains un-

tapped.

The wheeler-dealers on the stock market, in real estate, even those few who make a killing at the race track, or win a sweepstake prize, should make their contribution to the cost of running this province, at least to the same extent as the businessman, the workingman, the aged and infirm and the welfare recipients who must pay sales tax on almost all purchases, and those with investment income.

A capital gains tax is long overdue and we trust that the provincial government will not hesitate any longer in using this means to add to its depleted coffers, thereby easing the taxation burden on others.

## Black Studies Program Planned By York County History Teachers

York County teachers may not be able to alter history, but they are certainly working very hard at attempting to change the way in which it is presented.

For the past several years Don Rawlings, head of the history department at Bayview Secondary School in Richmond Hill, and Don Rogle, head of the history department at Thornlea Secondary in Thornhill, have been teaching courses in Black-White studies at various grade levels, and student reaction has been excellent.

History teachers throughout the county and the province have also become interested in this course, which follows the history of the Negro in North America.

As a result, York County Board of Education agreed last spring to authorize the two teachers to develop a curriculum guide.

The 75-page guide produced by the teachers through the summer was ac-

cepted by the board at a meeting on November 9, and trustees gave their approval for distribution to history teachers in the county.

The distribution is, however, accompanied by a memorandum stating that it is not approved as a basis of a course of study. It must first be approved by program consultants of social sciences and the curriculum section of the Department of Education.

In their introduction to the curriculum guide Messrs. Rawlings and Rogle explain, "We have had several reasons for teaching Negro history. From the standpoint of interest, we have found that this course is popular, both with teachers and students."

"The course is topical, current, and relevant — a field of history to which most students relate quite readily. Moreover, the materials (books, films, etc.) available for teaching the course are seemingly endless and generally inexpensive, a very

practical consideration for the offering of any course."

There are, however, other levels of consideration that justify the teaching of Negro history, they continue.

"In Ontario at the present time, history and history courses are going through the same 'growing pains' that confronted mathematics teachers a few years ago, that is, a complete revision of curriculum and, very often, course content.

"With more and more schools changing to a credit system with semestered and trimestered courses, there is a definite trend for history courses to be less chronological (for example, British history from prehistoric times to the death of Queen Victoria), and more thematic, topical, functional or 'problematical' in scope. Furthermore, there seems to be less emphasis placed on political history and more emphasis on the sociological, economic, and cultural aspects of history."

Negro history, they point out, can be a good approach to a general survey of United States history. With the Negro as a focal point, U.S. history becomes more meaningful to students.

The course has several objectives: to help deepen the students' understanding of the social sciences; to help students understand the nature of prejudice; to show that the Negro has contributed to the main aspects of American life since his arrival on the continent with Spanish explorers, despite slavery and legalized repressions of the Jim Crow system.

It is intended to help students of every race understand the Negro's role and difficulties in American history, and how he has contributed to American culture and institutions.

It demonstrates that Negroes never willingly accepted slavery or second class citizenship, but battled

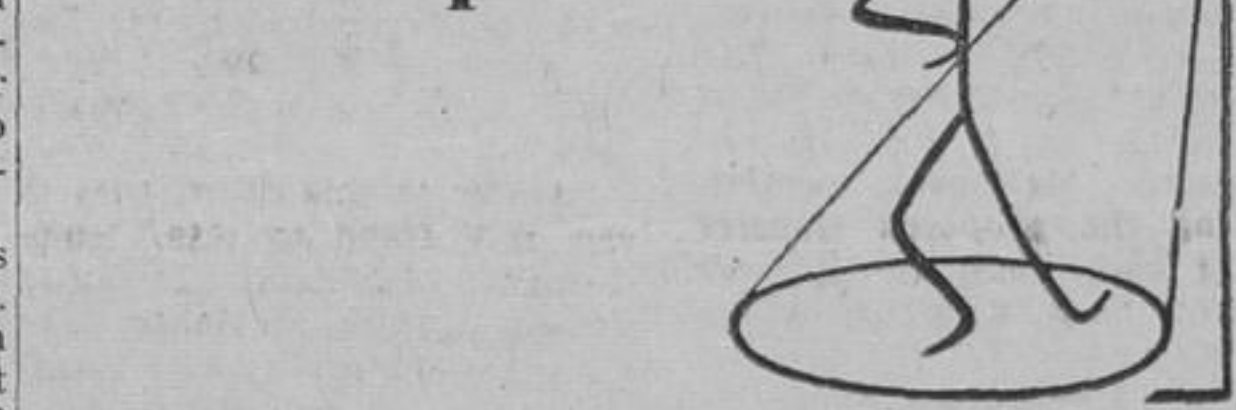
in valiant and practical ways to achieve the promise of America, — "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

The introduction states further, "No issue of this proportion in North America can go unstudied without a serious vacuum being created. For example, any assessment of the 'Quebec problem' takes into account that Quebec is located in North America.

"Secondly, and more importantly, so emotional an issue should assist students in developing their own positive feelings and values with a corresponding transfer to our own society."

Finally, the study of this issue will convey in both terms the need for change on the part of many people if the racial issue is ever to be corrected. One essential quality of any educated person is to recognize when change is necessary and to be able to take steps either individually or collectively to bring

## In the Spotlight



By BONNIE SHEPPARD  
**Both Hands On The Wheel . . .**

Remember when you were little? Remember when you wanted to touch something in someone else's house and your mom wouldn't let you? . . . I remember.

Joyce MacKay (Thornhill) potter-cum-sculptor creates objects that make your fingers itch to touch them . . . and she is thrilled if you do. After studying design in England, Joyce made commercial art and display her livelihood and it was thirteen years ago that she worked in clay for the first time.

You may have heard the name before and it's more than possible that you have seen her work. This year at the C.N.E. Joyce won the Josiah Wedgwood award for original design in ceramics. The winning entry was a lamp base fashioned by both "slab" and "wheel" methods. A most unusual design with a lovely glaze not unlike smooth stone.

Recently Kern MacKay has turned his full attention to Joyce's work. He, too, is interested in this field and his experience in sales and his thorough knowledge of his wife's work, make him a natural to market it. As a team they hope to make a living creating, producing and marketing Joyce's designs.

As well as her ornamental ceramics, (will discuss them further on) Joyce produces a great deal of functional pottery; casserole dishes, hanging flower baskets, mugs, buttons and jewelry. They

(Continued on Page 14)

## Letters to the Editors

### REGIONAL GOVERNMENT JUST RUBBER STAMP?

Dear Mr. Editor:

Congratulations on your very excellent editorial "Regional Council Wrong" in your November 26 edition and the supporting news stories. It is only by informed reporting and editorials such as this that the citizens of York are being properly informed as to the action of their regional council.

In spite of the efforts of a few of us to follow democratic principles and to ensure that the citizens are getting a fair deal, the majority of council appear to be quite happy in their role as rubber stamps and follow the wishes of the appointed officials like meek sheep.

It is to be hoped that the citizens will take an active interest in the activities of their representatives and remember their actions two years hence.

RICHARD ILLINGWORTH,  
 Mayor,  
 Aurora.

### WANTS DRUG EDUCATION

Dear Mr. Editor:

Every responsible individual is concerned with the increasing use (or misuse) of drugs in our school population; first at the secondary school level (after our universities of course) and now in the primary schools.

On the evening of November 25 I attended a home and school meeting at Crosby Heights Senior Public School in Richmond Hill. A panel consisting of four newly elected trustees of York County Board of Education (Warren Bailie, Robert Houghton, Mrs. Deena Simpson, Richmond Hill representatives, and Board Chairman John MacKay), as well as Russell MacDonald, Superintendent for Area 4, and Stephen Bacsalmasi, superintendent of planning and development for the board, were presented to those parents whose interest in their children and their community prompted them to attend the meeting.

Each of the panel members presented a short resume of their duties, past, present and future, after which there was an open discussion period for questions from the audience.

Although the initial presentations were interesting and informative, I thought that most of the answers to the questions were too brief; in some instances inaccurately, and a great deal of hedging took place.

One instance of this was when the question of drugs came up. A gentleman in the audience expressed concern over the present situation in our schools where drugs can be obtained and were in common use. He wanted to know if anything in the nature of drug education was being contemplated in the near future.

At this point I spoke of an article I had read in the Detroit Free Press. The article told how fifth grade curiosity could not be satisfied by most of the schools, the teachers and parents.

Two hundred grade 4, 5 and 6 pupils at Adams Elementary School in Birmingham received 90 minutes of straight talk from four former drug addicts, members of a storefront self-help

drug abuse program. They are presenting their drug information program to elementary school children at the invitation of the board of education. These people were able to answer questions on drug abuse as no well-meaning parent or guidance counsellor could.

In response to the suggestion I gave and to the request of the above gentleman, it was made quite clear by Mr. MacKay and Mr. MacDonald that no drug problem really exists here, at which point another gentleman in the audience vociferously "made hash" of that statement (no pun intended).

At this point Mr. Bacsalmasi pompously stated that drug education has no place in the home, and that drop-in centres are a waste of time and money.

Perhaps if our children were "educated" properly as to the abuse of drugs, drop-in centres and all that they entail would not be necessary. For heaven's sake, why wait until we have a crisis on our hands? We can see what has happened to the very young children across the border, how can we be lulled by a false sense of security ("it can never happen to us")?

It is all very well to run the board of education like a well-oiled business, however, we are also dealing with very impressionable children who unfortunately do not get the necessary information on this problem as with so many other social and health problems that they should really get at home.

A preponderance of parents do not understand what is involved and do not want to get involved. It is only when the situation becomes desperate that they will suddenly wake up and ask "Why didn't somebody tell me?"

After the information published in our newspapers daily has been read and evaluated, how can anyone honestly say they did not know? How can responsible members of our school boards say there is nothing to worry about — that this is the parent's responsibility? When you pass a burning house, one does not look the other way with the thought that whoever is trapped therein is responsible.

I believe many parents really do not care what their children do as long as they are not bothered by the insignificant details. Perhaps the use of drugs is a plea on the part of the children to their parents to pay more attention to them. It is also a very effective way of not facing responsibilities, a two-edged sword here.

Obviously a need is indicated for authoritative courses in public schools in which parents can be involved. How can such a thing come to pass if our elected representatives on the school boards will admit to no such situation, and when they are corrected, abrogate all responsibility to parents who may not care?

Thanking you, I am,  
 RUTH ROSENFELD  
 216 Neal Drive,  
 Richmond Hill.

### Governments Should Act

(Oshawa Times)

The two senior governments continue to drag their feet on the question of how "rock" festivals should be controlled. Their current approach, at best is passive and negative. Legislation with teeth is needed. Its key target should be ruthless promoters who openly flout the law for a fast buck, regardless who suffers.

The lessons learned from last summer's Mospot Strawberry Fields Festival must not be forgotten. Such events are now prohibited in several North American sectors. Similar action by Queen's Park isn't anticipated; nor would it be necessary if the governments exercised the powers which are theirs.

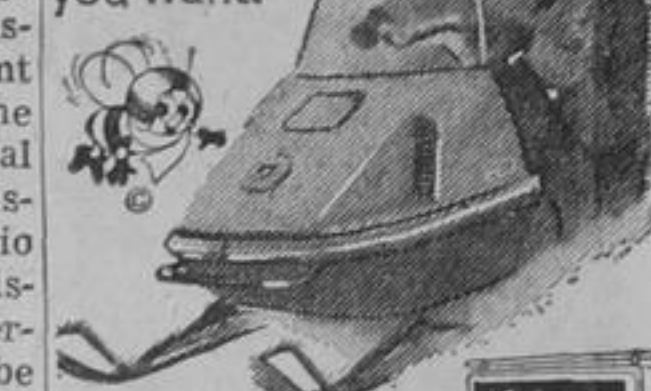
Durham County residents know far better than most of us what the dollars-and-cents price is for innocent bystanders caught up in the net of such uncontrolled exercises. Aside from the special police bill (which was considerable), many property owners paid dearly with broken fences, chopped down trees, damaged gardens and landscaping. At latest report, they will receive only minimal recompense. They're lucky to get that.

A bit of sunshine broke through the clouds recently. Bowmanville Council — incensed by such unfair assessments — has taken the bull by the horns. It will make a special appeal to Federal Justice Minister John Turner and Ontario Attorney-General Arthur Wishart. If such festivals are permitted, it says, they must be controlled by the proper law enforcement. It advocates legislation for the things as crowd control, sanitation, washrooms drinking water, etc. It also hit hard at festival promoters. It wants them to be assessed for all such expenses. Oshawa and Ontario County Council were among the first to support the resolution.

An attack must be made on the problem soon. Who knows? If enough municipalities keep jabbing away, they may prod the two governments into action.

## DON'T WAIT TOO LATE

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