

Mayor William Lazenby is sticking to business until nomination day

"With some declared candidates getting geared up for the coming municipal elections, I thought it appropriate to remark on some queries which are being received by my office, by my supporters, and by me personally," incumbent candidate for Richmond Hill mayor William Lazenby said this week.

"I think it should be realized that the office of the mayor is not a 9 to 5 job or a five day week. Most days, weekends included, I am lucky to get to bed by 1:30 am and fortunate to be in bed after 7:30 am. Many evening meetings and social functions give me minimal time with my wife and family. My children, like myself, are very involved with community life and I do my best to support them by attending their functions. Tuesday morning hockey practices at 7 am are a must with son Bill since I'm only able to attend about 50 percent of his games. My daughter Christine's recent

hospitalization and home convalescence, due to a serious fall, has been an added burden to my wife Evelyn's workload at home. "Whether most citizens realize it or not, a chief magistrate's wife has a multiple role of not only being first lady of this community and goodwill ambassador for her husband's office, as well as being his wife and mother of his children, she also has to act as the secretary, counsellor, and receptionist at his residence. This leaves little time for a normal family life. It is therefore incumbent on both of us to pack as much participation and family activity into the short periods of time granted to us as we possibly can.

Demands on time

"The Town of Richmond Hill is an approximately \$7,000,000 business requiring full attendance and consultations with the responsible board of directors most of the time.

The business coming before your council can be of a major nature or a minor situation. Still each has to be treated with the same amount of responsibility and background information in order that your elected representatives can make their decision individually, in each of their own minds, to arrive at a majority decision which will be of benefit to the total municipality, without adversely affecting the individual residents.

"Much business has transpired in this last term of office and to some individuals and groups the decisions have not been to their liking. This in their mind makes the business in hand an issue. "Therefore, issues to certain groups are received by others as normal decisions of their elected representatives.

Time to campaign

"To campaign and debate the so called issues prior to the nomination

deadline, to me would be an abrogation of my responsibility to this municipality. I am paid by you the taxpayers to represent this community as chief executive in the chairmanship of our council. I am to participate where possible in committee meetings, to represent you on the Richmond Hill Library Board, to represent you on the Richmond Hill Hydro Commission, to represent you on the

Vaughan Township Hydro Commission, to represent you on the York Central Hospital Board, and to represent you regionally on the various boards and agencies which I have outlined in an article which appears elsewhere in this issue of this newspaper.

"My wife and I also represent you socially at many local functions, with November and December probably being the most heavily scheduled. And we

also represent the municipality outside its boundaries at functions which you would expect we should attend to publicize the participation of this municipality and make its representation with our neighboring associated administrations and other levels of government.

Majority rules

"For these reasons I have been unable, and do not make myself available, to participate in discussions on the 'issues' which will have ample time for discussion just prior to the election when, in my opinion, the citizens of this municipality will be responsive to such. I would hope I would have the blessings of this community that once nominations are in, I may be relieved of some of my heavier responsibilities, in order properly campaign to continue in the office with which you have honored me for the last five years.

"Many of the decisions of council, although they are by majority vote, are not acceptable to some citizens, and many times to the annoyance of my even close personal supporters. They too have realized no individual or group can expect that their views are either the correct views or are acceptable to the majority of the people. It is due to this type of support that I continue to campaign to serve and represent the people and the Town of Richmond Hill.

"Gearing up for this election, however, my supporters are actively working behind the scenes in the preparation of brochures, signs, and a publicity campaign to reiterate to you, the citizens, my involvement over the past 17 years in your community. 15 of these years were in liaison with the municipality's administration, and 11 years as part of the executive body governing your town. To this end they have established campaign headquarters at 10,261 Yonge Street in the former Legion Court Building. I understand they have placed a notice in this week's edition of 'The Liberal' and I would ask you call them at the numbers advertised, or drop into offer your support and assistance.

"To finish, if at any time any citizen wishes to approach me or council in our politic manner, this can be done before a regular meeting of council. However, for the number of years I have been in my professional business my home number has always been advertised for emergency situations. Since I have been a politician my pharmacy telephone number 884-4444, my home number 884-4463, and my office number in the municipal building 884-8101, local 37, have been publicized. This has been not only in the press, but by appropriate brochures to insure any citizen can

contact the mayor to express his views or to arrange a meeting to do so. "I believe and know the members of council with whom I serve have made themselves available in the

same manner. I am also sure the secretary to the mayor, a position for which I am grateful to council for establishing approximately 18 months ago, can attest to the heavy correspondence of

this office which is acknowledged and acted upon. Please be assured these policies will continue in my future terms of office," said Mayor Lazenby in his public statement.

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A banquet in the Prince Philip Room of the Legion Hall followed the opening ceremonies as 275 Masons assembled October 23 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Richmond Lodge 23. Above (left to right) Masons V. Wor. Bro. Joe Hall and Right Wor. Bro. Ray Furness lead their brethren as they are piped to the hall by Legion Pipers Ed Russell and Bob Dunnsmore.

Richmond Masonic Lodge celebrates 150th anniversary

Over 275 Masons from all districts in Metro and other areas surrounding Richmond Hill joined together October 23 to help officers and members of Richmond Lodge 23 celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the lodge.

Wor. Bro. H.D. Thomson, the worshipful master for 1974-75, welcomed the guests, including Most Worshipful Brother George Edward Turner, the Grand Master of Canada in Ontario; Most Wor. Bro. Harry Martyn, PGM; Grand Senior Warden R.A. Hope; Grand Chaplain

Arthur Watson; Willard Gordon, Colin McKenzie; B. Davies, R. Commer, and J. Miller of the board of general purposes, together with the DDGM's of the Toronto Districts 1, 4, 5 and 6 in the persons of A. Aggenholm, C. Cahoun, J. Fennell and R. Furness.

The worshipful master, on behalf of the lodge, received a gift of new regalia and a set of movable jewels donated by members of the lodge. These were dedicated by the grand chaplain. The grand master, then, with the help of five past masters of Richmond

23 GRC, invested the worshipful master and officers with their respective collars and jewels of office.

Worshipful Master Thomson presented Most Worshipful Brother Turner with a life membership in Richmond on behalf of the members of the lodge.

The brethren then retired to the Prince Philip room of the Legion Hall where the ceremonies were held. A delicious banquet was served.

Ray Gemmill proposed a toast to the grand master and the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario, and Turner replied. He spoke briefly concerning how Masonic principles had proven their value in the past and appealed to the brethren to make sure that future candidates were

such that would uphold to the fullest all principles of the order.

He made particular reference to the contribution of Fred Graham, a member of the lodge for 62 years and a past master of 51 years.

Harry Sayers, on behalf of the officers and members, presented a gift to Turner to mark his presence on this auspicious occasion.

Harold Ince then toasted

the guests and Arthur Bagg, the WM of Bedford Lodge 638 GRC, and William Selleck, WM of Strongsville Lodge 728 of the Grand Lodge of Ohio extended congratulations to the lodge on attaining their 150th birthday and expressed their best wishes for the future.

The junior warden's toast concluded the evening.

R.S.V.P.

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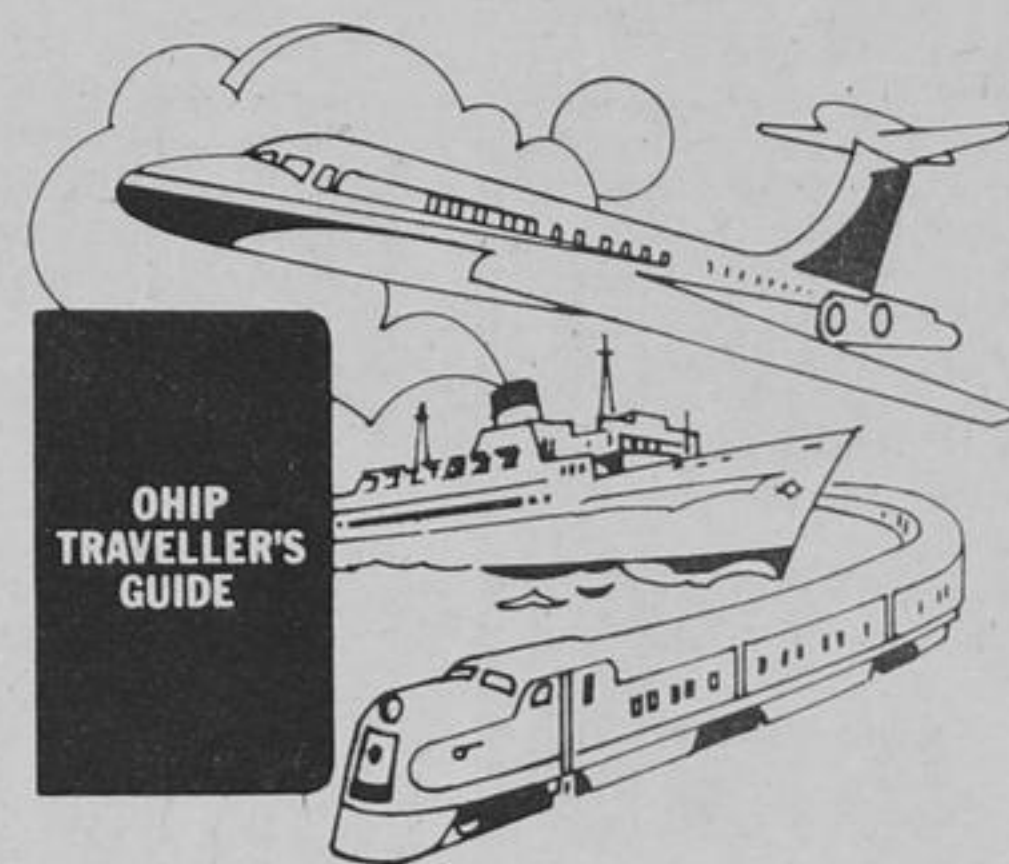
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Ontario Ministry of Health
Heppburn Block, Queen's Park
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