

MP Danson justifies airport compromise decision

By James Daw
"It's like being just a little bit pregnant" according to People Or Planes spokesperson Dr. Charles Godfrey.

But Barney Danson, MP York North, said the federal Cabinet compromise plan for Pickering airport will minimize noise pollution.

In a report to constituents issued shortly after the decision last week, Danson said "the single runway is a major factor in eliminating much of the noise pollution."

"Cabinet has decided on only the minimum facility essential to handle the Malton overflow of traffic which is certain to develop within the next few years," wrote the minister of state for urban affairs.

"The reason is that further expansion of Malton would impose conditions which are already intolerable for the residents of that highly populated area. Even then, any feasible expansion would only accommodate projected growth for a limited number of years," he said.

An additional compensating benefit of the Pickering airport is that there will be more agricultural activity in the area than now, Danson points out.

In his statement Thursday, Transport Minister Jean Marchand pointed out studies by the department of environment showed "62 percent (of the lands) were owned by non-residents, and much of it was under option to land speculators or developers."

Quoting the Airport Inquiry Com-

mission, Marchand said "the construction of the airport provides for permanently maintaining most production above 1971 levels and, more generally, for reversing the pre-announcement agricultural deterioration trend."

Danson said, however, he would not rule out the possibility of using much of the land for recreational purposes.

Danson went so far as to say planning by federal ministries, the province and local municipalities could result in "an even better and richer lifestyle than the somewhat haphazard planning to date has provided".

He called the Cabinet's decision a "benchmark" because "it is a signal the federal government is not going to

be allowed to simply respond to the demands of growth".

The major thrust of his ministry, he said, will be to come to grips with growth pressures around Toronto.

The impact of the airport on growth around Toronto has become one of the major concerns of groups opposed to the airport and the government's attempt at a compromise has apparently not satisfied them.

The 250-member Save Stouffville Committee, POP, a group of Toronto ratepayers organizations under the catch-letters CORA. The Voice of Women and other citizen groups now plan to work under one umbrella group to oppose the airport — The Metro Toronto Airport Review Committee.

Toronto Alderman William

Kilbourn, a member of this umbrella group, said Tuesday the airport and related projects will be "fought at every level".

He suggested the province will be asked not to service the airport or the North Pickering community and that road construction projects for the airport might be blocked at the local level.

Marchand said in his announcement, vehicular traffic to the airport will be accommodated by Highway 401 and the proposed widening of Highway 7. The Airport Inquiry Commission suggested a four-lane ring-road around the entire airport.

"We intend to make this an election issue," said Alderman Kilbourn. He

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(Photo by Hogg)

A three-seater Oster airplane did a nosedive into the bushes after its engine stalled while coming into Maple Airport last week, sending all three of its Metro occupants to York Central Hospital and Toronto General. All three were reported in satisfactory condition at press time. The accident is still under investigation.

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Pound says municipalities better to voluntarily negotiate housing action

Any housing that comes in to a municipality means a deficit.

The more OHAP (Ontario Housing Action Program) and 10 percent H.O.M.E. (Home Ownership Made Easy) goes in, the bigger the deficit, Planning Commissioner Murray Pound told a meeting of York Regional planning commission last week.

Commissioner Pound made his remarks following a presentation of a report on the financial impact of short-term housing action programs by George Norval and David Johnson of Stevenson and Kellogg Limited, management consultants of Toronto. The report covering proposed developments in Vaughan and Markham — Pine Valley Village and Milliken Mills — was commissioned by the region.

Pound said OHAP meant an additional deficit over the normal, but the region must accept it, as it had a responsibility to provide housing that people could buy.

By taking it voluntarily, the region would be in a better position to negotiate.

In a report to the committee, the commissioner said: "On the basis of the projects examined which are approximately 60 percent private development, 30 percent OHAP agreement housing, 10 percent HOME agreement housing, it is under these circumstances that the least deficit is experienced."

"As the proportion of OHAP housing and H.O.M.E. housing increases so does the deficit."

The "mix" for the above was as follows: 60 percent — "whatever the market will bear"; 30 percent — \$14,000 to \$20,000 income bracket; 10 percent — \$12,000 and under.

The report of the consultants showed "the pattern of deficits is different in current and constant dollar terms." In Milliken Mills, the deficit increased steadily in

current dollars and decreased just as steadily in constant dollars.

In Pine Valley Village, the deficit in current dollars increased through 1978 and then declined. In constant dollars the deficit started after 1977.

"The deficit for the two developments combined falls steadily when expressed in constant dollars," the report said. "In current dollars it rises to a peak in 1979 and 1980."

OHAP impact

Looking at the impact of OHAP assessment, the report broke it down into two areas:

— low assumption, which is 10 percent reduction in the estimated assessment of the private portion of the developments;

— high assumption, a 20 percent increase in estimated assessment of the same.

"In both cases the estimated assessment of the HOME and OHAP portions of the

development is assumed to remain the same since these portions are geared to income," the report said.

If there were any significant changes it was unlikely the development would qualify any longer under OHAP.

Under the heading, current deficit per unit, a table for the two developments listed a high assumption of \$399 in 1976 and a low assumption of \$546. By 1981, they were listed at \$405 and \$614.

Although only affecting the assessment of 60 percent of the units, the impact on the average deficit for all units was about the same, the report said.

The high assumption meant a 20 percent increase in the assessment of the private units, reducing the average deficit for all units by the same amount in each of the first three years, the report said.

By 1981, the reduction rose to 25 percent.

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Junior kindergartens approved in RC schools

Junior kindergartens will be introduced by the York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board in September 1975, it was decided at the trustees' regular meeting February 18.

Initially these classes for children who will reach their fourth birthday by December 31, 1975, will be set up in communities where there is a specific and definite need for a head start program.

This will be determined by the director of education and the school principal.

They will be in communities where a qualified teacher and accommodation are available and there is a registration of a minimum of 15 children, according to the recommendation of the board's education committee.

Future plans

A further recommendation is that junior kindergarten be set up in the remaining school communities when the above criteria are met.

It was also recommended the board not provide any special transportation for junior kindergarten children, but that parents will be responsible for their transportation.

However, where a school bus passes by and the mother can assist her child in

boarding, transportation one way by bus will be available, it was decided.

Parent brief

A delegation of approximately 25 parents attended the board meeting with Ronald Crane, 24 Canadian Drive, Thornhill, as spokesman.

They presented a brief calling for the establishment of junior kindergartens and a petition bearing between 100 and 120 names.

In his support of the committee's recommendation Director of Education John Zupancic expressed the opinion a junior kindergarten program would serve the educational needs of four-year-olds better than the existing early admittance policy.

That policy admitted children to regular kindergarten in September provided they reached the age of five by March 21 of the following year.

Other benefits

He also maintained children in low socio-economic areas and children with language problems would benefit from a year of language experience prior to kindergarten.

A further point in favor of junior kindergartens was that they permit an early identification of learning difficulties.

The director reported he would have three classrooms available on an all-day basis (six classes), and 10 classrooms available on a half day basis for a total accommodation for 16 classes.

He felt additional accommodation would be needed in Unionville, Thornhill and St. Peter's, Woodbridge, to a total of five classrooms (10 classes) to accommodate the program throughout the region.

Cost estimate

Where accommodation is already available, he estimated the cost per pupil at \$49.30, for the four months the program would operate this year, based on a class of 18 pupils.

This would include the teacher's salary and supplies of approximately \$500 per class.

Where accommodation would have to be acquired, the per pupil cost would be \$248.17, including teacher's salary plus \$500 worth of supplies, new accommodation costs and furniture.

Vaughan Trustee Eugene Jacobs estimated the total cost of the program for 1975 would be about \$60,000 or approximately half a mill on the tax rate.

Vaughan Trustee John Faraci, a member of the education committee, said it was not

the committee's intent to open up the program in all areas this year, but specifically where there is an emergency.

"The intent," said Vice-Chairman Alex McGregor of Markham, "was for the six areas where we know we have teachers on staff."

Warning word

Jacobs warned against committing the board to the program before the budget is set.

"I am hesitant at this time to accept this recommendation when we have no idea of what budget cutting we will be facing this year to keep to a mill rate acceptable to our ratepayers."

Markham Trustee Leo Wigglesworth stressed the importance to children with a second language problem.

"We have a high proportion of children with this problem and that is the greatest reason we should move ahead with this program."

Principal of a school in Metro Mr. Wigglesworth reported he had a junior kindergarten class of 28 pupils and has not "seen those children suffer".

After an hour of thorough discussion the vote to introduce junior kindergartens this year carried 9-3.

Mining geologist starts firm at 70

By James Daw

What does a man do when he is 70 and no longer the active businessman and mining geologist he once was?

Well, if he is B.I.F. Breakey, he looks for a way to keep going.

"Old age is a terrible thing. The phone stops ringing. Nobody wants you," he said.

But Breakey, who likes to be called 'Bif', thinks he has found an answer to this dilemma. He has started his own business firm — Markham Business Consultants Incorporated in Richmond Hill.

He hopes to put his many years of business experience to use by helping small businesses with common problems of marketing, finance, delegation of authority, control of inventory, cost accounting and management of available capital.

"There isn't a lot of money in this," he explained. He wants enough to cover the cost of his office in the Professional Building in Richmond Hill. But mostly he wants to be useful and active.

The concept of retired businessmen acting as consultants is not a new one. For the past 3½ years Breakey has worked with a similar organization in Toronto, Associated Senior Executives of Canada Limited. This firm is now 11 years old.

Breakey enjoyed the type of work but began to question the merits of commuting to Toronto each day from his home on Royal Orchard Boulevard in Thornhill.

So in December he incorporated his own business. He maintains informal ties with

the Toronto firm and called in eight of their retired executives to help his first client.

A tall man — six feet three inches — Breakey is an imposing figure seated in his attractive, though meagerly furnished, office. His years as a "hard rock" man, tramping through the woods or climbing mountains, have left him with a sturdy frame.

Though his technical training was in the field of geology, he feels his practical experience in business equips him to tackle almost any problem for local manufacturing firms or even corner stores or service stations.

Between 1965 and 1966 he was an agent for Le Societe Miniere et Metallurgique de Penarroya, France (a subsidiary of the Rothschild group) and assisted the company in obtaining zinc-lead concentrates and setting up an exploration company.

For eight years prior to this, he was the president of Newconex Canadian Exploration, which was engaged in exploring for mines across Canada — Newfoundland to Yukon. At the same time he organized and developed a mine evaluation department to assess mining properties for investment purposes.

While with Associated Senior Executives, he became somewhat of an expert on all aspects of trucking, he said.

Breakey would like to find other retired executives in the Markham, Richmond Hill area who would like to participate with him in his firm.



(Photo by Daw)

Retirement isn't holding B.I.F. Breakey of Thornhill back.

Schiller won't sign without housing

Mayor David Schiller told representatives of BAIF-Cadillac Development at the February 12 meeting of Richmond Hill Council's planning committee he was not prepared to sign a site plan agreement for two rental apartment towers to be constructed just north of the Hillcrest Mall.

He wants a commitment from the developers to set aside 10 percent of the suites for the Ontario Housing's rent-assisted program.

The representatives present at the meeting said they did not have the authority to make such a commitment.

But they assured the mayor the firm would study the proposal.

Planning Director Hesse Rimon said he believed the towers would help solve the problem York Central Hospital is having in getting staff because of lack of housing facilities.

"Nurses like two and three bedroom suites, which they can rent as joint tenants," he said.



(Photo by Hogg)

Talented sisters festival winners

The Norheim sisters of Langstaff are a talented trio. The three young pianists took part in recent Kiwanis Festival and Leena, 16, placed first with a mark of 88 in the Canadian composers for 17 and under category. Tiina, 14, placed third in the same classification for 14 and under. Talvi, 18, was not a contestant but accompanied Karen Viinamae of Toronto who placed first

with 89 in the junior concerto 15 and under category. Leena is a grade 11 student at Langstaff Secondary and Tiina is in grade 10. Talvi is in first year pre-med at the University of Toronto. Tiina is pictured left front with Talvi beside her and Leena behind. They are daughters of Dr. and Mrs. G.N. Norheim, Yonge Street, south Richmond Hill.

Flooding hits roads and basements

The rains came Monday night, and they were not only too much for town storm drains to handle, but too much for some motorists as well.

Especially so for two who ventured up Oxford Street just off Yonge, about 6:25 pm.

The water was so high that, as they told Richmond Hill Fire Department afterwards when they answered a call for help, they were "washed" right off the road into a ditch.

The lead car, driven by a woman, filled up with water so fast the firefighters were called to help her out.

A pumper truck emptied the car and York Regional Towing Service pulled it out.

A second car also went into the ditch, but the driver managed to escape by himself.

Flooded basement

The fire department was called to a house at 328 Kerrybrook Road, about 7:30 pm to pump out a flooded basement.

However, rather than tie up the equipment the department only assisted manually. They returned the next morning with the pumper when the furnace was reported smoking and

drained the water from the basement. The over-all picture showed the storm drains couldn't handle all the water, according to a spokesman for Richmond

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Inside The Liberal

New people and outdoor columns

There are two new features for readers this week. Spotlight on People with second-year Ryerson journalism student Lorie Sculthorp visits a local soldier about to leave for the peace keeping force in the Middle East on Page 12. The new outdoors column Trailblazers appears in the Sports Section.

Girl Guide and Boy Scout week is over. Stories and pictures of the annual hobby show and other main youth events are on Pages 28 and 29.

The index of the regular news and advertising features on the inside pages is as follows:

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