



Her hands a blur, Carol Williams of Richmond Hill concentrates on the marching and music as she takes part in Remembrance Day parade Sunday. She is a member of the Richmond Hill Legion Centennial Pipe Band. More pictures of Sunday's ceremonies. See Page C-1.

Concentration

Major dump hearing nears conclusion

Only 2½ weeks appear to remain in the hearings of the proposal to turn 900 acres of gravel pits at Maple into the Metro Toronto area's major garbage dump.

The provincial Environmental Assessment Board resumed the hearing yesterday at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hall on Keele Street in Maple, with that wind-up target.

The board finally received the brief from the Maple Ratepayers Association and its subcommittee, Maple Against Dumping (M.A.D.).

The hearing has been continuing off and on all summer.

Exhibits have passed the 200 mark and the hearing transcript is said to form a pile close to six feet high as it now exceeds 11,500 pages.

The board last adjourned Sept. 21. The ratepayer and public interest is represented by solicitors from the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA).

Five citizen letters dating back to March were read into the record first thing yesterday morning.

They called on the board to give the people of Maple relief from its troubles at last.

The garbage dump proposal was opposed by the letter writers because of traffic nuisance and danger to the water supply.

One writer said much more constructive and pleasant uses should be found for the old pits.

A resident complained of years of noise, air fumes, vibration, flying sand, blowing garbage, dust and citizen band radio-television interference from garbage and gravel truck traffic to the pits.

The board was told 60,000 shares of one applicant company, Superior Sand and Gravel, have been sold to the other applicant Crawford Allied Industries.

This puts control of the whole site by one owner in prospect, something which provincial authorities previously indicated would be preferred, the board was told.

The Maple citizen brief was presented by Tom Connolly of 10122 Keele St., co-chairman of M.A.D. and Maple Ratepayers director.

Connolly was aided on the witness stand by solicitor Ernie Boyden of CELA.

Parade grows as big day nears

The big day draws near. Sunday, November 20, Santa Claus arrives in Richmond Hill, and this community is planning to welcome him like he has never been welcomed before.

The Santa Claus Parade now has more than 44 entries that will participate in the event.

Some of the bands booked include the 48th Highlanders Pipe Band and Brass Band; the 90-member Seneca Optimist Drum and Bugle Corps; the Toronto Scottish Pipe Band; and the Royal Regiment Brass Band.

Connolly is a 12-year resident, active citizen, former air force officer and math-computer science teacher in North York.

His 37-page submission lists community opposition to the big dump under four headings:

— Traffic considerations: the detrimental effects of truck traffic on the Maple community;

— Planning considerations: lack of planning by the applicants and by the three levels of government;

— Site considerations: the risk of ground water pollution on and off the site; and

— General environment considerations, in particular the senseless waste of natural resources.

The citizen brief says the dump applications are viewed in a political context, as follows:

"Mr. (Norm) Goodhead, signer of one of the applications, was former reeve of North York; and Mr. (Paul) Godfrey, chairman of Metropolitan Toronto was his political protégé.

"Mr. (Tony) O'Donohue, signer of the second application, sits on both the city of Toronto and Metro councils and was chairman of the works committee, involved with finding methods of disposing of Metro's garbage.

"It is clear the firms will easily affect municipal waste contracts, and, indeed, a cursory examination of the applications suggests such contracts are anticipated.

"The applications allow for the disposal of 12,000 tons per day or three million tons per year.

"Such figures can only assume the inclusion of a large portion of Metro's municipal waste. Hence the use of the site will be maximized, and the periodic 16-hours-per-day operation referred to in the per-day of the central region of the environment ministry will be realized," says the brief.

The citizens also allege in the brief that strong corporate forces are at work.

"One big American company, Waste Management Inc., is trying to establish a substantial control in the disposal of garbage.

"Approvals (by the board) will mean a virtual monopoly by the two applicants in the waste-disposal business in the Metro area within the next decade," says the M.A.D. — ratepayer brief.

Also participating are three or four local accordion bands, and majorette and drum corps.

Floats consist of Sparky, the talking police car; Richmond Hill libraries' "Alice in Wonderland"; the Agricultural Society's senior citizen king and queen; plus the fair queen and the winter carnival queen.

Most service clubs have planned a float, and other floats are being prepared by the brownies and guides, Richmond Hill and Langstaff high schools.

Patrons ride for free, and they'll be whisked home, also for free, after the parade.

There will be trophies for floats in various categories and some 35 walking clowns and characters giving out candy canes and balloons.

People living in the Oak Ridges and Richvale areas of Richmond Hill may board the "Santa Express" bus which will carry them downtown for the parade.

Buses will operate from the Oak Ridges Public School in the north and the Langstaff Sideroad in the south.

On Bayview Avenue

Mother, two children die as car slams into truck

A 27-year-old Richmond Hill woman and her two young children, were killed in a car-truck collision on Bayview Ave., just north of Highway 7, Monday, about 11:40 a.m.

Carla Parente, 27, of 112 Neighborly Lane, her son, Tavio, 3, and daughter, Nadia, two months, were all declared dead on arrival at the hospital after the accident.

All three were taken to York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill first, but Mrs. Parente was later transferred to Sunnybrook in Toronto, where she was pronounced dead.

Driver of the truck, Wilbur Warren, 54, of 177 Bain Ave., Toronto, sustained minor injuries.

Another motorist, Domenico Minniti, 37, of 128 Brooklawn Ave., Scarborough, has been charged with criminal negligence causing death, and failing to remain.

He appeared Tuesday in Provincial Court on a bail hearing, but the case had still to be dealt with at press time.

According to police, Mrs. Parente was travelling north on Bayview in Thornhill on her way home when she was believed to have been cut off by a car passing her, which caused her to break and cross over into the south-bound lane.

It was raining at the time. Police said the other driver kept on going.

Minniti was arrested by police in Scarborough some eight hours later.

Police termed the arrest the result of a "highly-co-operative" effort among both the plain-clothes branch and the uniformed branch, and several private witnesses, who provided the few clues they had to go on.

In describing the all-out assault to

track down a suspect, one policeman said he had been prepared to work all night, if necessary.

"I would have worked free - gratis," he said. "The thing affected us all."

Rosario Parente, the husband of Mrs.

Parente and father of the two children, did not learn of the accident until he returned home from work later in the afternoon.

Mr. Parente, who is self-employed, was informed of the accident by police.

Hill finally accepts "lower tier" hydro

Richmond Hill Council has finally decided to accept the "lower-tier" form of hydro, one of several alternatives available from a hydro restructuring committee.

The new hydro form will mean equal rates for all residents living within the enlarged boundaries of Richmond Hill.

Richmond Hill Hydro Commission's customers will increase from about 6,000 to 12,000.

People already being served by the Hill's Commission can expect an increase of about 75 cents a month in their bills, while people living in the outer areas, presently served by rural Ontario Hydro, may look forward to a decrease in hydro cost.

But Councillor Lois Hancey isn't satisfied with the way the restructuring committee has done its job.

It only called a public meeting in Richmond Hill after the council recommended it, although such

meetings were supposed to be called automatically.

She said the residents who attended the recent meeting at Richmond Hill High School were given a "biased point of view".

"I'm not advocating any particular alternative," she said. "I just wanted further information."

Mayor David Schiller said the meeting showed that the lower tier form of hydro was the best for Richmond Hill.

"We have a responsibility to the people to make up our minds on this," he said. "It's not wise to rush, but the Region has been laboring under hodge-podge hydro since 1971."

Councillor Andre Chateauvert said Richmond Hill had little alternative since Markham and Vaughan have both already agreed to lower tier hydro.

(Lower tier on educated cost guessing for 1978 would cost 2.71 cents per kilowatt hour, which would be up from 2.6 cents that it would cost if the Hill's Hydro Commission continued to serve its existing 6,000 customers. That figure is down from 2.95 cents which would be paid by people who stay on rural Ontario Hydro rates).

"There are good, sound financial reasons why we should have lower tier," Councillor Chateauvert said.

Councillor Hancey took exception to remarks made by the mayor regarding making a decision soon.

"Don't accuse me, by innuendo, that I'm holding this up," she said. "I first saw it in September."

"I'm simply saying that with the data now on hand, most people would take the view that lower tier is best," Mayor Schiller said. "You seem to favor another system."

"I made it clear I'm not supporting any alternative until I'm sure," Councillor Hancey replied. "They (the committee) have not filled their terms of reference."

Councillor Marylo Graham, who favored the lower tier, expressed concern with the transfer of Ontario Hydro assets to the local commission.

(Estimates are there are about \$2 million worth of hydro assets which would have to be purchased by Richmond Hill).

"We should be made more aware and be fighting for an equitable basis of the transfer," she said. "I don't have all the information and it wasn't given to us."

Councillor Lou Wainwright pointed out that the majority of Richmond Hill residents will pay more for their hydro under the lower tier system.

"Let's not kid ourselves," he said. "One business says its hydro bill will increase by \$100 a month and they can't afford it."

Richmond Hill will seek out more information on the financial basis of transfer of assets, equity, liabilities and equipment.

It lacks parking but hi-rise okayed

Parking at the proposed 80-unit senior citizen building on Dunlop Street will be a problem, Richmond Hill Council insists, but the Ontario Housing Corporation doesn't agree.

Council, in approving a site plan agreement Monday, is "urgently requesting" the OHC to "secure additional lands on the south side of Dunlop" for parking.

The OHC is sticking with its original plan to provide 28 parking spaces, nine of them for visitors, to service the seven-storey structure.

OHC monitored Dunlop Street on two occasions recently, a Thursday evening and a Sunday afternoon. Sunday, at 4 p.m. is considered to be a prime time for visiting seniors' units.

Results showed that Dunlop was barely being used for parking, and existing spots at the three existing seniors' buildings had room for more cars.

Councillor Andre Chateauvert argued the Sunday afternoon report.

"You're way out of line with respect to parking on Dunlop," he told OHC officials. "There's no way to find parking at 4 p.m. on a Sunday; there's a Mass going on at St. Mary Immaculate Church."

OHC's Tom Surgeoner said there is a problem with parking in the early life of a new building, "but people soon realize they don't need cars."

The best at the front door is the greatest thing they could have," he said.

Mr. Surgeoner said the future would show people using public transportation "more than ever."

"If you use public transit, you've gotta be pretty hard up as far as I'm concerned," said Councillor Chateauvert.

Councillor Lois Hancey related a story of a VON nurse being unable to find a parking spot in the Dunlop area.

Meanwhile, council agreed to a revamped fire route around the building that will be hard to tell it's even there.

OHC officials solved the fire route problem with a "seed paver", a system of concrete block units with holes which

can be seeded.

OHC architect Doug Allen said existing large trees on the site will not be harmed by the fire route, because the shallow cut required shouldn't damage any roots.

Resident seeks right to split his big lot

A misunderstanding may be responsible for a group of citizens in north west Richmond Hill fearing they may never be able to sever their large lots.

Wally Sinclair of Puccini Drive in Melody Acres subdivision appeared before Richmond Hill Council Monday to protest, what he called "narrow thinking" that would stop him from ever severing his land.

Car-less seniors

Senior citizens who don't own cars have a better chance of getting into an Ontario Housing Corporation seniors' building than those who do.

OHC representative Tom Surgeoner told Richmond Hill Council Monday night he would "be inclined to be placing people in the buildings who don't have cars first".

Mr. Surgeoner was explaining to council the OHC reasoning for providing 28 parking spots for 80 senior units.

"People soon realize they don't need cars," he said. "Everything is at their doorstep."

Of the 28 provided spots at the proposed seven-storey seniors' building on Dunlop Street, nine would be for visitor parking.

"It's hard to provide a spot for all the children who want to visit granny if they all arrive at once," Mr. Surgeoner said.

1,500 expected for convention

"It's going to be really something. I never knew Richmond Hill to have a bigger convention!"

It'll be a big economic shot in the arm for the shopkeepers, hotels and motels of Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan.

That's the 1978 Lions District A-16 convention coming April 14 to 16.

Really excited about it all this week as he told The Liberal about the convention, co-ordinator and local Lion John Martins said 1,500 Lions and wives from 33 clubs will be in town.

A 90 minute parade is planned along Yonge Street from Elgin Mills Road to

Markham Road, over to Pugsley Avenue to the Town Park.

There'll be 75 entries including floats, marching units and bands, all setting off at 10:30 a.m. on the Saturday.

The convention is a joint effort of the town's three Lions Clubs—Oak Ridges, Richvale and Richmond Hill.

Assistant co-ordinator is Joe Tanzos of Oak Ridges, immediate past chairman of Lions zone 18 west.

Tanzos will also be a candidate for deputy district governor in the convention elections.

Headquarters for the convention will be the Black Hawk Motor Inn. Local motels for miles around are expected to be full.

Co-ordinator Martins predicts lots of business for local stores where the Lions will be distributing emblem welcome posters for display.

District Lions and wives will be here from as far away as Cannington, Whitby, Lindsay, Beaverton and almost as far north as Orillia.

Martins, 44, of Naughton Drive, is a five-year Lion who last year was chairman of the annual Christmas peewee hockey tournament and worked on the Rosetown Ball committee.

He emphasizes this convention is a project in which all three town clubs are sharing equally.

"It's on their efforts it all depends," he said. "We either make it or lose on it."

Martins and assistant Tanzos will be visiting all the 33 district clubs in the

next four months promoting the convention.

The first victory was the big competition at Lindsay last year when the Richmond Hill clubs beat out Oshawa to get the 1978 convention here.

Wives of local club members will have the chance of making their own gowns in distinctive fashion from a huge bolt of cloth being purchased for the Friday night dance and Saturday convention ball.

Mrs. Martins and Mrs. Tanzos are in charge of that project.

Eric George of Richmond Hill is organizing the women's program. It will include tours of Mills Roses and of the McMichael art gallery Canadian Collection in Kleinburg.

Presiding at the convention will be Ellerby Farr of Newmarket, 1977 district governor. Chairman will be Ray Finney of Lindsay, 1976 district governor.

Registration will be on the Saturday night with opening ceremonies at 2 p.m. Saturday. The big social event will be the Governor's Ball at the arena Saturday night.

Local Lions clubs will include Markham, Maple, Victoria Square, Aurora Lions, but not Thornhill which is in another district.

At the Sunday morning rally two district deputy governors will be elected, representing regions 33 and 18.

Chairmen will also be elected for zones 18 east, 18 west, 33 north and 33 south.

The district governor will be elected at the Ontario-Quebec convention at Bramalea in May.



JOHN MARTINS