



Ottawa report

Family Allowance claims made easy

By BARNEY DANSON
MP — York North

Changes in the system of Family Allowances and the new refundable Child Tax Credits are now in effect and are worthy of careful consideration as you make out your tax returns. The changes proposed in the system are intended to provide money to help Canada's working poor.

Here the objective is to ensure both that the 1.5 million children who currently live in poor families receive a better start in life and that middle income families are assisted in providing for their children.

At the same time, it is intended to provide a stimulus to the Canadian economy by directing tax reductions to those people who will spend the money on basic Canadian produced goods and services such as food and shelter.

As my colleague, Monique Begin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, said when she announced the changes, this type of program design is now possible because experience with many of our social programs, gained over the last several years, has taught government how to ensure that more of the money goes where it is needed most.

The refundable credit will provide full benefits even to families who do not pay income tax.

The basic amount of the refundable tax credit is \$200 per year for each child under the age of 18.

As a family's income rises above the \$18,000 point, the amount of the tax credit will be reduced by \$5 for every \$100 in earnings.

Thus, a one-child family would receive a \$200 credit at \$18,000, \$100 at \$20,000, and would cease to receive the credit as the family income rose above \$22,000.

In the case of a three-child family, the corresponding figures would be a \$600 credit up to \$18,000 in earnings, \$500 at \$20,000 in earnings and \$400 at \$22,000.

That family would cease to receive benefits when its earnings passed \$30,000. A one page claim form should have been received with your January Family Allowance cheque.

The child tax credit — which offsets the reduction in the Family Allowance — must be

claimed by the mother regardless of whether she has an income or would normally file an income tax return.

(The father can, of course, claim the credit if the family is motherless.)

It is, therefore, important that mothers file a tax return to take advantage of the legislation.

Filing an income tax return for the first time will introduce many mothers to a requirement of space age technology that many of us are already well aware of: the computer which handles tax returns.

In this day and age, facilities to deal with your Federal government continue to be upgraded and improved through incorporation of new technological developments.

In dealing with the Federal Government it is important that the individual not be "lost" in the language of machines.

Each and every citizen dealing with the Federal Government, therefore, is identified by his or her own Social Insurance Number (SIN) which is required on all income tax returns.

Since your SIN will also be required in a number of other instances — such as Cashing Canada Savings Bonds — if you do not already have a number, forms can be obtained from either the Post Office or your Canada Manpower Centre.

Application can be made either by mail to the address shown on the form, or in person at your local Canada Manpower Office.

When submitting your application, the following supporting documents must be included:

— Birth certificate; certificate of citizenship or immigration record authorizing entry into Canada;

— One other piece of identification (such as a driver's license, senior citizen's card, tax bill, etc.);

— In the case of women who changed their names on marriage, a copy of the marriage certificate;

— Anyone who has legally changed their name, must include proof of that name change.

If you have any questions, just call my Thornhill service office at 881-3537.

Forhan seeks co-operation in disposing area garbage

Regional chairman Bob Forhan last week called for co-operation with Metropolitan Toronto and other regional municipalities in disposing of the area's garbage.

Engineering committee chairman Ron Moran warned that the first thing Metro would want was to open up a sanitary landfill site in York, but the chairman said he was thinking more of Watts for Waste, the project to burn garbage and use the energy created to heat downtown buildings.

It has run into funding problems but regional representatives find the idea preferable to Metro garbage being hauled to the Maple pits.

Regional councillor Gord Rowe said the chairman's suggestion was "the most constructive thing he had heard all day."

A hearing before the Environmental Appeal Board on a decision not to make the Maple pits the main repository for Metro garbage over the next 20 years, will resume next month.

Vaughan town engineer Dick Kraft says the evidence from previous hearings is that sanitary landfill sites will continue to be needed.

But the trend is to recycling and he could not understand why a

program like Watts for Waste would be cut.

Vaughan has named Mr. Kraft and Councillor Jim Cameron to a committee set up by Regional Engineering Commissioner Bob Hodgson to look at the landfill problem.

At the same time, the region is trying to get control of garbage disposal from area municipalities with new legislation.

Vaughan has opposed this because of the Maple site, but if it is inevitable, the council has suggested legislation similar to Ottawa-Carleton's where the area and regional councils share responsibility.

The region included a condition for each subdivision in the Thornhill-Vaughan plan that Vaughan come up with a plan for the disposal of garbage.

Mayor Garnet Williams and Councillor Dario DiGiannantonio complained about the condition at regional council last week.

"Vaughan is being discriminated against because it is the only municipality with such conditions imposed on it," the mayor said.

Mr. Kraft said there could be problems if the Region insisted on drawings of a garbage disposal site, for example. "There are none."

He said what the region was really after was control of garbage disposal.

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KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1979

Notices with detailed procedures for individual public schools have been sent home with present pupils. Parents or guardians who have not received such notices are requested to contact the school serving their area or the appropriate Board Office.

- Area 1 - East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Newmarket 895-5155, 476-3722
- Area 2 - Aurora, King, Whitchurch-Stouffville 727-3135, 887-5115
- Area 3 - Richmond Hill, Vaughan 884-4477, 832-1131
- Area 4 - Markham, 884-2096, 887-5451

- PLEASE NOTE:
1. Parents or guardians must be public school supporters.
 2. To be eligible for admission in September 1979 children must have been born on or before 1974 12 31. Verification of birth-date and record of immunization are required. Application forms for birth certificates are available in the schools.
 3. If a school receives more registrations than it can accommodate, all registrations received before May 1st will be treated equally as far as date of registration is concerned. Registrations received on or after May 1st will be sequenced and the date of registrations will be the criteria used to determine which pupils may be required to attend another school unless there are sufficient volunteers to do so.

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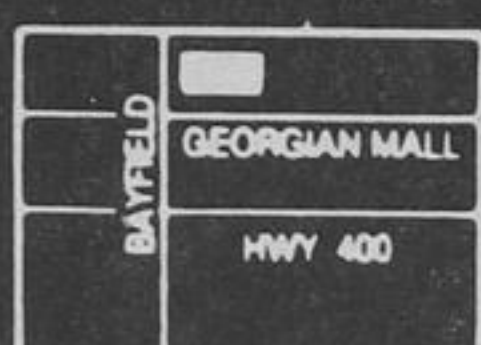
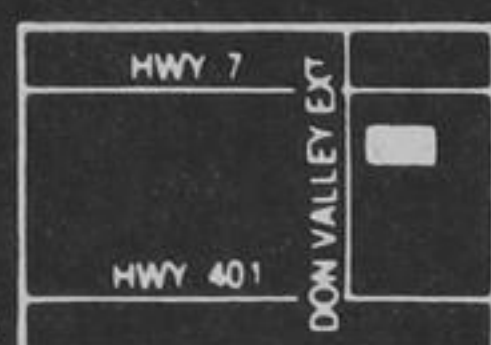
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