



False alarm
Halton Regional Police constable Louis D'Agostino was called to a trust company on Main St. Thursday at 3:35 p.m. after an alarm was accidentally tripped.
Photo By Jon Borgstrom

Computer information explained in series

Can your business really use a computer? The Milton Chamber of Commerce hopes to answer that question in a special series on introductions to computers. The will be held Jan. 29 and Feb. 5 from 7-10 p.m. in the Milton Public Library. Topics covered will include: basic computer terminology; considerations for a purchase; building blocks of a basic system; and renting, leasing or purchasing. The speakers will move to a hands-on session following their lectures and will be using a variety of computers, software and printers which have been loaned by computer dealers in Milton. Cost is \$35 which includes refreshments. Further information is available by telephoning the Chamber at 878-0581.

'AA' to 'AAA'?

A press conference was held today (Wednesday) at regional headquarters to announce the significant upgrade of Halton's rating. The rating concerns the region's status in terms of debenture borrowing. Previously, Halton had been upgraded to an "AA" status which was considered to be a major undertaking in light of the regional deficit situation at the start of this decade. The press release notes the upgrading follows an "independent review by the Canadian Bond Rating Service." It is assumed the rating for Halton may now be "AAA" which makes puts it in the highest category of confidence for potential lenders.

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Board could borrow big

Administrative staff at the Halton Board of Education have recommended a total of \$20 million be borrowed over five years to upgrade school facilities, repair buildings and replace worn furniture. The sum would be allocated at \$8.5 million for restoring existing buildings, \$10 million to upgrade facilities, and about \$1.7 for new furniture, says Jerry Jenkins, superintendent of business services for the board. In past years the board earmarked about \$500,000 to this type of need, said trustee Bill Priestner. Mr. Priestner is strongly in favour of the restoration and furniture replacement aspect which would account for about half of the funds. He does, however, object to the money being used for expansion of facilities. "I am sympathetic with keeping schools in shape but not adding things in a time of declining enrolment," he said. Repairs in the past have been done as needed. However, he said, by setting aside a sum and then prioritizing the use through the property committee, decisions will be made in a more objective manner. He said trustees will likely become less involved with advocating repairs and upgrading schools just because they are located in their own area. Although Mr. Priestner said he opposes "adding things to schools to make them nicer places" he is pleased the staff has separated the needs into three components so the board will better be able to support or reject parts of the proposal. In his proposal, Mr. Jenkins recommended the board borrow the money annually through debentures which would add \$141,500 per million borrowed per year to the annual operating budget. The board is expected to act on the proposal at its next meeting.

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Ontario
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BOARD LONG TERM WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON LANDFILL COMPONENT
The Regional Municipality of Halton has requested the Environmental Assessment Board to investigate the possibility of mediation in order to develop final plans for a long term waste management system for the Regional Municipality of Halton.
The Environmental Assessment Board has appointed Michel Picher and Geoffrey Grenville-Wood to act as Fact Finders in this matter, and to report to the Board with respect to the feasibility of resolving the issues relating to this project by negotiation between the Region and interested persons. To set this investigation in motion Messrs. Picher and Grenville-Wood will shortly be contacting interested persons to arrange meetings to explain their role and how mediation may be used.
Any interested individuals or organizations who wish to meet with the fact finders may contact them at the telephone numbers listed below to arrange such meetings, or, if they wish to express an interest in this process, by writing to the Fact Finders, c/o Environmental Assessment Board, 5th Floor, 1 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, M4V 1K7.
Michel Picher - (416) 781-9621
Geoffrey Grenville-Wood - (613) 232-2244
B.E. Smith
Chairman
January 14, 1985