

Education

# Bowes leads charge to have war documentary removed from classes

**JULIE CASPERSEN**  
Staff Reporter

The York Region Board of Education has pulled *The Valour and the Horror* from its shelves.

A year of lobbying by Whitchurch-Stouffville trustee Harry Bowes led to the ban of the three-part documentary.

Bowes staged a one-man protest against the availability in schools of the series portraying Canada's role in the Second World War.

In fact, Bowes had considered resigning from the board if the series was shown in classrooms this year and had informed other trustees he was taking

time off from his duties at the board table, although not from his obligation to taxpayers.

The CBC and writers of the documentary are battling a \$500 million class-action lawsuit lodged in June by Canadian war veterans claiming to have found 41 inaccuracies in the documentary that aired last year.

"It's being used as a learning tool, but what are students supposed to learn from it?" said Bowes, who served in the air force for three years.

The trustee has worked for a year to remove *The Valour and the Horror* from York Region public schools.

His threat to resign "definitely was

an alternative" but added it would have been a last resort.

Program Superintendent Joe Allin told *The Tribune* Monday that the board will strike the documentary from its resource catalogue at least until the court case is resolved.

However, Allin feels students will be missing the chance to learn.

"I have no questions there are errors in the material," Allin said, "but it makes a good teaching tool because of



BOWES

the bias.

The controversy provides young people with a wealth of information.

Originally the board planned to develop a learning kit to accompany the series allowing students to study related material explaining and refuting the documentary.

This approach grew out of a complaint from the Royal Canadian Legion in Richmond Hill asking the board to review the series.

But incorporating the information kit did not go far enough for the long-serving Bowes.

"I don't accept that and neither does anyone who was in the service."

## Second ice pad needed, but area groups must pay

**TRACY KIBBLE**  
Staff Reporter

The town needs a second ice pad and local politicians want volunteer groups to come forward and commit time and money to the cause.

Officials approved a recommendation this week to have staff round up support for the installation of a second ice pad — an estimated \$1.4 million capital expenditure.

Ward 4 councillor Cliff Dunkeld, while stating he's not "pushing" for a second pad, said he is voicing the wishes of the many groups and residents who have stressed the need for more ice time in the community.

Dunkeld said user fees would help to cover the maintenance and other costs of a second ice pad and stressed the need for "more involvement" with community groups to raise the money needed.

But Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice cautioned councillors about committing to a project — even in principle — without having the money or the intention to fund it.

"I'm leery of too much involvement at this point," Prentice said.

Prentice added the funds to build a 25,000-square-foot, \$1.4 million ice pad have not been considered in the town's five-year capital forecast and warned residents shouldn't count on public money to help with the installation.

"I'd hate to lead people on to believe the town will kick in dollars down the road," Pren-

tice said.

He added that other projects such as the library expansion have already been put on hold and should be first in line if the town embarks on capital projects.

But Dunkeld argued the town is merely supporting the concept of adding a second ice pad to the recreation complex and that no mention of dollars had been made.

"We just need somebody at the top to get this started. I didn't mention capital forecast — you did," Dunkeld told Prentice.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said council is asking staff to see how much support and fundraising initiatives are out there.

"We just want to see who is willing to help. It's a positive initiative thing and if they raise enough money we could match it," she said.

Ward 5 councillor Bob Ancheril said he agrees with Prentice in that the town should remain "cautious about commitment."

Town recreation director Marlane McKee Wetheral has said the ice pad is currently running at 98.7 per cent capacity with several hockey clubs being forced to skate eight hours outside the community.

"Every good thing that has happened in this town has come by supporting projects in principle," Sainsbury said.

Officials voted to have staff seek out groups who would be interested in fundraising for a second ice pad.

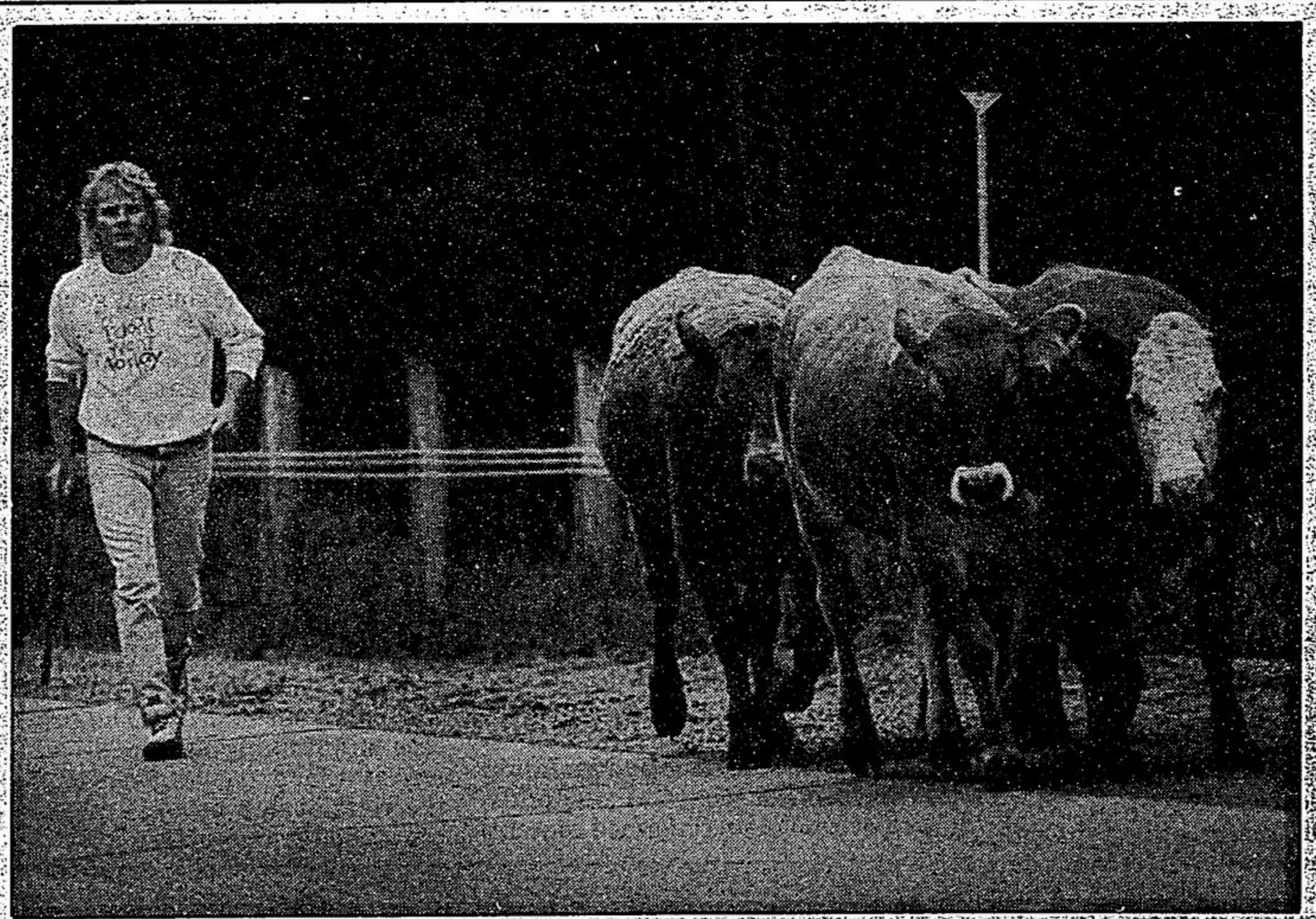


Photo: SJOERD WITTEVEEN

### Cattle prodding

Peter Dodge had to play cowboy this week when these wayward cattle strayed from their own pasture on the York-Durham Line. With the help of owner Doug Clark, Dodge and the four stray cows were soon out standing in their field once more.

## Budget process to open up

Local politicians will look at ways to open up the town's 1994 budget discussions in light of public complaints that the process is done behind closed doors.

Named as next year's finance chairman, Ward 3 councillor Nick Tatone vowed he would seek options to include the public in the discussions which lead up to and help form the year's budget.

During a heated meeting several weeks ago in which majority council approved waiving the town's tendering policy for its \$2 million garbage contract, some residents complained they wanted to be more involved in how the town does out public funds.

Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice had said the Miller Waste contract controversy and public outcry was a signal that the town needs to change the way it handles its budget talks.

Prentice has been a strong critic of the town's budget process since his 1991 finance chairman post and has called it a "sham" and a "joke" during various votes involving public expenditures.

He suggested the town adopt other municipal strategies, such as in the Town of Markham,

which opens up its meetings to the public.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said while she agrees some reform is in order, there needs to be a way that the public can be involved without delaying the process or creating staff overtime.

She also suggested the town model some ideas after municipalities closer to the size a tax

base of Stouffville, such as King, East Gwillimbury or Uxbridge, rather than the "great town of Markham."

Ward 1 councillor Ivanka Bradley said she didn't think the town needed to look at the way other municipalities handle their budget process. "Surely we have the ability to make decisions on our own," Bradley said.

## Savings outweigh costs

(From page 1)

"The cost of operating the quality assurance unit is more than recovered by the cost savings realized as a result of these activities," the report stated.

"The cost of six eligibility review officers and the unit supervisor continues to be more than offset by reductions in welfare assistance payouts clearly justifying continuance of the department," committee members stated to politicians last week.

It costs the region about \$338,000 to operate the department each year.

Officials supported the move to hire the additional workers.

**KIDS  
EARN  
EXTRA  
MONEY  
BECOME A  
CARRIER  
TODAY**

Call:  
**640-2100**  
(Stouffville)

**Attention Flyer Advertisers**  
We can deliver your flyers for as little as 4¢ a piece. So far this year we have delivered 21,573,206 flyers door-to-door in Markham, Unionville, Milliken, Stouffville, Uxbridge, Clarendon, Dickson Hill, Locust Hill, Gormley, Goodwood, Victoria Square, Brougham, Hagerman Corners, Box Grove, Cedar Grove, Buttonville, Sandford, Goodwood, Leaskdale, Greenbank, Udon, Sunderland, Zephyr, Ashburn, Cannington, and all adjacent rural route areas.  
We can deliver your flyers on the day you want to the area you want - any quantity from 5,000 to 46,000.  
For Advertising and Distribution Inquiries call:  
Retail Advertising at 640-2100  
Classified Advertising at 640-2100  
Distribution Inquiries at 640-2100  
or Fax your Inquiries to: 640-5477

**INSERTS FOR SAT. SEPT. 18, 1993**

Loblaws  
Lansing  
A & P  
Consumers  
I G A (Stouffville)  
Uni Lock  
Sadie Moranis  
Ultra Mart  
Selected Areas Only