



Board directors top \$100K mark

MIKE ADLER
Staff Reporter

York Region district school board director Bill Hogarth earned less in 1997 than eight top school administrators in Metro Toronto. But outside the boundaries of Toronto where seven rich boards merged into two this year, only four directors of education exceeded Hogarth's \$137,000 salary, a comparison of figures released last week shows.

The top salary of all — almost \$161,000 — went to North York board director Veronica Lacey, now a deputy provincial minister of education.

Outside Toronto, those making more than Hogarth were directors of the North Shore Board of Education, Peel District's board, Simcoe County's board, and Windsor's separate board.

At York Region's separate board, the former education director Frank Bobesich,

replaced by Susan LaRosa mid-way through the year, topped the salary list at about \$126,500. Bobesich has stayed on as a board supervisor and retires in June.

The board listed nine other administrators who were paid \$100,000 or more, including Pierre Boutin, a superintendent now with the area's French-language Catholic board.

Next to Bobesich, Associate Director Jack Cronin had the best salary at almost \$112,500, followed by another associate director,

EDUCATION

John Sabo, at about \$112,000.

The district public board paid 17 officers above the \$100,000 mark, including Hogarth. Nine of them — associate directors Joe Allin and Avis Glaze and seven superintendents — received just over \$114,000.

Both boards pointed out the salaries of these directors and superintendents made up a tiny portion of their operating budgets — 35 per cent for the separate board and "less than 4 per cent" for the public board in 1997.

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And only five of 128 school administrators in York Region Catholic schools.

Union leaders were furious, saying the province meant to divide schools between teachers and non-union managers. "This government expects key educational leaders to make a blind decision concerning their futures," Dean Bodkin, then York Region president of the Ontario Public School Teachers' Federation, responded at the time.

Later, he resigned his union position and affiliation so that he could keep his post as a principal.


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