

Change In Municipal Government 'Inevitable'

For Haldimand and Norfolk to take their rightful places in Ontario's industrial heartland, indeed to become one of its most important elements, then a change in government structure is necessary and inevitable.

The Haldimand-Norfolk Study this week released its interim report on municipal

government, titled Towards A New System of Local Government, stressing the need for change in municipal government to meet the industrialization of the area.

The report emphasizes throughout that it is not making specific recommendations, but it is presenting proposals with a number of alternatives and the reasoning

behind these alternatives.

N. H. Richardson, study director, also request that the report is issued in order to obtain the views of the public on the alternatives. Once the views are expressed, preferably in writing not later than April 14, the study will be able to go ahead and make detailed

recommendations to the provincial government.

In essence, the report considers the circumstances in which municipal government will have to operate in the future, reviews local attitudes towards municipal reform and summarizes provincial guidelines.

It suggests certain principles which a municipal government system for the area ought to observe as far as possible and concludes the present system is not adequate in terms of these principles.

Three alternative general approaches to municipal reform are suggested that could be followed.

They are: A single "two-tier" regional government;

A single "one-tier" regional municipality;

A small number of "one-tier" municipalities.

These three alternatives were among a number of alternatives considered by the director, but were the only ones considered as being practical.

A two-tier regional government would mean applying to Haldimand-

Norfolk the type of regional government being applied in the Toronto area, in Ottawa-Carleton, Niagara, York and Muskoka.

However, the report states that circumstances in Haldimand-Norfolk are not directly comparable with those in the other five regions, so it "cannot be assumed that even if this is the best solution in the other areas it will necessarily be so in Haldimand-Norfolk."

Under a "one-tier" regional government, the problem of defining

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Slight Enthusiasm Shown For Regionalism In Report

The title is imposing, but the contents should be familiar to many residents of Haldimand and Norfolk.

Local Orientation and Identification Study (LOIS) is a report on the local attitudes and feelings of some several thousand people in the two counties about regional government.

Their attitudes were sought by the director of the two-county study, N. H. Richardson, and are incorporated as part of the just released interim study Towards A New System of Local Government.

Earl Berger Ltd., planning and research, of Toronto, was commissioned to do the study, published in three volumes last month. A condensation of these volumes is published in a booklet titled Loies - Report To The Citizens.

The report contains five recommendations, based on attitudes gathered during the study.

They are:
1. Regionalism should not be imposed, but evolve naturally out of the need for inter-municipal and inter-county co-operation.

2. If any readjustment of local government and county boundaries is required, consideration should be given to keeping towns together with their market areas, and especially with their areas of high orientation.

3. Local government reorganization should begin with inter-municipal planning and other forms of local co-operation to deal with the major concerns of urbanization, industrialization and pollution.

4. Serious consideration should be given to ways in which the powers of local government can be preserved and strengthened, taking into account the larger concerns of planning and development.

5. Citizen participation and involvement in the processes of decision-making should be continued and expanded in an effective, practical manner. The major objectives of LOIS was to identify the market areas of the towns in the two counties; to identify the extent and strength of people's identification with their local communities and to identify in general terms what aspects, if any, of local

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Background Of Interim Report

In arriving at the three proposals for municipal government reorganization in Haldimand-Norfolk, the just released interim report devotes much of its space to explanations and background. Haldimand-Norfolk study director N. H. Richardson states at the outset it is a basic premise of the study that "piecemeal, patchwork change will

not do, at least in the Haldimand-Norfolk area.

"The scale and pace of industrial development and population growth, and all that they imply, will not permit it," he says.

Mr. Richardson states most areas where local government reviews are underway are undergoing changes. But none faces the "radical transforma-

tion in prospect for Haldimand-Norfolk."

It is for this reason it is necessary to start from a fundamental position, "with consideration of the nature, purposes and functions of local government in Haldimand-Norfolk and how it will have to function in the future.

The central fact pointing towards the need for local govern-

ment reorganization lies in the large-scale industrial development and the massive increase of population it will bring about.

Mr. Richardson is predicting an increase from 83,000 people, of which 34,000 are urban, to more than 300,000, of whom more than a quarter of a million will be urban dwellers. Thus the farming

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Three members of the same family are now members of the Jarvis Lions Club, making history for the local organization. From left are David Doughty, who became a member this week, his father Jim Doughty and grandfather, Edward Stire. Drew Williamson, also a member of the club, is David's uncle. (Staff Photo)

1974 Suggested Year For Regional Government

WATERFORD (Staff)-The year 1974 appears to be the date regional government, in whatever form it takes, will be introduced to Haldimand and Norfolk.

Nigel Richardson, director of the Haldimand-Norfolk Study, speaking in Waterford Monday night at the first series of meetings to discuss his interim report Towards A New System of Local

Government, made the prediction of 1974.

The interim report, he stressed, is not final, but only a number of proposals he wishes the people of the two counties to study and comment on.

Mr. Richardson said he would welcome any submissions on the report up until April 14, at which time he will

then begin work on his final recommendations to the provincial government.

This report, he said, will be ready for submission by early this summer. The government will then take the report and present it to the public, either as is, or slightly altered.

The public will then See Page 7, Col. 1

Third Member Of Family Joins Jarvis Lions Club

The Jarvis Lions Club made history on Monday night.

David Doughty, son of Jim Doughty and the grandson of Edward Stire, all of Jarvis, was installed as a member of the local club, the third member of the family to belong to the Jarvis Lions. He made history in the club and "possibly in all of Canada if not the world," said the Lion chief.

Drew Williamson, David's uncle, also a member of the club, presented him with the Lions pin and a free membership to the club, as a token gesture from fellow Lions.

After the presentation, the Lions jumped swiftly on stage to rehearse for the Minstrel Show. It promises to be a very comic one with a team of 60 Lions roaring and dancing under the direction of Mrs. Bruce Miller.