

THE REGIONAL PLANNER

by James A. Brubaker

Minister's Orders Help Create a Better Community Area Liaison Planner

Development on approximately 40 per cent of the land in Haldimand-Norfolk Region is controlled by the Ministry of Housing under

Provincial regulations issued in May, 1973.

These regulations, commonly known as "Minister's Orders", were imposed by the Province as a temporary measure so that it could control the rapid rate of development that is occurring within the Region as a result of the Nanticoke industrial complex.

Because the regulations are by necessity very general in nature, they include provisions that permit citizens of the community to develop their property for legitimate purposes. The Minister's permission is required before this can be done.

While the regulations were issued prior to the formation of the Region, Roger E. Roberts, The Regional Planning Director, considers that they have been good for the community. "They have", he said, "given the Planning Department the breathing space that is needed to develop the new plans and bylaw that will be required in the future." Mr. Roberts considers that the importance of this cannot be over-emphasized as the planning that is being done now will be of primary importance in determining the type of community that we and our children will live in during the next 50 years.

While the orders for the different areas vary somewhat on detail, they all contain the same basic provisions.

In general, the Minister's permission must be obtained before new buildings can be constructed, or old buildings extended, on lots that are less than 25 acres in size. They also provide that: certain types of farm buildings cannot be erected within 1,000 feet of existing single-family dwellings located on lots of different ownership; existing buildings may be enlarged only if the lot size, setbacks, side yards, etc. meet certain stipulated requirements; buildings can be erected only in lots that front upon a municipal, regional or provincial street, and only one single family dwelling can be erected on any one lot.

A citizen who wishes to erect or extend buildings on lands covered by the Minister's Orders should contact the regional building inspector in his area, or the Planning Department at Cayuga to determine whether the restrictions apply to him. At that time he will be advised as to the exact nature and extent of the order and will, if necessary, be given an application form upon which he can apply for permission to proceed with his proposed project. The form should be completed and forwarded to the Planning Department as soon as possible.

Applications received by the Department are processed by the Development Control Division. This processing includes a site inspection and circulation to a number of interested Regional and Provincial agencies for comment.

If the application is for a relatively simple project and if all agencies support its approval, it is forwarded by the Planning Department direct to the Ministry of Housing for final decision. If, however, approval is not being recommended, or if the proposed construction is of a controversial nature, a planning report is prepared and presented to the Regional Planning and Development Committee and Regional Council for their consideration and decision as to what recommendation will be made to the Province. When this happens, the applicant is notified and he may make representation to the Planning and Development Committee if he so desires. He will also be provided with a copy of the Planning Report on personal application to the Cayuga office.

During the first year of operation, the Planning Department received 340 of these applications. Regional action has been completed on approximately 60 per cent, and the remainder are at various stages of processing. The Provincial action, which includes writing the necessary legal amendments to the regulations, currently takes approximately 6-8 weeks from the time the Regional recommendations are forwarded.

"Because of the length of time it takes to process these applications", said Stan Couse, Manager of the Development Control Division, "it is essential that persons wishing to develop their property make application as far in advance as possible." It is also important, he said, that the applications are complete in all detail and that supporting documents such as the legal description of the property and the health unit approval of a septic tank are provided when required. Failure to do so will result in increased delays and frustration for all concerned.

The Minister's Orders imposed on the Region have without a doubt caused considerable problems for the citizens directly affected by them. At the same time, they have also provided the controls that are required during this period of rapid development. As such, they are of immense benefit to the community as a whole and to every person who lives within it.

Bargains in books

Several thousand used books donated by private citizens and libraries in the Haldimand-Norfolk Region arrived on the weekend at the door of the Lynnwood Arts Centre, Simcoe, to be sorted and priced ready for the "Bargains in Books" sale on May 23 and 24.

Diane Purcell and Joan Cline have been responsible for the pick-up of the books where necessary. Peggy Tipler, Lana Wallace, Grace Mound, Virginia Harker, Jessie Slichter, Louise Murdoch, Elizabeth Brown, and a number of Volunteers for Lynnwood, have been engaged two days a week since the first of May in putting fiction together on shelves in the three back rooms of the Centre; classifying non-fiction; sorting paperbacks, children's books, magazines and games.

Prices will range from a bargain low of six books for a quarter; and from 10c each for paperbacks, to \$1 for classics in good condition. Amongst all these thousands of books are some interesting collectibles from the early years of this century, also, a number that are more than 100 years old. Some of the books will be displayed on tables set up on the south porch of Lynnwood. Four volunteers with hand calculators will total up the sales. Hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Langton

Mrs. Steve Horvath, Mrs. Alfons Peters, Mrs. Joseph Loncke, and Mrs. Robert Bogart attended the 55th Catholic Women's League Convention at Assumption University, Windsor on Tuesday and Wednesday May 13 and 14.

Mrs. Howard Vannatter, Mrs. Joseph Loncke and Mrs. Allan Wallace attended the Cancer Daffodil Tea at Cuthbertson Hall, Tillsonburg, on Wednesday afternoon.

Seventeen members of

Sacred Heart Catholic Women's League attended an Anniversary Mothers' Mass at 10:00 a.m. Wed., May 7 in Tillsonburg's St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. Mass was said entirely in Latin. St. Mary's C.W.L. members were present from 11 different parishes to hear Rev. Fr. O'Rourke of Woodstock speak on the Saints of the century. Following mass, a lunch was served to all attending by the hosting C.W.L.

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BY JUDY DAVIS



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Rockford

Mrs. Wilbert Howard had birthday supper on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Clair Fearman, Bob and Kathy. Our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. John Pursley, nee Wendy Dawson, who were married in Rockford United Church Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Reta Winkworth of Simcoe spent Mother's Day week-end with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mino and grandchildren, Donald and Brenda.

Mrs. Wm Johnson is a patient in Chedoke Hospital, Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Petheram were guests on Saturday at the wedding of Jerry Virag and Bonnie Currie, at the Anglican Church, Waterford and the reception at Ukrainian Hall.

Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fisher were Mr. and Mrs. Wray Irvine and Kent Irvine of St. Thomas.

The sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. Nick Lenos and family in the loss of a mother and grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm Lemery

had supper on Mother's Day with Mr. and Mrs. John Cunningham and Laura of Simcoe.

The United Church Women met for their May meeting at the home of Mrs. Bud Priest. The devotion was on the Bible Mothers. The roll call was, name your mothers' birthplace.

The program, prepared by Mrs. Chas. Hall consisted of readings: How We Kept Mother's Day, O God For Give Me When I Whine, and Mothers Have 180 Replaceable parts.

During the business, it was decided to get commemorative coffee mugs for sale, for the 50th anniversary of church union. Used greeting cards are to be brought to the next meeting to be taken to Arc Industries. The June meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Keith Edwards. Roll call-bring a flower from your garden.

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Parks and Campsites are among our greatest natural attractions.

This is what Ontario is doing to expand and protect them.



Ferris Provincial Park, situated one mile south of Campbellford on County Road 31, has been expanded by adding 87 campsites, comfort stations, and boat launch ramp for access to the Trent River System. Regular fees apply.

Bronte Creek Provincial Park, at the Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 25, midway between Toronto and Hamilton, will be open without charge this year for day-use and picnicking. Among its special features are a children's farm and nature hikes.

Quimet Canyon Provincial Park, near Dorion on Highway 27 about 35 miles east of Thunder Bay, provides walking trails along the canyon's edge to give visitors a spectacular view of the "Grand Canyon of Ontario." No admission charge.

Additional campsites are under construction at several existing provincial parks - Algonquin, Bon Echo, Killbear, Fairbank, Remi Lake and Ivanhoe.

If you would like more information about Ontario provincial parks or campsites, or a map showing their locations, write to:

Ontario Parks Division,
Ministry of Natural Resources
Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3

Ministry of Natural Resources
Leo Bernier, Minister

The Ontario Government has a firm policy of establishing and maintaining provincial parks and campsites.

This year, for example, four new provincial parks and over 600 new campsites are being developed for the enjoyment and recreation of Ontario residents - bringing the total number of operating parks to 120 and campsites to 21,000.

The new parks are:
Silent Lake Provincial Park, 1860 acres situated 13 miles north of Apsley on Highway 28.

85 campsites are available, but no motor boats will be allowed. Regular fees apply.



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