



Times girl of the week is Brenda McGown. Brenda, 20, is manageress of the Loft at Jack Fraser's in Sheridan Mall. Here she visits Streetsville's CPR station.

PCS chairman seeks retraction from unrepentant councillors

BY JOHN STEWART

The chairman of the Peel Community Service's social planning division asked a county committee this week to have council retract remarks that it was dissatisfied with PCS over the Leisure Consultants study.

Bob Williams made the request at the initial meeting of the social services committee, of which he is a member. Williams said newspaper reports quoted councillors criticizing PCS funding of the quality of living study. Although community services sponsored the project, they didn't spend any money towards it, he noted.

"I have no apologies to make," commented Mississauga deputy-reeve Grant Clarkson. "I think leisure consultants did something the county didn't want. I have no apologies for being unhappy, none whatever."

The retraction request was removed when PCS executive director Father Phillip Leblanc said the county would now understand the misconception "whatever anyone thinks of PCS."

Father Leblanc said the Ministry of Community and Social Services funded 92 per cent, or \$23,000 towards the Leisure Consultants study. The rest came from donations from Chinguacousy; Streetsville; Port Credit, area libraries

and six developers. Clarkson said he didn't understand what the county had got for the \$26,000 spent on the quality of living study. Leisure Consultants released a final report last week suggesting a pilot project of a 25,000 person community to be studied over a three-year period.

"Now they want \$100,000 more for this project, Clarkson said. "What we want is a report in four letter words on how to consolidate all county social services in a half a page. We need something simple that county council can understand."

"County councillors aren't social scientists and I suggest humbly that not one of them understands the report we've got." Father Leblanc told the meeting that people had different expectations of the study other than what it was designed for. He said the goals were much more limited than council had understood.

Calling the \$26,000 spent over 15 months on the study an "insignificant fund" for the labour involved, Father Leblanc said there was no attempt at a social audit which would prevent overlapping of services in the county.

"There's no way we could finance that. It would take two or three years and cost \$200,000 or \$300,000," he noted.

The committee decided to try and prepare its own

social services inventory by September. The information they gather will help to prevent overlapping services and give council background information on groups who apply for county grants.

Peel Community Services will draw up a form in the next month to be sent to all public social service groups. It will ask for purpose, function, objectives and funding.

The committee will ask for \$5,000 from the county's contingency fund to cover their expenses.

In its other major recommendation the committee, under the chairmanship of Chinguacousy deputy-reeve Terry Miller, recommended to council that Peel become a county welfare unit.

In regional government talks, county had voted to leave welfare at the local level. Warden Ivor McMullen of Albion explained why he had changed his mind on the matter.

"I voted for the local idea at the time but I've reconsidered. If we become a county welfare unit we can get an 80 per cent grant from the province towards our financing."

"A lot of the municipalities seem to think they'll be losing a field worker if welfare is a regional responsibility," the warden added. "They're afraid it'll get too big and welfare will get out of hand. They read

about people in Toronto getting welfare who aren't qualified and they say 'that's not going to happen to us.' "But welfare can be administered better at the regional level. We're losing financially and in terms of service the way it is," McMullen said.

The committee deferred consideration of a grant request from A Place To Stay, the county rooms registry until the social service inventory can be completed. The group has asked for a \$10,000 grant to continue after an LIP grant runs out.

Since the grant ends May 31 and the study won't be done until September, PCS was directed to prepare a report for next month's meeting evaluating the validity of the rooming service.



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Leniency for drug offender: Judge

Judge W.A. Maedel told a 19-year-old Mississaugan who pleaded guilty, to a marijuana possession charge in county court Thursday that he had been treated leniently by courts in the past and was being treated that way again.

He ordered Rolf Deiter Schindler to pay a \$300 fine within three months. In default of payment, Schindler must spend two months in jail.

Judge Maedel told the

executed a search warrant on the place where he and several other young people lived. Six plastic baggies belonging to Schindler were found with traces of a plant-like material later proved to be marijuana in them. A brown shopping bag containing 11 grams of the drug was also seized.

Schindler went to jail after the arrest. He had failed to report a change of address, one of the terms of probation for an earlier suspended sentence.

Schindler was arrested in September when police

request for a fine, crown attorney H.G. Bochner said there would be no useful purpose in a jail sentence.

"He comes dangerously close to the border line," Bochner said, "but he should be able to motivate himself now. A fine could be imposed without doing an injustice to the accused or to society. I suggest a fine realistic to the accused but still weighty."

"Maybe this is his last chance," Brochner added. "Maybe he should be given that opportunity."

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Baby left four years ago

(Continued from page 1)

Worried by the recent Toronto decision returning a child who had lived with a family for several years to her real mother, Mrs. Poirier criticizes the law. "I don't know how a mother and father can raise a child for four or five years and the law says they're not the parents. It's one sided," she says.

After years of caring for Mary-Anne, Marilyn and Alex consider her their daughter. They have never hidden the real story from the little girl.

"Why should she grow up believing a pack of lies," Mrs. Poirier says. "She knows we love her."

Mary-Anne and Jean Poirier, who should both start school next year, are inseparable. The Poiriers have six children.

The oldest — Doug, 10 is totally blind. Mrs. Poirier says he and Mary-Anne have a special relationship. Doug feels

protective of his adopted sister and she helps him get around the house and yard. Sitting on Mrs. Poirier's knee Mary-Anne asked where she wants to live, replies "here."

With Mary-Anne grinning impishly, her adopted mother says, "she's one of us — a Poirier through and through."

Man acquitted

(Continued from Page 1)

taken into custody by immigration officials for a hearing.

Bhatka was released on his own recognizance while awaiting trial.

Judge B. Barry Shappiro told the jurors that he didn't disagree with their decision, adding that if they had found Bhatka guilty he would not really have been able to disagree with that finding either.

Scouts trees campaign

Landowners in Mississauga and area who have more than two acres of land will be able to have trees planted on their property for a minimal cost this spring through the Mississauga District Boy Scouts Trees for Canada campaign.

Trees are supplied by the Ministry of Natural

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