

4 OPTIONS

For city council's committee structure

Mississauga council has been provided with four options for its 1975 committee structure. All provide for citizen input on municipal business.

The options were drawn up by the city's recently hired director of policy planning, Chris Fleming.

The first option is essentially the recommendation of the management-consultant firm of Stevenson and Kellogg that four policy-advisory committees — consisting entirely of elected members be established.

The consultants feel that limiting the committees to council members would allow them to concern themselves more with policy review than with the often cumbersome, time-consuming details of specific programs which might be better handled at the staff level.

Stevenson and Kellogg also recommended against non-elected citizens being on these committees because they are not accountable for their decisions, as councillors are.

However, the consultants recommend sub-committees of three councillors and five non-elected represen-

tatives, from time to time, when it is felt citizen advice on policy matters is required the sub-committees would be consulted.

The second option calls for non-elected advisory committees to meet at the council committee's request. Eight members would be appointed by council to represent the public. The chairman of the regular council committee would also serve as chairman of the non-elected committee.

The four non-elected committees would provide input on routine matters to general committee and on policy matters to the committee they report directly to. They would provide "an additional source of advice and comment," the report states.

The third option would provide joint committees of councillors and non-elected citizens, as the city now has for recreation and planning. However, rather than the present 18-member committees with 10 non-elected representatives, there would be five councillors and three citizens on each body.

Additional special non-elected sub-committees could also be set up to give advice.

A fourth option calls for four standing policy committees of councillors with non-elected advisory committees to provide input when requested.

Every three months the two committees would meet for a full-day session on major policy issues.

"This approach would serve to provide the citizens of the community with a meaningful opportunity for input into municipal policy-making as well as to encourage substantial and regular interaction between the electorate and their elected representatives," the report states.

All of these options foresee the implementation of the Stevenson and Kellogg recommendations that the city's general committee would take over the burden of day-to-day business now processed by standing committees.

Several councillors have indicated they want non-elected citizens continue participation in the municipal governing structure.

The city's general committee is expected to deal with the issue of how committees will be set up in 1975 during a meeting today.

McCallion wins post by one vote

Councillor Hazel McCallion has been elected in a 5-4 vote over councillor Ron Searle for chairpost of the 1975 planning committee.

It was the only closely-contended battle for leadership next year's city committees.

General committee established four standing committees, and then voted for chairman of each one. Councillor Bud Gregory was acclaimed — chairman of the recreation services committee when Searle and two other councillors declined to stand for election.

Gregory is the only councillor who will again head the same committee.

Searle, second in seniority on council, accepted the nomination for planning committee chairman. Mrs. McCallion, chairman of the Peel regional planning committee, was the only other nominee for the post.

As the city clerk polled members, it became obvious by the time Searle voted that Mrs. McCallion would win the position.

Searle voted for Mrs. McCallion, then withdrew his vote, saying he would not be "facetious." He voted for

himself.

Voting for Mrs. McCallion were councillors Mary Helen Spence, David Culham, Frank McKechnie and Caye Killaby, as well as McCallion herself.

Voting for Searle were councillors Bud Gregory, Harold Kennedy and Hubert Wolf. Mayor Martin Dobkin who chaired the elections did not vote.

Anyone who buys a Christmas tree from Pinehaven Nurseries in Mississauga on Dec. 21 and 22 will be helping to send

It was the second year Searle failed to win a position as chairman of any committee.

Mrs. Killaby was acclaimed chairwoman of the civic government committee while Kennedy won the same position for physical services committee in a 7-2 vote over councillor McKechnie. McKechnie chaired the

engineering and works committee this year.

Members of the recreation committee are Gregory (Chairman), Searle (Vice-chairman), McKechnie and Kennedy. On civic government committee are Killaby (chairwoman), Wolf (vice-chairman), Culham and Gregory.

On the planning committee: McCallion (chairman), Searle (vice-chairman), Kennedy (vice-chairman), Culham and Killaby.

The organization will supply volunteer staff at Pinehaven,

woman), Searle (vice-chairman), Spence, Culham and Wolf.

Physical services committee consists of Kennedy (chairman), McKechnie (vice-chairman), Culham and Killaby.

Council once again deferred consideration of how it will determine representation by non-elected citizens on its committees and — or sub-committees.

Council received a policy recommendation from staff and deferred the matter until general committee meets today.

Councillor asks action on weed violators

"Out-of-town speculators" should be warned only once to cut any weeds on their properties and then the city should take action, according to councillor Frank McKechnie.

The Ward 5 councillor noticed in a report to general committee that owners are contacted several times if they fail to comply with requests to cut weeds immediately.

If no action is taken, Mississauga hires contractors to cut the weeds.

McKechnie said he was concerned that weed inspectors' time was wasted in continually reminding land owners of the weed problems.

"Advertise in the paper as is required and then warn them only once," McKechnie urged.

The report from recreation and parks commissioner Ed Halliday noted that there were 464 complaints about weeds in 1974 to date, an increase of 44 per cent from last year.

The city's weed-inspection section concentrated on urging property owners to destroy their own weeds. This policy proved effective and "resulted in a lower public profile," Halliday said.

Travel course

Peel Board of Education is offering a 24-day summer travel credit course with visits to England and France. The course runs from June 26 to July 20, 1975.

Open to high school students in Years 2 to 5, the total cost is \$975. The course is a unique way to learn about the history, geography and cultures of these two European countries, while earning a high school credit.

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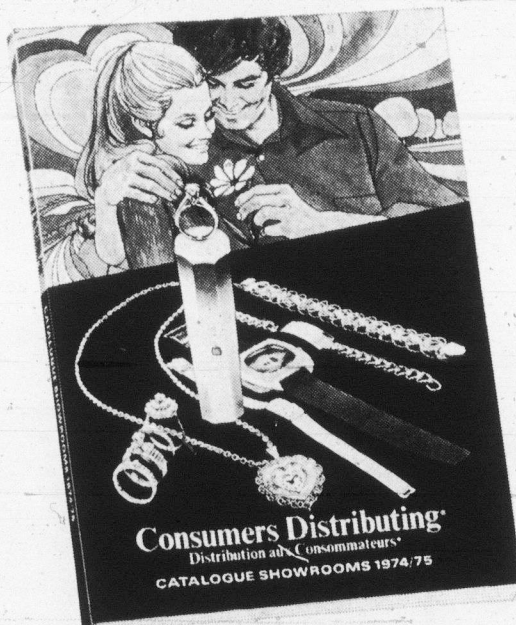
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