

# The Townships

## Paradis: It's now or never to save Canada

By Sharon McCully

KNOWLTON — "There's still sufficient time to put the country back together, but not much," says Brome Missisquoi MNA Pierre Paradis.

Paradis told a group of local business leaders at a Chamber of

Commerce dinner in Knowlton Monday that legislation to be tabled in the National Assembly this week will set a definite target for "a referendum or more than one referendum."

Environment Minister Paradis told the dinner crowd he is concerned that Canadians are not taking the constitutional crisis as seriously as they should.

"During the next 12 months people in the country have to come up with proposals if we are to leave to our children a country which has provided us with a wonderful future," he said.

Breaking from the traditional dinner speech, Paradis invited questions from the business group.

**REFERENDUM**  
Asked what position he would take in a future referendum, Paradis said it would depend on the question.

"If it's a referendum on sovereignty it will be because no reasonable offers came from the other Canadian partners," Paradis said.

"If things don't change," he said, "in 1992 we'll be facing a referendum on sovereignty proposed by the Liberal government of Quebec."

"I don't know what I'd do because I'm firmly opposed to that position," he said.

Paradis said citizens must become involved at the grassroots level if they want to save the country.

"Spread the news this country hasn't been that bad," Paradis said.

Paradis took aim at the government's Bélanger-Campeau commission and the Liberals party's Allaire report. "They could have saved at least a paragraph for the good part."

He also urged the crowd to be open-minded enough to acknowledge that some areas need change.

**YOUNG ANGLOS**  
Michael Caluori, a youth worker and Brome Lake town councillor, asked Paradis what advice he has for young English-speaking Quebecers thinking about leaving the province. They don't feel welcome in Quebec — particularly after the Liberal government used the Constitution's notwithstanding clause to pass such laws as 178, Caluori said.

Paradis drew applause for his reply that any charter of rights which has a notwithstanding

clause does not deserve to be called one. "It's a charter of politics," he said. He didn't say, however, whether his government plans to maintain the contentious law when

it comes up for the required renewal in two years.

"The country is changing all the time," Paradis said. "So the most important thing we want is to pre-

serve the values we have for our children."

"I'm sure in an independent Quebec, it wouldn't be the same basic values or the same economy."



Pierre Paradis... 'This country hasn't been that bad.'

## Pouliot: Ryan plan 'A masquerade'

SHERBROOKE (BB) — The mayor of Ascot says the municipal reform package tabled in the National Assembly Tuesday is a masquerade.

Robert Pouliot says the bill shows that Municipal Affairs Minister Claude Ryan has ignored the concerns of municipal officials across the province.

Ryan originally said the province would have to cut municipal funding by \$400 million. Tuesday's proposals put the figure at \$236 million.

Pouliot says that figure is misleading.

He said the bill municipalities must pay is still the same. It's just being divided into two parts. "It's just a masquerade, it's the

same project he had but it comes in two phases."

"So we received the first phase today and the second half will be probably within a year or so," he said.

Pouliot said municipal taxes will still sky-rocket.

He said that even though the proposals have been tabled, mayors in the Eastern Townships will still fight.

"We'll keep on putting the pressure. The population has not been too much involved so far but it will be," he said.

Pouliot says local mayors are disappointed and angry the reforms were tabled despite opposition from over the province.



Robert Pouliot... Same package in two parts.

## Danger: A tragic accident waiting to happen?

By Dan Hawaleshka

HUNTINGVILLE — An abandoned swimming pool filled with murky brown water is a serious danger to the public because its fence has fallen down and local

children can get in.

"It's a death trap just waiting for some child to fall in there," said concerned citizen Jim Hosking, 68.

The pool is at the northern edge of Huntingville across Route 147

from the Mystery Spot fun park. Closed for 11 years, the pool was part of a now-abandoned restaurant.

The shallow end is about three feet deep; the deep end eight feet or more, and there's a diving board.

Hosking, a retired chemist and an avid amateur archeologist, discovered the pool more than three weeks ago. He was in the area with a metal detector, enjoying his hobby.

He said he's worried an accident could happen with one of the many local children he often sees in the area.

**ACTION AT LAST**  
"Am I glad to get action on this," Hosking told the Record Tuesday. "This is ridiculous. It should be drained."

Hosking said he called Lennoxville-Ascot police Det. Richard Collard to report the danger immediately after his discovery.

"He said, 'I'll take care of it'. Well, he hasn't," Hosking said.

In an interview at police headquarters in Huntingville, Collard said he spoke to real estate agent Léo-Paul Brodeur on April 19. Brodeur is selling the lot, owned by his son Denis.

"He told me it was a private lot and that he'd talk to the owner," Collard said.

"It's the civil responsibility of the owner," he added.

Admitting the pool is "dangerous", Collard said children are often in the area before and after school.



Much of the pool's fence has collapsed. Access is as easy as strolling through the brush.

During the interview Collard phoned Ascot municipal building inspector Bertrand Bélanger to inform him of the danger.

In a telephone interview afterward, Bélanger said Collard's call Tuesday was the first he had heard of the infraction. He said Ascot bylaws require owners to build a 1.2 metre fence around any pool. Bélanger said he'll send Brodeur

a registered letter today. The warning will give Brodeur 48 hours to fence the pool.

"In these cases we don't let a week's time pass, it wouldn't make sense," Bélanger said.

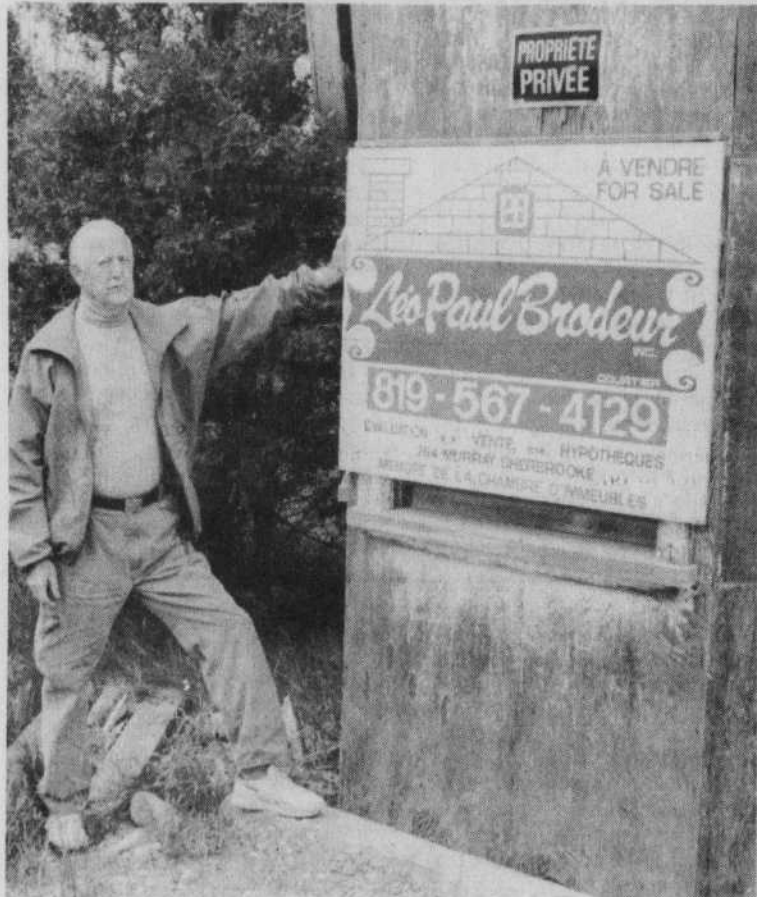
Brodeur was reached at his office in Sherbrooke. He said his son's land is about to be sold and the pool will likely be filled in. "There's no point putting up a

fence if we're going to fill it in," Brodeur said, adding "you'll see a change in a week."

He said private-property signs warn people away.

But is it safe? "Don't get upset. It's been 11 years that it's been closed and nothing's happened."

Hosking gets the final word. "Accidents don't happen, they're caused."



Léo-Paul Brodeur is the real estate agent selling the property. Jim Hosking (above) says a child could drown in its unfenced swimming pool.

## Landowners: Massawippi trail away from lake

By Dan Hawaleshka

SHERBROOKE — Lake Massawippi landowners say they favor a bypass for a proposed bicycle-pedestrian park.

"We have no objection to a bypass," says Michael Allatt, a spokesman for the East Shore Property and Users Association, a group of some 400 families trying to buy a 12-kilometre stretch of abandoned CP railway line.

Allatt's comment came Tuesday and followed comments by Sentier Massawippi vice president Michael Grayson.

Sentier Massawippi wants the right-of-way converted to a linear park — a hiking and biking trail from Lennoxville to Stanstead.

The association wants it for the private use of individual lakeside

users.

Monday Grayson said a weekend meeting between the two groups showed that the landowners association seemed less than willing to co-operate.

"They didn't show too many signs of being flexible," Grayson said.

"We told them we'd see where land would be available for a picnic site," Allatt said in a telephone interview on Tuesday.

Both Sentier Massawippi and the landowners association, sometimes called *Groupe Massawippi*, want the 12-km by 30 metre stretch of lakeshore land from North Hatley to Ayer's Cliff.

**DIFFERENT PLANS**

Each group has different plans for the abandoned tracks between Lennoxville and Beebe. The 54-

kilometre former Beebe Subdivision runs through mostly unoccupied land but a portion of it runs along the residential east shore of the lake.

CP has put the property up for sale.

Sentier Massawippi has agreed to a bypass, as long as users of the park can reach the lake at some point.

"We've always been pushing for an alternate route," Allatt said.

"Some people are very concerned about having people in their backyard all the time," said Allatt, a real estate agent who lives on the lakeshore and volunteers for the association.

"We just find that people on the whole would like to have it quiet." "We're not anti-anything and

we're definitely not anti-bike or anti-trail, but in this particular case it's just not right," Allatt said.

Allatt would rather see money

## Shoppers beware of U.S. claims

OTTAWA (CP) — Canadians shopping across the border are being sold a bill of goods when New York merchants tell them they can recover the sales tax they've paid, a state official said.

"We've seen the number of tax-refund claims grow exponentially in the last three months," said Paul Rickard of the Department of Taxation and Finance.

But Canadians aren't entitled to sales-tax refunds on goods bought in New York, he said — even though some stores tell them they are.

Some New York businesses have gone so far as to tell shoppers they could ask the state for a specific refund form to get their sales tax back, said Rickard.

Now his department is planning an information campaign — to start later this month — warning Canadians not to be duped by promises of refunds.

And officials are also planning to warn suspect merchants they could be prosecuted for misleading shoppers.

"If merchants are informed and consumers are informed, then there'll only be the bad apples to pick out," Rickard said.

He said part of the problem is that Canadian shoppers think inter-provincial sales tax refund agreements apply to border states.

And that problem has been magnified by the growing number of Canadians crossing into New York to shop because of the Sunday-

shopping ban and rising federal and provincial taxes, said Rickard.

More than 85,000 Canadians crossed into New York state in April through Eastern Ontario's seven border stops — compared to 35,000 a year ago.

Rickard said the number of claims from outside the U.S. now stands at 500 refunds a month — more than double the rate of a year ago.

About 80 per cent of those claims are from Canadians, he said.

## Bromont: Cookie L. sues for Captain Mark in horsey case

MONTREAL (CP) — Montreal sales executive Walter Batchelor is bridling over a lawsuit he has been saddled with that could prove to be a royal pain. Batchelor is being sued by Capt. Mark Phillips, the estranged husband of Princess Anne of England.

Phillips, 42, is demanding \$9518 from Batchelor saying he wasn't paid after he designed a horse competition course and appeared at the 1989 Bromont International Three Day Equestrian Event.

Phillips is demanding the money from Batchelor claiming that the regional sales manager for Subaru Auto Canada Ltd. had personally committed himself to pay the captain for his services.

Batchelor has denied that contention and his lawyer, George Hendy, has a hurdle planned for Phillips.

On Friday, at a hearing that Phillips does not have

to attend, Hendy said he will ask a Quebec Court judge to order that Phillips deposit \$1500 to cover court costs for the case.

Cookie Lazarus, Phillips's lawyer, said an attorney from his firm will argue that \$1500 is too much to require Phillips to file with the court.

In 1989, it was agreed that Phillips was to be paid \$14,518 for his services and air fare to attend and be the official course designer for the three-day horse event at the Olympic equestrian course.

But Phillips only received a \$5000 partial payment upon his arrival here and now he expects Batchelor to make up the difference.

Phillips, who has been separated from Princess Anne since 1989, is embroiled in another court action. He is contesting a claim from a New Zealand woman that he is the father of her 5-year-old daughter.

<b>CORNED BEEF BRISKET</b>	kg. 5.05 lb.	<b>2.29</b>
<b>FRESH BARBECUE CHICKENS</b>	kg. 3.06 lb.	<b>1.39</b>
<b>BONELESS BUTT ROAST PORK</b>	kg. 3.86 lb.	<b>1.75</b>
<b>FRESH PORK SAUSAGES</b>	kg. 4.61 lb.	<b>2.09</b>
<b>FRESH CHEESE CURDS</b>	kg. 7.47 lb.	<b>3.39</b>
<b>CAULIFLOWER</b> Size 12		<b>1.39</b>
<b>CANTALOUPE</b> Size 23		<b>1.27</b>
<b>HOT HOUSE TOMATOES</b>	kg. 3.06 lb.	<b>1.39</b>
<b>HI DRI PAPER TOWELS</b> 2 rolls		<b>.97</b>
<b>HEINZ TOMATO JUICE</b> 540 ml.		<b>.59</b>
<b>HABITANT HOT MIXED PICKLES</b> 750 ml.		<b>1.69</b>

**YORK MEAT PIES**  
227 g.  
**.89**

135 Queen, Lennoxville