

Peel celebrating 40th anniversary

By Bill Rea

Peel Region is 40 years old this year, and there's going to be some celebrating.

Regional councillors recently approved a proclamation of the occasion at the request of Chair Emil Kolb.

In his report to council, Kolb pointed to the considerable growth in Peel since the Region was formed in 1974. There were about 300,000 residents in those days, and more than 1.3 million now. He also said the last 40 years have been characterized by strong leadership and excellent delivery of public service.

Kolb observed that only he and Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion have been at the council table throughout the history of the Region.

"We went from a cluster of rural communities to a rich, diverse mix of large urban and rural centres today," he remarked.

Kolb also commented that there have been a lot of successes over the 40 years, including the partnerships with communities, organizations and volunteer groups.

As well, he announced there will be a spring levee to mark the anniversary.