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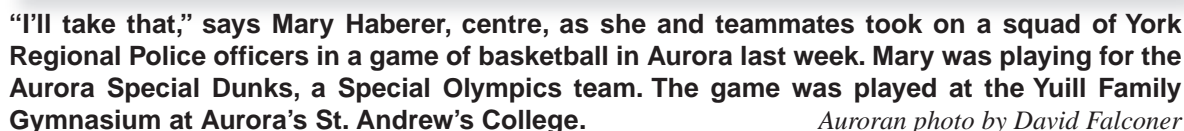
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**FREE**

Week of March 15, 2011



*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

By BROCK WEIR  
Auroran Reporter

Both parties were in a Toronto court March 11 to argue the motion, where the defence called on the court to throw out what they described as a "frivolous" lawsuit.

**Please see page 12**

"A process to fill the role of Town Solicitor is currently being developed and will be discussed between staff and Council over the coming weeks," said Jason Ballantyne, Aurora's Manager of Communications.

"We have to look to the chair for our meetings, who then looks to his experts and we have to look to them for advice if we're not sure. When we did have some questions about it we were told that it was fine to do that, to recess and reconvene without reporting out."

**Please see page 11**

**Please see page 11**



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COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

The Aurora Seniors' Centre and Park Place Manor will team up to host a Blood Pressure Clinic at the Seniors' Centre from 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce March Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Kids & Company, is being held this morning at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club, 4 Pinnacle Trail, from 7.30 a.m. to 9 a.m. This month's event features a continental breakfast, formal networking, and a business card exchange. Cost is \$15 for Chamber members or \$25 for guests.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

"How Do You Know" is the movie at the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight starring Reese Witherspoon and Jack Nicholson. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and costs \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price Includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Retired York Regional Police Chief Armand La Barge will be honoured by the Community Living Newmarket/Aurora District at its ninth annual Community Tribute Dinner tonight. The event will be held at The Manor, Carrying Place Golf & Country Club, 16750 Weston Road in Kettleby. The dinner is the major fundraising event of the year for Community Living and all proceeds will go to support people who have an intellectual disability. Tickets are \$125 each (\$1,000 for a table of eight) and can be purchased on-line through the Community Living website at www.clnad.com or by calling 905-898-3000, ext. 258.

\*\*\*\*

The third in a series of evening chats by Aurora historian Jacqueline Stuart happens this evening at the Aurora Cultural Centre, beginning at 7 p.m. Tonight "Our Aurora Heritage: Taking a Closer Look". There is complimentary admission and refreshments and no registration is required.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Embarrassed by your bare wrists? Get beading! Show off your sense of style with a unique beaded backpack pin and a fashionable suede bracelet made at the Aurora Public Library from 6.30 to 8 p.m. This program is for youngsters aged 9 to 14 and costs \$8 which includes all materials.

\*\*\*\*

The PowerStream information session, How to Manage Your Small Business Electricity Costs with Time-of-Use Rates has been rescheduled to this evening at the Aurora Public Library, Magna Room, 15145 Yonge Street. The presentation will provide business owners information about Time-of-Use Electricity rates and will be followed by a question period. Registration is at 5.30 p.m. and the presentation will start at 6 p.m. Cost is complimentary, and refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

The Aurora Farmers' Market & Artisan Fair final day at the Aurora Cultural Centre, formerly the Church Street School, happens today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Site is fully accessible at the north entrance. For further information call 905-713-1818 or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Annual General Meeting of the Aurora Community Arboretum will be held in the form of a Meet and Greet at 7.30 p.m. in the Aurora Town Hall.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

The Good Lovelies are in concert tonight at the Aurora Cultural Centre on Church Street, beginning at 7.30 p.m. General admission is \$20. For further information, call Jane Taylor, program co-ordinator, at 905-713-1818.

\*\*\*\*

"Get Low" is the movie at the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight starring Robert Duvall, Bill Murray and Sissy Spacek. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and cost \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

It's time to join the Tuesday Philosophy Club and learn things like: What is the meaning of life? In a friendly, informal atmosphere at the Aurora Public Library the club will tackle this question. No prior experience in philosophy required-just an inquisitive mind. Event begins at 7 p.m in the Lebovic Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

The Aurora Public Library hosts the discussion, Investing in Today's Economy, with Aurora resident Roger Strong. Find out how to treat your RRSP and your debt, and balancing safety, responsibility and return. Discussion begins at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room and it's free. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

The Resourceful Mother's Secrets to Healthy Kids Aurora Public Library hosts a free seminar with local author and pediatric nutritionist Meredith Deasley at 7 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information desk, 905-727-9493 option 4.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

The annual Rotary Club of Aurora Frog Race takes place today in Tannery Creek. Money raised is going to Easter Seals Camp Merrywood in support of a Family in Aurora with three disabled children. Tickets will be available at the Home Show or through any Rotarian.

\*\*\*\*

Seedy Sunday happens today at the Aurora Legion from noon to 4 p.m. Seedy Saturday and Sundays are the days when the new gardening season begins in earnest. You can have an opportunity to learn more about gardening, hone and share your gardening skills, and buy or exchange vegetable and flower seeds. Details at http://www.living-raw-foods.com. For further information call 416-277-5432.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Terry Kelly of Ontario Early Years returns to Aurora Public Library, to discuss what the latest research is saying about boys and literacy and how best to support your boy's learning. Event begins at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room and it's free. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Join local resident Phillip Hodgson for an interactive seminar to learn about today's popular youth drugs, the impact on the individual,

the family and the community, warning signs, and where to go for help. Phillip is a psychotherapist and counsellor who works and lectures in the field of addiction. Event begins at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room at the Aurora Library.

\*\*\*\*

Wesley United Church, located at the intersection of the Aurora Road and Woodbine Avenue, will hold its annual roast beef dinner this evening. There will be two seatings at 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. It will cost adults \$15, while children between six and 12 will pay \$8. Children under six are free. but they must have a ticket. For tickets call Sherry at 905-853-4915.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

"I Love Rock & Roll" dinner dance takes place this evening at Dinardo's Mansion on Industrial Parkway South beginning at 6 p.m. Dance to the music of Freddie Vette and The Flames and meet and have your picture taken with Elvis Presley, who is really Kevin Mills from Richmond Hill. Tickets sell for \$60 a person, which includes a three-course meal and are available at Aurora Used Books, 95 Edward Street. Proceeds go to the Aurora-Newmarket District of Community Living.

CONTINUING

Trinity Anglican Church "Clothes Closet", located at 44 Metcalfe St., Aurora, is the local source for gently used women's, children's and men's clothing. All monies raised are used to support the needy of Aurora, since it goes directly to the "Welcoming Arms" Ministry. Open weekday mornings, 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and Wednesday evenings 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. The Bag Sale happens the last Monday of each month.

\*\*\*\*

The Evergreen Choir, under the direction of Richard Heinzle, meets every Wednesday afternoon in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Aurora Seniors' Centre. Members meet at 1.30 p.m. and rehearsals are from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. New members are always welcome. For more information call the desk at 905-726-4767.

\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, presents Dorothy Clark McClure: Then and Now Retrospective. Show continues through until March 26. Complimentary admission. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. or by appointment. Wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For information please call 905-713-1818 or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Probus Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at the Aurora Legion. Memberships consist of retired and semi-retired PROfessional and BUSiness people, hence the name. New members are welcome. For more information, call Marilyn Munslow at 905-727-9344 or Bob Saunders at 905-841-3558.

\*\*\*\*

GRANAurora, the local Grandmothers To Grandmothers group, meets monthly to raise awareness, generate funds and lobby on behalf of the grandmother care-givers in AIDS-ravaged Africa. For more information call Kay at 905-841-9318 or Joan at 905-727-5586.

\*\*\*\*

Alateen meets every Sunday at 8 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Victoria and Mosley Streets. Al-Anon meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Aurora United Church on Yonge Street. For more information go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca.

\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. Visitors are welcome for only \$2. For more information call Ray at 905-727-6168.

\*\*\*\*

York Highlands Chorus is an award-winning a capella Sweet Adelines chorus, a group of women who gather Tuesday evenings at the Old Fire Hall, Newmarket, to sing, share in the harmony of friendship and learn the barbershop art form. York Highlands is always looking for new women who share the love of a capella music. Call Karen at 905-726-2113 or e-mail Vikki at information@yorkhighlands.com.

\*\*\*\*

The Upper Canada Chordsmen, Aurora-Newmarket's award winning chorus, is looking for male singers. The group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old Fire Hall, 140 Main Street South, in Newmarket.

\*\*\*\*

The Optimist Club of Aurora meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Aurora Legion. New members are welcome. Call 905-727-5012 for more information.

\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Lions Club meets the second and fourth Thursdays at the Aurora Lions Hall, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets. Co-ed club welcomes new members. For further information, call 905-727-6079.

\*\*\*\*

Martha's Table runs every Thursday in the hall of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets. The volunteer-operated program is offered between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. Lunch cost is minimal. Last year, more than \$6,000 was given to local charities.

\*\*\*\*

The York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for new members. You do not have to be a police officer nor are you required to read music to volunteer. The group rehearses Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. For further information, contact the chorus supervisor at 905-727-9676 or the coordinator of volunteer services for YRP at 905-830-0303, extension 6717.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora's Air Cadets meet every Tuesday night at Cardinal Carter School from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., and offer a program for 12 years and older boys and girls.

\*\*\*\*

Queen's York Rangers Army cadet corps has openings for boys and girls aged 12 to 18. The group parades every Friday night between 7 and 9 p.m. There is no membership fee and those in high school can earn community service hours through the program. For further information, call 905-726-8600.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Opera Children's Chorus welcomes treble voices. It is a choir dedicated to nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls

ages 5-17. Contact the general director at keepsinging@rogers.com

\*\*\*\*

Community Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS) is looking for volunteers to assist with the activities in its Adult Day Program. The positions call for a commitment of a few hours a week at its Aurora location. Various times are available. Call Christine at 905-713-3494.

\*\*\*\*

Every Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age three to Grade 4 and the Junior High Club for boys and girls, Grades 5 to 8, will be held at the Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. For more information call 905-841-8884.

\*\*\*\*

A drop-in centre will operate every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

\*\*\*\*

Scottish Country Dancing on Tuesday evenings at 8.15 p.m. at the Aurora Heights Public School and Friday mornings at St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome. For more information, call Helen at 905-713-3439 or Agnes at 905-841-2747.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further information call 905-713-9356.

\*\*\*\*

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge 148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street, south of Wellington. For more information call 905-830-9205.

\*\*\*\*

Masonic Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at the Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee Club at 9 a.m. and lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080 for more information.

\*\*\*\*

Gamblers Anonymous meets every Tuesday night at Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, at 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*


Progressive Euchre every Thursday night at the Aurora Legion at 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

\*\*\*\*

Canadian Federation of University Women holds monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.



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More than 100 people showed up for a Pancake Supper at the Aurora United Church last week for an event that was handled by the 3rd Aurora Scouts and Venturers. Above, Rosalie Gagne and Ken Turriff make sure that Elijah Stevens has enough to eat. All three are Aurora residents.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Public participation discussed by council

Public participation - particularly Open Forum and delegations - were the topics of much discussion when council debated proposed changes to the Town's procedural bylaw at a recent general committee meeting and were so again last week when councillors passed many of the proposed amendments to the document.

Councillors had been reviewing recommendations from Town Clerk John Leach which would, as The Auroran reported earlier this month, limit the amount of time an individual councillor has to speak to an agenda item to five minutes down from 30, limit delegations to appearing at advisory committees and General Committees rather than at formal Council meetings, while limiting the time spent on Open Forum and excluding it from official meeting minutes.

These last two items, however, caused some councillors concern that it would limit input from the public on what could be important matters.

"In a sense, if this goes forward, what we're saying to the people that are coming to the podium is we want to hear you but we don't want to necessarily record what you're saying in the

public record," said Councillor John Gallo at General Committee in regards to the Open Forum recommendations. "I just cannot understand why we would want to do that."

In response, Mr. Leach noted that comments made in Open Forum were not recorded in minutes until the previous term of council.

Council does not take any action on matters raised in open forum, only from delegations.

"I think when we start recording the comments of the public in Open Forum, but you're not dealing with them, then you blur the lines between Open Forum and delegations," he said.

Various municipalities have discontinued Open Forum, he continued, adding that even if they weren't part of the official record in minutes they were still part of the record through video and audio recordings of proceedings.

Despite having misgivings, the majority of councillors said they felt at the end of the day something needed to be done to the current procedural bylaw.

Speaking of his experiences with Councillors Paul Pirri, Sandra Humfries, and John Abel attending a course for new

councillors, Councillor Michael Thompson said other municipalities in attendance gave "great examples" of why these suggestions are best practice.

"Our job is to be effective, be efficient, and get the business of the Town done and sometimes when we have delegation after delegation we push back the business of the Town so it is worthwhile to look at what other municipalities are doing," he said.

From Councillor Buck's perspective, Mr. Leach's recommendations prove to be "necessary" to prevent council from being "bogged down."

"There are far too many arguments and disputes about [individuals'] understanding of what the rules of order are," said Councillor Buck last week. "We cannot function if everyone is not in agreement of what the rules are. We're trying to improve the process and I appreciate the improvements that are recommended by the Clerk and... his purpose is to help us improve the process, so I think we should proceed with the recommendations that have been made to us."

"Let us hope that they do what they intend to do and improve the process."

For Councillor Wendy Gaertner, however, Aurora's existing procedural bylaw was "a cut above" those of other municipalities, and is "the most

Please see page 15

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## Groups honoured for helping light the park

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Aurora Seniors Association, and businesses such as Canadian Tire and TD Canada Trust all helped "make Aurora brighter" in the first annual Aurora's Borealis at Town Park, according to the Town's special events coordinator Shelley Ware.

Ms. Ware made her comments in a recent presentation to councillors where these sponsors, as well as Neighbourhood Network, Park Place Manor and the Rotary Club of Aurora, were honoured for their sponsorship of the event, which led to the lighting of a number of park trees and an outdoor skating rink in a festive display.

"New memories were made and countless hearts were touched by the impact of the Aurora's Borealis and it was only made possible by the generous support that we received from the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, the Aurora Seniors Association, Canadian Tire, Neighbourhood Network, Park Place Manor, the Rotary Club of Aurora and TD Canada Trust," said Ms. Ware.

A partner of many local businesses for decades, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce supported the event wholeheartedly, added Ms. Ware who noted their "supportive nature for not only members but for the community as a whole" was once again made evident through their sponsorship for the Borealis.

She also paid tribute to the active seniors of the Aurora Seniors' Association for getting into the swing of things.

"The Association is full of very active seniors, so active, in fact, that they eagerly wanted to support Aurora's Borealis since many of their members would be skating at Town Park over the wintertime," said Ms. Ware. "Their continued enthusiasm and support has been extremely appreciated. We even had the privilege of having the Evergreen Choir perform for us at the grand lighting ceremony."

In thanking the local businesses, Ms. Ware underscored the support of TD staff in keeping Aurora families "comfortable" and ensuring the ease of skating and parking in the Town Park area.

The Canadian Tire staff too were thanked for helping select the lights for the trees and answering Ms. Ware's "endless questions."

While the lights from Canadian Tire burned bright in Town Park from December 20 through Family Day, these lights were made even brighter from the work of Neighbourhood Network, said Ms. Ware.

"Everyone needs a good neighbour and the Town of Aurora is fortunate to have

many great neighbours but particularly Neighbourhood Network," she said. "Their support and enthusiasm for this initiative was amazing. They have been contributing to the spirit of Aurora since their doors opened and now they have brightened another area of Aurora."

## Lieutenant-Governor plans visit to Aurora

David Onley, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, will visit Aurora May 11 to attend a levee in honour of the Queen's York Rangers.

The fundraising event, which will be held at the Aurora Cultural Centre, will go towards the Queen's York Rangers Association's establishment of a benevolent fund for soldiers who have served with the regiment.

"We will be honouring the men and women who over the past few years have served in a number of com-

bat zones around the world and all Rangers who have spent many, many months and years of their lives away from their families, away from their loved ones, training to protect all that we hold dear to our lives," said Councillor Chris Ballard at last week's council.

Councillor Ballard is helping organize the event.

More details will be finalized in the weeks ahead and The Auroran will provide details as they become available.



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## Event moves indoors

The annual Lions Pancake event will move indoors this year.

The event, usually held in Sheppard's Bush, will take place this year in the Lions' own building at the corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets.

"It'll be nice and warm in

there," said Pam Bullen, the wife of the Lions' president.

The pancake breakfast will be held over two weekends, April 2-3 and 9-10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

For further information, call 905-727-6079.

## Film wins awards

Aurora filmmaker Jared Pelletier's short film, In the Hearts of Men, won big at the Arizona Film and Media Expo (AZFAME) last weekend, in Phoenix.

In the Hearts of Men, a period piece set during the Second World War, walked away with the Best Picture prize, Best Director for Mr.

Pelletier, Best Cinematography for Erik Tallek, and Best Editing, which was shared by Mr. Pelletier and Keith LaPlume.

The film is now eligible for consideration in the 2012 Genie Award process. The trailer for the movie may be seen at [www.youtube.com/MajicPictures](http://www.youtube.com/MajicPictures).





## Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

### Larter to MC show

For those of you who already have tickets (and for those of you who don't...yet) please be advised that the emcee (Master of Ceremonies) at the "I Love Rock 'n' Roll" show in May is none other than Aurora's own Brian Larter.

Brian has been the emcee of the highly-popular annual Mardi Gras dinner-dance which was held only a few weeks ago at the same location as the Rock 'N' Roll show.

I'll tell you that location in a minute.

Brian is also the brains behind Larter Associates Inc., whose offices are at the corner of Yonge and Wellington in Aurora, where Brian and his team are an advertising agency and consultancy.

His business has the huge mural on the wall, facing Wellington Street, that currently shows all the Canadians who "made it".

Funny, my picture isn't there.

Brian is a musician in his own right, having played the organ at Maple Leaf Gardens for the Leaf home games.

There's a rumour going around that Brian has the MLG organ in his home, but I haven't seen it, so far be it from me to keep the rumour alive.

At any rate, the event, scheduled for May 14th at Dinardo's, is expected to sell out.

There are some 400 tickets available and about half have been sold already.

You can save money if you buy a table of 10 or 12, as they sell for \$575 or \$675 respectively, but even the 12-seaters are almost all gone. There are still plenty of 10 seaters available, I'm told.

Individual tickets are \$60, which includes a three-course meal and wine at your table.

I'm sold on this idea, since I'm an old Elvis Presley fan, and while he won't be there personally (I don't think), he will be represented by Elvis impersonator Kevin Mills of Richmond Hill.

Here's what his website says: "Kevin Mills' authentic portrayal and fascinating interpretation of Elvis Presley has made him one of the country's most sought after and popular performers in the industry."

This guy is apparently the second-best Elvis impersonator in the world, so, if you're an Elvis fan, this is one show you have to see.

Kevin's career soared and took a great leap forward when he was crowned World Champion at the 4th Annual Elvis Impersonator Contest in Memphis, Tennessee.

In November, 2007, he was crowned Grand Champion in the Pro Division at the Visions Of The King Elvis Festival.

Since proving himself as a leading entertainer, Kevin has joined the cast of Legends In Concert, and has headlined and performed at the Presidential Inauguration for Bill Clinton, along with Carnival a n d Disney Cruise Lines, the Jerry Lewis Telethon, Super Stars Live, the Spirit of America Tour, the Taj Mahal, Stage West and a South Pacific U.S. Military Tour.

You'll also be able to dance to the music of Freddy Vette and the Flames.

If you want to see them in advance, they will play in centres like Peterborough, Roebuck, Conestogo, and Port Colborne.

To see where they're playing, go to their website ([www.freddyvette.com](http://www.freddyvette.com)) for further information.

Tickets are available at Aurora Used Books on Edward Street in Aurora, but if you plan to attend, I wouldn't wait much longer to get them.



It doesn't look like this today, and it's not even being used as a school these days, but this is Aurora's first high school. It was rebuilt in 1923 and stopped being a high school when Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School opened in 1952. At the time, it was known as Aurora and District High School. Since that time, the structure was known as Wells Street Public School. Currently, the building is closed. This photo is another from the postcard collection of former Deputy-Mayor Bob McRoberts. Last week's quiz produced two winners. The answers, of course, were Yonge Street, the old Aurora Police building and Park Place Manor. Congrats to the winners.

# Sleigh ride 146 years ago

This event, which happened more than 100 years ago, was submitted to us by Aurora's Dorothy Gummersall.

### 1865 - A Sunday School ride

The children attending the Sunday School of Trinity, Aurora, St. John's, Oak Ridges and All Saints, King, had their sleigh ride on Monday, March 6.

The day was everything that could be desired; the sky cloudless, and the road, Yonge Street, hard-packed.

Headed by the Aurora brass band and accompanied by the Incumbent and Mr. Wilson, the diligent Sunday School Superintendent of the school of Aurora, the party started from the Church to Suttles cross roads where

they met the children from King, under the care of their Superintendents Messrs. Garden and Armstrong, and the children from Oak Ridges, under the care of their Superintendents, Messrs. Legge and Kelts.

(ED. NOTE: It is believed that "Suttles cross roads", mentioned above, was the corner of the Yonge and Sunset Beach in Oak Ridges.)

Forming there, the line now composed of from 18 to 20 sleighs, they proceeded to Richmond Hill where Dr. Duncombe had all things ready to make the young people happy and in his beautiful hall, well-heated and comfortable, the children sat down and ate sandwiches innumerable and cakes ad infinitum, while the older members of the party

shared the Doctor's hospitality in his house.

This being done, all joined in singing Psalm 100, the band played the National Anthem, three hearty cheers and one cheer more were given for the Queen, health and happiness wished to our kind host.

Then the sleighs got under way again, the Union Jack was hoisted and the word forward to Thornhill was given.

Thornhill was reached about 2 p.m. and this being the end of the drive, the cavalcade wheeled about and proceeded homewards where they arrived at 5 p.m. having spent a pleasant and happy day.

The Incumbent and Superintendents are very grateful to the kind friends of the Sunday School,

who, by turning out so nobly and having every arrangement so complete, made an exceedingly agreeable treat for the children.

They also tender their best thanks to Mr. Mortimer, the band master, and several members of the bank for the excellent music and no less excellent glees and songs by which they enlivened the whole proceedings and made the day pass so very agreeably.

It is pleasant to state that though the throng was so great, the sleighs so much crowded, and the journey so long, there was no accident or unpleasantness to mar the happy proceedings of the day.

**The Diocesan Church Chronicle  
Thornhill, 1865**



## 100 Watts

By Christopher Watts

Quick Response, or QR codes like the weird black and white square you see below, could be mistaken for a scene out of the arcade classic space invaders.

Initially developed by Toyota to track auto parts, QR codes are being embraced for a wide range of marketing purposes.

Aimed at mobile phone users QR codes can be scanned using the devices camera.

The software decodes to launch a webpage amongst other possibilities.

Apple's mobile platform has more than 50 free Apps available to take you from here to there.

If you can, I encourage you to try the one included here.



### Letter to the Editor

## Woodworkers at centre did a magnificent job, this reader maintains

To the editor,

About six weeks ago, I bumped into Roe Coe at the Aurora Seniors' Centre and told him that I had a problem with the covers on the cold frames in our garden.

Due to warping, the covers had allowed mice to enter the frames and eat several pots of recently sown rare tree seed that I was growing for the Arboretum.

Ron told me that if I measured the covers he or other members of the Seniors' Woodworking group would make new mouse-proof covers for me.

Last Thursday lunchtime I bumped into Ron again at the Centre and gave him a

dimensional drawing of the five covers I needed.

He told me he would buy the wood and I could repay him when he had made them.

The next day just after lunch, Ron delivered five completed covers to my house.

This was an amazingly prompt delivery at a bargain basement price.

Aurora is greatly blessed by having many skilled and generous volunteers.

These covers will save many rare and unusual tree seedlings for the Arboretum from becoming gourmet mouse meals.

**David Tomlinson  
Aurora**

### THE AURORAN

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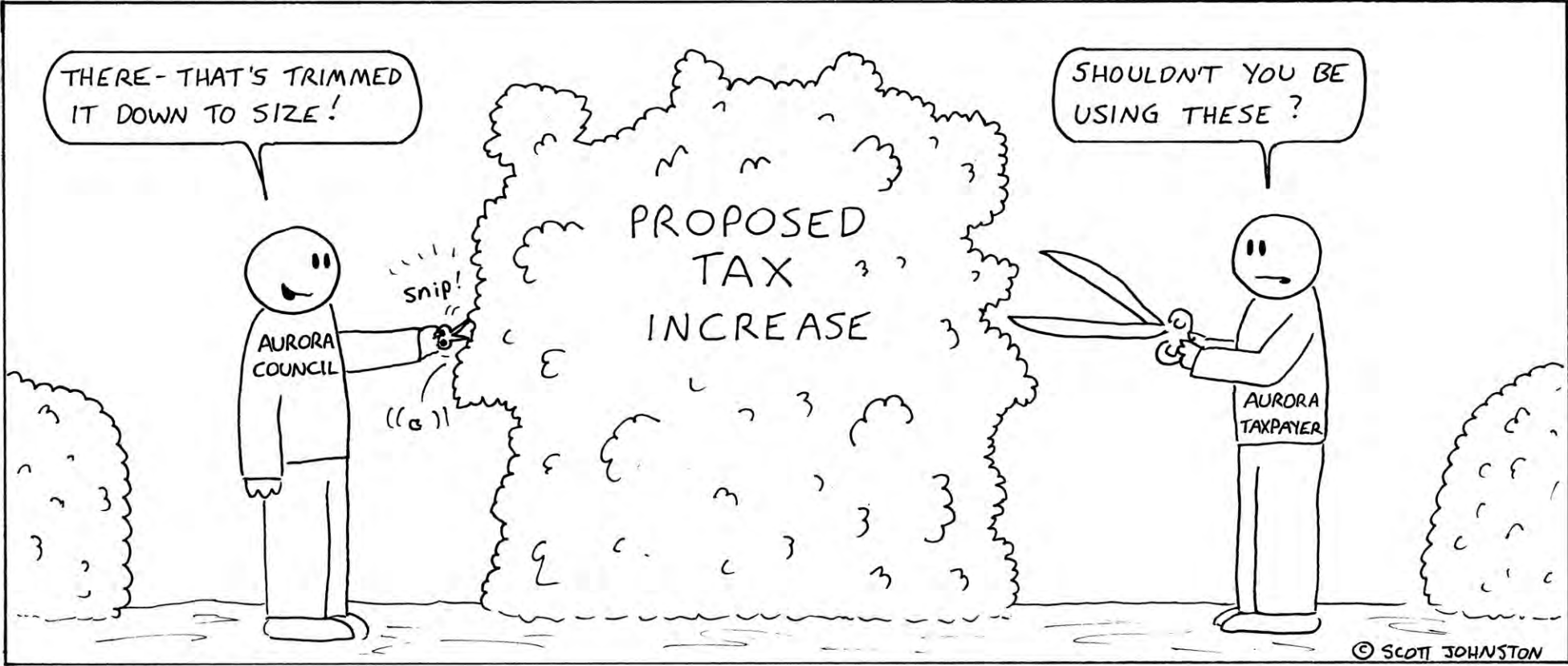
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## Frankly Speaking

By Frank Klees  
MP Newmarket-Aurora

There will be no forensic audit of the Debt Retirement Charge as long as Dalton McGuinty is premier.

### Where is the \$7.8 billion?

In a recent column, I discussed the mysterious 'Debt Retirement Charge' that continues to appear on our electricity bills.

I pointed out that the original purpose of this charge was to pay off something called the residual stranded debt of the old Ontario Hydro and that as of May 2002, that debt was determined to be \$7.8 billion.

Based on your feedback, many of you were shocked to find out that according to the 2010 Annual Report of the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation, the total amount paid through this Debt Retirement Charge as of December 2010, amounted to...\$7.8 billion, and the same report states that the McGuinty government intends to keep collecting this charge for up to another 6 years, until 2018.

### So where did the money go?

At the very least, we deserve to know where the \$7.8 billion went that was collected from us through our electricity bills since 2002.

For that reason, I and my colleagues in the Official Opposition called for an independent forensic audit so that we can get the facts on the table.

In the days following my first column on this issue, I received

an overwhelming number of calls and e-mails expressing outrage at this revelation and supporting the need for a forensic audit to get to the bottom of where the money went and how much is still owing on this debt.

### Resolution in the Legislature

The recurring question from constituents was what our next steps would be.

I can now report that the Official Opposition introduced the following Resolution for debate in the legislature on March 2nd:

"Although in 2002 the residual stranded debt was \$7.8 billion, and since then Ontario families have paid \$7.8 billion in debt retirement charges, and yet the McGuinty government will continue to charge the debt retirement charge on hydro bills; therefore, the Legislative Assembly of Ontario calls on the McGuinty government to instruct an external firm to conduct a forensic audit into the residual stranded debt and the debt retirement charge, and make the findings of the audit public."

This motion was debated at length by MPPs from all three political parties. My colleagues in the PC Caucus focused their remarks on the need for transparency and accountability.

At the very least, Ontarians deserve an explanation of where their money went.

Tim Hudak concluded his remarks during the debate on this Resolution by saying:

"Show the proper respect to Ontario's hard-working families, to seniors, to small businesses, and conduct a forensic audit and tell us how much is left owing on the residual stranded debt,

## What are they hiding?

and tell Ontario families who pay the bills exactly where the money went."

### Liberal MPPs voted 'NO'

Too much to ask? Apparently. Each and every Liberal MPP voted against the Resolution. They were apparently convinced their constituents would have no interest in knowing what happens to their hard-earned dollars once in the clutches of the government.

I think they're wrong, and I also believe that they will be held accountable for abandoning their constituents on this issue and voting instead, to protect the government from embarrassment.

The resolution was defeated by the majority Liberal members of the Legislature.

There will not be a forensic audit of the Debt Retirement Charge as long as Dalton McGuinty is the Premier.

I leave it with you to decide why the present government would refuse to open the books and allow an independent audit.

If, as the government claims, this is all the fault of the previous government, why not allow an independent audit to confirm that?

To deny it, is to deny the transparency and accountability that you deserve.

As always, I invite your comments, questions or advice on this, or on any other issue related to the provincial government.

Contact me through my website at [www.frankklees.com](http://www.frankklees.com) or by calling 905-750-0019.



## Lois Brown

By Lois Brown  
MP Newmarket-Aurora

Recently I spoke in the House of Commons on the important issue of employee protection when the employer faces bankruptcy.

This is an important issue that has unfortunately crossed my desk on more than one occasion.

The Government of Canada understands the challenges faced by workers whose employers go bankrupt, such as the possible reduction or loss of benefits, such as long-term disability.

That is why our government has put in place a series of measures to help deal with the challenges that these beneficiaries face.

In fact, this issue was identified in the 2010 Speech from the Throne.

We made a commitment to Canadians that we would look at how we could better protect workers when an employer faces these kinds of difficult circumstances.

We recognize that when an employer goes bankrupt, employees are often left in a difficult situation regarding wages.

Through no fault of their own they can suddenly find themselves struggling to make ends meet.

That is bad for workers and their families and it is bad for our economy.

In response, the government has established the wage-earner protection program, or WEPP.

This provides timely compensation to employees who are owed money when their employers go bankrupt.

As a result of this important program, eligible workers who lose their jobs and are owed money because their employer has gone bankrupt or has become subject to receivership are now compensated for unpaid wages and vacation pay.

They are also eligible for more recent severance and termination pay up to a maximum of approximately \$3,400.

The WEPP was expanded in 2009, and as a result, it has meant improved financial support to Canadian workers during the economic downturn.

It has meant that more Canadians were able to qualify for WEPP financial support and secure higher average monetary claims.

Since January, 2009, more than 30,000 WEPP claimants have received almost \$67 million in payments.

In December, 2010, a number of regulatory amendments were proposed for the pension benefits standards regulation.

The proposed amendments are designed to make

federally regulated private pension plans less sensitive to financial market volatility while protecting plan members and retirees.

It calls for four key measures.

First, it would permit plan sponsors to secure properly structured letters of credit in lieu of making solvency payments to the pension fund to a limit of 15 per cent of the plan assets.

Second, it would require plan sponsors to fully fund pension benefits on plan termination.

Third, it would render void any amendments to a pension plan that would reduce the solvency ratio of the pension plan if the plan's solvency ratio is below 0.85 or the amendment causes the solvency ratio to fall below 0.85.

Fourth, it would introduce a distressed pension plan workout scheme.

These changes are part of the Government of Canada's overall commitment to further strengthen the retirement income system for our citizens.

This is the kind of action that Canadians have been asking for and that we have been delivering.

I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Contact me at 905-953-9515 or by e-mail at [Brown.L@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Brown.L@parl.gc.ca).

## Protecting employees



Letters to the Editor

# Only two area grocery stores have clerks who know how to put groceries into bags

To the editor,

When I read that a representative of George Weston Ltd. said last week that it would charge five per cent more for its products as of April 1, I thought this statement to be an early April Fool's joke – but no, upon further research all the majors will be raising their

prices.

Bad crops around the world and oil trading for more than \$100 US a barrel have up to now had little effect due to our strong Loonie.

All this is about to change!

Have you noticed your delivery charge on your gas bill? Wow!

Enbridge did not find any humour when I suggested that I didn't need delivery – I lived close and would pick it up!

This charge is more per month than my gas usage - I don't even want to discuss the HST.

It suggested that we all must tighten our belts – sorry, but I am already using

my last notch!

I guess I could walk to the grocery store, Oak Ridges Food Market, which by the way is one of two – the other being the Metro store in Aurora, who actually have cashiers who are trained to bag groceries (that we are paying a lot more for now) properly.

These wonderful individ-

uals have respect for my hard earned \$\$s and don't put my eggs, tomatoes, bread, bananas etc. on the bottom piling cans and other heavy objects on top so when I get them home I have items only fit for sauces, baking or the garbage.

How hard it is to train people to pack properly?

You would not believe the looks I have got when I have asked, politely of course, that my eggs could be broken if you put that large tin of tomato juice on top of them - that - "huh, who are you to tell me my job lady" look.

Excuse me but I have a problem with grocery stores generally speaking.

I have yet to find one that doesn't have all their perishables at the front of the store to the right – the first area your cart is automatically directed to.

After many years of shopping, I know to carefully load my fresh vegetables so that they are not squished by the following additions.

Every person I know has discovered this and along with me wonders why.

Is this some grocery ploy to make us buy more, 'cause we have to spend more time arranging our groceries?

What harm would be caused by putting all the perishables at the end of the circuitous route especially if we will be paying for everything.

Statistics Canada says general food prices rose 2.1 per cent in the 12 months leading up to January and Canadians paid 10.7 per cent more for sugar (being an ingredient in many processed foods). Did your income increase 2 per cent last year and will it increase enough this year to accommodate for the high cost of everything?

I know I have to buy longer belts to tighten!

To the editor,

I totally agree with Mayor Dawe in his comments of March 8 (Letter to the Editor, Page 4).

While it is wonderful to have a small community newspaper where anyone can express their views, surely some discretion is needed.

When a writer is working with incorrect or unsubstantiated facts, and draws false conclusions, and then expresses an opinion and makes accusations based on those wrong facts, or

maligns someone's character or reputation as a result, a great deal of damage can be done.

Mayor Dawe's comments were directed specifically at allegations made against town staff, but I suggest this discretion is needed at all times - with all letters published.

Sometimes it is patently obvious the writer is misinformed about a topic, and goes off on a rant of finger pointing shame-and blame, and name calling against one or more specific individuals.

This vindictive make-wrong behaviour is adolescent and irresponsible, and fosters an atmosphere of negativity and distrust.

When these words are printed without discretion, or time taken to correct false statements, readers may now form negative opinions based on these false allegations. It effectively puts the publication in the position of being a rumor-monger, by passing along what is often no better than malicious gossip.

It also sets an example for people that writing and

publishing personal insults, pointing fingers, laying blame and name calling is somehow acceptable.

When this example is set by our elected leaders, (as it has been over the last four years) it is even worse.

Leaders lead by example, and others follow. In our society, we are encouraged to question our leaders, and their viewpoints.

It is fine to disagree with the political opinion or position of any person at any level of government, elected or not.

This is the freedom of

speech we are guaranteed in this country.

However, it is NOT fine to publicly accuse them of wrongdoing, lying, stupidity, lack of integrity, or deliberate breach of public trust.

It is just plain irresponsible, because when letters like this are continually published, (as they have been over the past four years) then those people with impressionable minds believe it to be truth, and then feel free to take it to the next step and start writing personal threats and insults in blogs. And we have all seen the result of that.

While these kinds of letters may be very entertaining and certainly create readership, I think the time has come for The Auroran to routinely check and correct errors in fact, and refrain from printing these kinds of malicious letters.

They do not serve our community in any way, and too much damage has already been done.

Janet Matthews  
Aurora

Bonnie Tiffin  
Oak Ridges

# Reader upset by carnage to trees on Leslie Street

To the editor,

I've not seen anything about this in either Aurora newspaper.

Have you seen the condition of the trees and shrubs on Leslie from Elgin Mills both

sides all the way north to Bloomington?

These trees were perfectly fine, then one day York Region came through and this is the aftermath. It's butchery.

While shopping around town in various stores, I've had

several people comment on it, and frankly I'm quite shocked by what the Forestry Dept. has done.

I did call twice to the York Region forestry dept. but never had a call back at all.

I'm a gardener, our home has been on garden tours, been on TV. etc. - my sister and I do know a thing or two about tree maintenance and pruning and this sure isn't Powerstream hacking at trees for their lines - this is carnage at its worst.

Take a look and perhaps you can get to the bottom of it?

Next - we're just here in Aurora now three months having moved here from the Beach in Toronto. Here's my burning comment - how embarrassing is Wendy Gaertner?

I kind of wish I had known about the scandal Aurora calls a town council - this is worse than Rob Ford!

I wish council could do

something like gag her permanently - what a fool she is as well as her little companions.

What a triumverate!

This is the downside of voting for a "roaming" council at large rather than by ward.

Frankly, I'm horrified by this town council.

But that's just my thought, but I bet others are thinking it.

Anyway, I digress - my sister and I drive by these trees daily and I'd sure like to find out what the heck is going on with them.

Someone needs to be accountable.

Valerie Murray  
Aurora

ED. NOTE: Elgin Mills to Bloomington is not part of Aurora, therefore The Auroran, a newspaper that covers items within the boundaries of Aurora, would not cover that area.

# President wonders what happened to legislation

To the editor,

Where is the legislation?

The government of the day, through the Minister of Veterans Affairs has made several announcements and promises on Bill C-55 (New Veterans Charter), which has received first reading in the House of Commons but has not progressed to the Committee level.

Similar announcements and promises have been made on Bill-480 by the Minister of Finance (Removal of GST from poppies and wreath purchases) for which no legislation has yet been tabled.

As The Auroran readers know, the tabling and passage of these bills with Royal Assent will

not be possible should the government decide to call an election.

The Royal Canadian Legion has written to both ministers on the matters of legislative procedure and has received assurances that these matters are being looked into.

These bills, however, may die on the order paper if an election is called and leave Canada's disabled veterans, their families and The Royal Canadian Legion without the legislation they all need. The Royal Canadian Legion writes this letter because we care.

Patricia Varga  
Dominion President  
Royal Cdn. Legion

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Letters to the Editor

# Petch House belongs on Jack Wood property

To the editor,

Back about three years ago when town was talking about moving the Community Gardens off the Jack Wood farm, I went to open forum at

a council meeting and did a presentation about moving the old log cabin to the Wood farm, keeping the gardens there, move the farmers' market there and to find a appropriate use for the Wood

farm house as it was built in the 1800s and the Town of Aurora already owned this beautiful little space.

Well, we have a new home for the community gardens on Industrial Parkway but now

there is talk of park land shortage, a home for a museum, a home for the log cabin and the Wood property has now been divided into two parcels of land for sale.

You have this beautiful treed piece of land with an old farmhouse, an old little barn and a creek running through the land, then you have the need for park space.

Maybe the need for museum with solar panels on roof to power and heat the building along with the little log house in the back and a beautiful park around it all is the answer.

I will say it again this is

one awesome little piece of land with history and the most beautiful trees you could ask for and it is about to be sold and bulldozed down.

Why has it not been designated historic to help save its fate, if a private citizen owned it might have been done years back.

In closing would this not make one historic little corner with the following amendments-solar roofed museum in a 1800's home, green park space with mature trees, historic log house, oldest little barn/ driving shed inside the town limits.

There's even enough room for new bandshell for festivals and space for farmers' market.

Not only could this be a showcase for Aurora but to visitors as well and envied beyond our borders.

Maybe a sizable Trillium grant could be retained to help with the reality of it which could solve a lot of issues up for debate.

As it stands we could be driving by in the future looking at another row of industrial buildings on this green space.

John Sargent  
Aurora

## Former councillor sets record straight

Open letter to Aurora Council,

This letter is in response to an article written in a local newspaper in which the author states that Councillor Evelyn Buck has requested a review of the Aurora Cultural Centre operations with the hope of establishing a museum there.

A bit of history...In 2002 The Aurora Museum closed.

In August of 2003 the Church Street School was leased to the Aurora Historical Society for the creation of the Aurora Heritage Centre.

In 2007 council approved the assumption of the Aurora Heritage Centre project.

In May of 2008, the building lease was given back to the town by the Historical Society.

### Reader doesn't like bickering in the chamber

To the editor,

As a follow-up to previous letters, might I add a few words regarding Aurora Town Council.

I have been a resident of this lovely town for almost a year and I am truly surprised and dismayed at the ongoing bickering in the municipal chambers.

Surely council has more important issues to deal with than what has been covered lately.

Let's move forward in a spirit of cooperation and thoughtful debate.

On a more positive note, I would like to say a warm "thank you" to all of our people keeping roads and sidewalks clear.

They have done a great job this winter - thank you for all of your efforts.

Laura Gardiner  
Aurora

In July of 2008, council adopted the Novita Report to create a cultural centre in the school.

The only councillor voting against this action was Evelyn Buck.

The resulting contractual agreement with the Church Street School Cultural Centre Inc. runs until December 2013 and there has been no "cause" to cancel this agreement.

There is no mention of a museum in this report and the financial agreement states that the money given is to be used for the development of arts, cultural and heritage services.

Surely, anyone who has visited this facility has seen that these obligations are being adhered to.

How fortunate we are to have our own centre where we can go and hear world class musicians, view various forms of work by nationally known artists and artisans.

It is a place where our children can receive instructions in art, music and media.

A place where adults can find instruction in playing musical instruments, song writing, art, dancing, etc.

From the historical side, one can view many of the town's artifacts that are featured on a rotating basis and learn about them at information seminars.

Recently, we had the opportunity to attend evenings with Jackie Stuart and discuss Aurora in its past and present.

Only someone who has not experienced our Cultural Centre could think about turning it over to town management and put the future of this facility in jeopardy.

More than 11,000 people attended activities at the Centre during the year 2010, and more than 3,000 during the first 10 weeks of 2011.

Without the past, there

David Griffith  
Aurora Councillor  
1991 - 2003

would be no future, but living in the past offers no future.

# Power down for Earth Hour



### Don't know what to do for Earth Hour? Help green Aurora with the click of a button! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

- 1 Visit us on our Facebook page. You can find the link at [www.aurora.ca](http://www.aurora.ca)
- 2 Click on the 'Like' button and tell us what you're doing for Earth Hour. If you do, the Town of Aurora will have a tree planted on your behalf by Trees Ontario.
- 3 Email your number one tip for reducing energy consumption to [earthhour@aurora.ca](mailto:earthhour@aurora.ca) by March 22 and you'll be entered into a draw for an Apple iPad pre-loaded with apps designed to help you reduce your carbon footprint. The top 10 tips will be published on our Facebook page before Earth Hour.

If you're not online, and you'd like to take part, complete and mail the contest ballot below **before March 22** to:  
**Earth Hour c/o The Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1.**

To find out more about Aurora's five-year Corporate Environmental Action Plan, please visit [www.aurora.ca/environment](http://www.aurora.ca/environment). You'll see we're working hard to reduce our carbon footprint.

#### Don't forget!

Power down from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26. Together, we can keep the environment and our town clean and green for years to come.

**POWER DOWN!**  
Help us beat our  
13% Town-wide energy  
reduction from  
Earth Hour 2010!

#### Mail-in contest ballot

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you plan to spend Earth Hour 2011? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your number one tip for conserving energy? \_\_\_\_\_




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Letters to the Editor

# Mayor doesn't understand, they say

To the editor,

Re: "Mayor disappointed over Auroran letter".

"May we all come to understand each other and respect every living thing".

We write to continue to report on "The People's Case" opposing the proposed boardwalk through the McKenzie Marsh.

This conflict began being published April 28, 2009, on page 6 of The Auroran with four Aurora citizen letters to the editor, ours being "Stop the trail, group says".

Don't know where you were, new mayor, when we, the people starting speaking out at this time for the animals and to protect Aurora's green-space.

In addition to letters published, numerous and various actions were taken by concerned citizens including phone calls, e-mails, a 500-name signed petition, rallies, meetings and the initiation of an independent assessment of the marsh habitat and species present (and more).

We used all the appropriate channels.

These are not "egregious allegations", new mayor, our concerns were completely ignored and our will denied.

Frankly speaking, new mayor, we don't think you do understand exactly, ours and other Aurorans passion and how serious we are about protecting this fragile wildlife habitat gifted to our town by a

## Here's how to get a passport

To the editor,

Re: Bonnie Tiffin's letter to the editor, March 1, The Auroran, Page 6.

The passport photo can be taken at a CAA office (Newmarket) and WalMart.

All the completed documents and photo can be taken to the Service Canada building in the Cineplex Plaza at Green Lane and Yonge Street in East Gwillimbury.

Recently, I was greeted pleasantly at the door and seated in a comfortable chair.

Two minutes later I was in the office of a charming and helpful lady who quickly processed my application and payment, and submitted the whole thing for me, at no charge.

There is ample free parking.

Bon Voyage.

Marnie Chambers  
Aurora

great man's efforts and maintained by his family's dedication.

We are sorry to create tension here Aurora but the people have been so 'sno-jobbed' through this whole undemocratic process.

Aurora has been lied to and the process manipulated by our staff to ensure completion of this project.

Though the editor of The Auroran and ourselves have extreme opposite personal views on world issues and he overedits, without this local paper's continued fulfillment of it's journalistic duties and openness, our side and the wildlife's side of the conflict would have been doomed.

The Auroran has been our only forum to report our side of the story and we and the animals are forever grateful for this.

We feel that people in Aurora would agree that this paper's editor deserves high honours for his commitment to allow conflict and friction in our town to be freely expressed.

So, new mayor, it appears you are condemning The Auroran newspaper for printing our freedom of speech to our fellow Aurorans.

We say, new mayor, you should show some detonement because this has been an ongoing battle. We have not made any unsubstantiated allegations.

You, new mayor, have been misled by our staff.

As the editor of The Auroran is well aware, we've been working on this case for some time.

Needless to say, your political reply to our letter concerns us, Mayor Dawe, for outrightly you side with the corporation, completely disregard the letter's contents and dismiss our legitimate charges as the people of

Aurora.

If your reply was under any legal guidance, we say you've received some poor advice.

It is not our fault the past mayor has failed to convey to you how opposed we and others are at this "proposed" project by the Nokiidaa Trail lobbyist.

It's not our fault, you aren't abreast with "The People's Case".

The support we've received in town is extensive. Town staffers, Jim Tree and Al Downey, are very aware of our resistance.

It is shocking to learn Neil Garbe hasn't informed the new mayor and council of a very important e-mail Heidi sent January 13, 2010 stating exactly what our past letter to The Auroran declared because he called her personally about it.

At this time, we can only say to our fellow Aurorans, all readers to "go see for yourself".

As the destruction is underway, go out there to the marsh and see the access road they've blazed. What is so bizarre about this is that with just a little extension the trail could meet up to the Tom Taylor Way and the link would be complete; however, this route was outright denied from the start.

Please, Aurora, go see for yourself how much the

Corporation of the Town of Aurora cares about its footprint in this small, fragile, severely encroached, sensitive yet oozing with life marsh and "Provincially Significant" Wetlands.

Walking is to the marsh is highly encouraged as parking is limited.

Know all parties concerned, Aurora, that our charges against the bureaucracy and hired help have bumped up to include "Failure to ensure corporate social environmental responsibility" (Bill 300) and complete waste of public funds and time (our roads need fixing...badly).

We do have protection laws for a reason and like we told you, Mayor Dawe, we do have faith in you.

Unless this project ceases, we and others seek a live, broadcasted public Tribunal with all concerned citizens and documents brought to the table for Aurorans to decide if needed through a vote.

This is not a game to us, like it is to some politicians, bureaucrats and hired contractors.

This marsh is the animals' home. They have a right to be respected and remain undisturbed. This trail is unnecessary and we have alternatives.

Presently workers have no clue what they are squishing, destroying and we know many a nest

were made last year exactly where these construction people are working. Heartless. We want, we take.

We just gotta care.

David Philp  
Heidi G. A. Stoecklin  
Aurora



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House League

**101 Timbits Red 3** - David Iacovetta 3G. **103 Timbits White 2** - Marchel Woods 2G, Luka Torbica-Smyth 1A.

**105 Timbits Black 6** - Myles Graham 5G, Tyler Cox 1G. **104 Timbits Blue 4** - Christopher Kouloras 1G, Jake Worthman 1G, Christopher Goncalves 1G, Emmett Ross 1A, Macisaac Eveleigh 1G.

**103 Timbits White 5** -Max Reeves 2G, Alex Morra 1A, Matthew Gianforcaro 1G, Maxwell McConkey 1G, Cayden Visser 1A, Stefano Iaversi 1G. **106 Timbits Powder Blue 1** - Justine Chu 1A, Ryan Dunbar 1G.

**108 Timbits Grey 1. 101 Timbits Red 1.**

**102 Timbits Gold 2** - Jordan Dimatulac 1G, Dylan Duff 1A, Braeden Marchant 1G. **107 Timbits Kelly Green 0.**

**202 Caravan Kids Gold 5** - Brennan Powell 2G, Jonathan Avgousti 3G 1A, Giancarlo DeAppollonia 1A, Tommy Green 1A. **204 Caravan Kids Blue 0.**

**206 Caravan Kids Powder Blue 6** - Ian Hilgendorff 2G 1A, Ethan Edwards 1G, Corson Haywood 1G, Alexander Ko 1A, Matthew Pelan 1G, Griffin Charnley 1G. **205 Caravan Kids Black 1.**

**402 Omar's Shoes Gold 4. 408 Crabby Joe's Grey 4.**

**406 Mastermind Toys Powder Blue 2** - Nichiolas Sever 2G, Carter Wilmsmeyer 1A. **405 Novintro Black 1** - Matthew Winters 1G, Matthew Bolger 1A.

**409 Pfaff VW Teal 4. 402 Omar's Shoes Gold 4.**

**404 Tilemaster Blue 3** - William Reid 1G, Giuliano Iervasi 1A, Dillon Varone 1G, Ethan Cohen 1G, Aaron Preiano 1A. **407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 2** - Mathew Hastings 2G, Nicholas Robinson 1A.

**602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 5. 604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 3.**

**603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services White 4** - A. Skelhorn 2G, M. LeClair 1G, J. Camplin 1G, J. Leblanc 1A A. Mizuguchi 1A, C. Dyer 2A. **602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 4** - Connor Devogel 1G, Ryan Cameron 1G 1A, Dustin Crossley 1G, Leo Branigan 1G, Matthew MacDonald 1A, Aidan Burbank 1A, Sean MacKrell 1A.

**602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 4** - Ted Baek 2G, Ryan Cameron 1G, Jordan Screech 1G, Matthew MacDonald 1A, Paige Crossley 1A. **605 Lakeshore Valu Mart 2** - Adam Powell 1G, Josh Hookey 1A, Michael Dowling 2A, Patrick Facca 1G.

**604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 5. 603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services White 3.**

**608 Crabby Joe's Grey 1** - Connor Tripp 1G, Devon Hope 1A. **610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 1** - James Freel 1G, Jeremy Rusnell 1A.

**606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 6** - Will Ashton 3G 1A, Lucas Ackerman 2A, Connor Reilly 1G, Jordan Elliott 1G, Alex Carter 1A, Dylan Cowell 1G 1A. **601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 4** - Troy Lane 2G, Christian Pearce 2G, Matthew Glionna 2A, Cameron End 1G, Anthony



AURORA MINOR  
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
Results to Sunday, March 13



Livia 1A.

**806 Laurion Law Office Power Blue 4** - Michael Doroshenko shutout, Geoffrey Siow 1G, Sean Foxwell 1G, Mitchell Lamantia 1G, Matt D'Allessandro 1G 1A, Chris Sutherland 2A, Emerson Cepelak 1A, Christopher Ottman 1A. **802 Manhattan Trophies Gold 0.**

**801 Rogers Red 4** - Brett Bond 2G 1A, Brady Wilson 1G, Alex Harrison 1G, Christian MacGillivray 1A, Keith Jarvis 1A. **804 Frontline Fire & Safety Blue 4** - Jerryd Jensen 2G, Matt Pelkola 1G 1A, Adam Ashrad 1G, Zack Keller 1A, Derek Keun 1A, Adam De roos 1A, Brenden Elliott 1A.

**807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 6** - Brendon McDonald 2G 2A, Matthew Hall 1G 2A, Declan Johnston 1G, Joseph Hodgson 2G, Alexander McDonald 2A, Scott Dunlop 1A, Matthew Hall 2A, Alex Negri 1A. **812 Municipal Engineering Solutions Burgandy 4** - John Sherwood 1G, Luc Martineau 2G, Joshua Bell 1G, Patrick Bourrie 1A, Ryan MacMillan 2A, Derek Capone 1A.

**809 AHPA Teal 7** - Michael Doroshenko, shutout, Jake McGann 1G 1A, Michael Arcuri 2G 1A, David Leeper 1G 1A, Bradley Snoultlen 1G 1A, Brayden Babineau 1G 1A, Russell Johnson 1G 3A, Michael McKerracher 1A. **810 Pizza Pizza Orange 0.**

**808 Crabby Joe's Grey 9** - Tyler Futterer 2G, Morgan Walker 3G 2A, Thomas McDonald 2G 1A, Cody Child 1G 2A, Tyler George 1G 2A, Jeff Stobo 1A. **811 Caruso & Company Purple 3** - Riley O'Brien 1G, Victor Chadarov 1G, Matt Walker 1G, David Kangas 1A, Daniel Wochenmarkt 1A.

**803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 6** - Lockhart McMann 1G, Chris Sanita 3G 1A, Stewart Reid 1G 1A, Justin Laird 1G, Ian Coschi 1A, Nick Scougall 1A, Cameron Pyle 1A, Zac Landry 2A, Ethan Mills 1A. **805 Aurora Home Hardware Black 2** - Harris Riopelle 1G, Benjamin Ashton 1G, Thomas Mason 1A, Michael De Cesare 1A.

**807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 3** - Declan Johnston 2G, Joseph Hodgson 1G, Mitchell Carter 1A. **803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 1** - Chris Sanita 1G, Ethan Mills 1A, David Gonder 1A.

**907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 5** - Thomas Kerr, shutout, Gabriel Bauset 2G, Massimo Longhin 2G, Bailey Miller 1G, Cody Sandersun 1A. **903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 0.**

**906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 1** - Jonathan White, shutout, Alexander Seto 1G, Zachary Seto 1A, Mackenzie Macintosh 1A. **904 St. Louis Blue 0.**

**901 Graystone Restaurant Red 2** - Andrew Martin 1G 1A, Brandon Plourde 1G 1A, Kentner Arkell 1A, Mathew Hart 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 2** - Michael McCreesh 1G, Duncan Eveleigh 1G, Martin Wood 1A, Austin Megit 1A, Zachary Cook 1A.

**902 Boston Gold 7** - Kienan Osborne 1G, Graham Joiner 1G, Jonathan Hurtubise 1G, Connor Flynn 2G, Ryan Byerlay 1A, Dylan Indos 2A, Trevor Rice 1A, Christian Frappier 1A, Tyler IIndos 2G 1A. **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 1** - Trevor George 1G, Ryan Dalcin 1A.

**909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 6** - Scott Wheeler 4G 1A, E. Foxwell 1G 1A, C. Mulhern 1G 1A, Matthew Roach 1A, T. Thiessen 1A. **910 Philly Orange 4** - Sajjad Akbar 1G 1A, Ali Akbar 1G, Daniel LaFlamme 2G, Garth McBride 1A, Brian Pedron 2A. **904 St. Louis Blue 1** - Alex Woodward 1G.

**907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 0.**

**906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 3** - Josh Lawlor 1G 1A, Chris Falfalios 1G 1A, Nick Theorodopolous 1G 1A, Alexander Seto 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 3** - Michael McCreesh 1G, Seth Rodger 1G, Vince Duggan 3A, Drew Marshall 2A, Martin Wood 1G.

**909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 3** - Matthew Roach 1G, Scott Wheeler 2G, E. Foxwell 1A. **902 Boston Gold 3** - Graham Joiner 2G, Tyler Indos 1G, Daniel Bresolin 2A, Christian Frappier 1A, Brian Tree 1A.

**903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 4** - Kelly Hudson 1G, Quinn McGowan 3G, Nicholas Bertrand 3A, Evan Jones 2A, Nic Venosa 1A. **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 3.**

**910 Philly Orange 11** - Brian Pedron 4G 1A, Daniel LaFlamme 3G 1A, Sajjad Akbar 1G, Stefan Richardson 1G 1A, Ali Akbar 1G 1A, Ryan Rival 1G 1A. **901 Graystone Restaurant Red 3** - Mathew Hart 3G, Ethan Benson 2A.

Rep League

**Type Select A Ajax White 4. Aurora 0.**

**Type Select A Aurora 2. Ajax White 0** - Nicholas Giorgio 1A, Charles Huxley 1A, Ryan Bryden 1G, Todd Cook 1G, Owen Hollett 1A, Parker Holmes, shutout.

**Type Select A Ajax White 5. Aurora 4.** Ryan Bryden 2G, Nicholas Giorgio 1G 1A, Todd Cook 1G 1A, Thomas Hollett 1A, Jacob Hoffrogge 1A, Luca Capraro 1A, Owen Hollett 1A.

**Type Select A Ajax White 5. Aurora 1** - Owen Hollett 1G, Ryan Catania.

**Type Select B Unionville 4. Aurora B 1** - Jack Sutherland 1G.

**Type Select B Unionville 1. Aurora 0.**

**Novice A Aurora 2** - Carson Maybury 1G, Jonathan Gagnon 1G, Riley Klugerman 1A, Brett Pearce 1A, Joshua Torres Harrison Bennett. **Newmarket 1**

**Novice A Aurora 3**- Jonathan Gagnon 1G, Riley Klugerman 1G, Carson Maybury 1G, Liam Mahoney 1A, Justin Hicks 1A, Jonathan Gagnon 1A, Jace Jackson 1A, Brandin Harris, 1A. **Newmarket 3.**

**Novice A - Barrie 3. Aurora 2** - Liam Mahoney 1G, Jake Piper 1G, Brett Pearce 1A, Brandin Harris 1A, James Sproul, 1A.

**Novice A - Barrie 5. Aurora 3** - Riley Klugerman 1G, Jonathan Gagnon 1G, Jace Jackson 1G, Justin Hicks 1A, Brett Pearce 1A.

**Novice AE - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora - 1.**

**Novice AE - Richmond Hill 3. Aurora - 1.**

**Minor Atom AA - Aurora 4** - Ben Liotta 2G 1A, Andrew Wolanski 1A, Anthony Iacovetta 1G 1A, Wesley Reid 1G 2A. **Markham 2.**

**Minor Atom AA - Markham 4. Aurora 1** - Anthony DiPietro 1G, Luke O'Keefe 1A, Craig Therkildsen 1A.

**Minor Atom AA Aurora 3** - Jeremy Gonsalves 1G 1A, Harris Goan 2A, Tyler Sawyer 1G, Andrew Park 1G, Luke O'Keefe 1A, Anthony DiPietro 1A. **Markham 2.**

**Atom A - Aurora - 4. Richmond Hill Kings 1.**

**Atom A - Aurora 4** - Cameron Tyndall 2G 1A, Andrew Cundari 2A, Jamie Stewart 1G, Jaedon Jackson 1G, Ben Spittle 1A, Carson Venneri 1A, Ryan Jamieson 1A, Joseph Grassa 1A. **Richmond Hill 4.**

**Atom AE - Aurora 10** - Adam DePiero 3G 1A, Lucas Surace 2G, Braeden Joynt 1G 2A, Michael Fodero 1G 1A, Finn Reeves 1G 1A, Braden Reid 1G, Justin Evans 1G, Francesco Scuglia 1A, Carter Wilmsmeyer 1A. **Richmond Hill 0.**

**Minor Peewee A - Barrie 4. Aurora 3** - Mark Kalmisto 2G, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Ryan Thornhill 1A, Jack O'Keefe 1A, Jordan Torres 1A.

**Minor Peewee A - Aurora 3** - Eric McGhie 1G, Stewart Gable 1G, Reid Carpenter 2A, Jack O'Keefe 1A, Colin McGoldrick 1A, Mark Kalmisto 1G. **Barrie - 3.**

**Minor Peewee A - Aurora 4** - Thomas Kostoff 2G 1A, Colin McGoldrick 1G, Reid Carpenter 1G, Jack O'Keefe 2A, Alexander Simardone 1A. **Barrie - 2.**

**Peewee A - Aurora 5** - Tristan Kuchar 2G 2A, Mathew Tyndall 2G 1A, Cameron Zinner 1G, Matthew Liscio 1A, Ryan Coveart 1A, Alistair Johnston 1A. **Innisfil 3.**

**Peewee A - Aurora 4** - Daniel McConnell 1G 1A, Cameron Zinner 1G 1A, Matthew Liscio 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1G 1A, Evan Cherubini 2A, Alistair Johnston 2A. **Innisfil 1.**

**Minor Bantam A Aurora - 5. Newmarket 4.**

**Minor Bantam A - Newmarket 7. Aurora 4.**

**Minor Bantam A - New Tecumseth 3. Aurora 0.**

**Minor Bantam AE - Aurora 3. New Tecumseth 2.**

**Minor Bantam AE - New Tecumseth 2. Aurora 1.**

**Minor Bantam AE - Aurora 4. New Tecumseth 3.**

**Bantam AA - Aurora 2** -Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Quentin Campbell 1G, Brett Thiessen 2A, Tait Snedden 1A. **Whitby 1.**

**Bantam AA - Stoney Creek 5. Aurora 4** - John MacDonald 2G, Brett Thiessen 1G, Connor Cowl 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 2A, Jordan Nanos 1A, Konner McMillan 1A, Spencer Green 1A, Jake McKee 1A, Nick Scott 1A, Matt Iwai 1A.

**Bantam A - Aurora 4** - Graham Robinson 1G, Liam Beresford 1G, Shadoe Storm 1G, Austin Persaud 1G, Alec Ground 1A, Evan Jackson 1A, Liam Coll 1A, Zac Cowl 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A, Kyle Nice 1A. **Orillia 1.**

**Bantam A - Barrie 3. Aurora 1**- Paul Neophytou 1G, Mitch Arnew 1A.

**Bantam A - Aurora 4** - Liam Coll 2G 1A, Liam Beresford 1G 1A, Jack Caldwell 1G, Erik Balkovec 1A, Austin Persaud 1A, Evan Jackson 1A, Paul Neophytou 1A. **Barrie 3.**

**Minor Midget AE - Georgina 2. Aurora 1** - Paul Steiner 1G, Matthew Reeves 1A, Kyle Fedec, 1A Connor McQuillan, 1A.

**Minor Midget AE - Georgina 2. Aurora 0.**

**Minor Midget AE - Georgina 4. Aurora 2** - Jeffrey Lam 1G, Collin Laird 1G 1A, Casy Severini 1A.

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These elder hockey players belong to Team Klees. The team was winner of a bronze medal at the Canada Senior 65+ Games in Brockville last year. Friday, some of the team presented their sponsor with a picture of the team. They are, left to right, Clyde Dimmell, Alex Ansell, Frank Klees, Newmarket-Aurora MPP, Paul Tomlinson, Ken Wilkinson and Dave Rumble.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

# Soccer winners honoured by Aurora

Members of the 1998 Aurora Stingers Girls' soccer team, the 2010 U-12 Provincial Champions, were joined in the Council Chamber last week by

head coach Grant Purdy as they received a certificate of achievement from Mayor Geoffrey Dawe and councillors for their accomplishments in the sport.

In his remarks to the group and to the assembled audience in the Council Chamber, Mayor Dawe paid tribute to one of the Club's more recent achieve-

ments since their inception in 2006, one that was a milestone for Aurora sport.

"In September of 2010 they did something that no other

youth soccer team had done in 46 years since the club was created - they won the provincial championship," he said. "The team defeated North Mississauga to capture the Ontario Provincial Cup, a trophy that has been awarded since 1901.

"This group of girls, many of them coming out of the Aurora House League program have also never lost a league game since their inception - that's five years or 76 league games. That is pretty impressive.

"They have also travelled out of the province to other parts of Canada as well as the United States where they have won tournaments and very much made Aurora proud."

Joining Mr. Purdy in accepting the award from Mayor Dawe were many members of the team. Those honoured were Claire Bar, Katherine Bulgaretti, Marissa Chee-A-Tow, Megan Conte, Alex Curran, Kerry Da Silva, Angelica Galluzzo, Stella Li, Tony Limotta, Georgia Kastanis, Alessia Mangoni, Selena Mangoni, Alanna Manning, Sierra Muschett, Mikayla Purdy, Melanie Schouten, and Taylor Thalheimer.

According to the Aurora Youth Soccer Club, the team won the Ontario Cup in a series of four matches over Brampton, Nepean, Oshawa and Erin Mills before going on to beat the North Mississauga Panthers.

## Aurora Legion plays host to dart championships

The Royal Canadian Legion, Col. Fred Tilston VC Branch in Aurora will be hosting the Dominion (Canadian) Darts Championship from the 13th to 16th of May.

The competition will be composed of 60 to 70 competitors who have won their respective Provincial Competitions and earned the right to compete in the

Dominion Championships.

An official media launch has been set for Friday, March 18th at 4 p.m. at the Aurora Legion.

At that time, further details

of the week's events will be released.

For further information contact Mike Kenny at mike.cosam@gmail.com or 289-221-9788.

## Items will still be brought forward

From page 1

untelevised general committee meetings but delegations could also appear at the televised meetings given a two-thirds majority vote.

Ms. Marshall had a number of concerns regarding the amendments, including when items are pulled for discussion at the meeting in an order determined by the interests of the audience in the council chamber.

This process, she said, was in danger with the proposed amendments.

"[You will have to] wait, perhaps hours, until your item comes up by order," said Ms. Marshall, directing her comments to television viewers at home rather than council itself.

Her concerns were shared by Mr. Wehrenberg, who said he still hoped that councillors would move items up in the agenda "when we always have several attendees who are interested in a particular item. That is a matter of courtesy."

This perception that items would no longer be moved forward from the agenda was erroneous, according to several councillors and Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, who noted that the "patently untrue" information was circulated in an e-mail, which Councillor Wendy Gaertner later indicated she circulated.

"It's distressing to see when e-mails go around that I believe don't contain factual information, things that could be addressed pretty

easily with a call to the clerk," said Mayor Dawe. "The two delegates tonight made a comment that we were taking out the ability to bring an item forward so people would not have to stay in the audience for hours on end and that is just patently untrue."

Bringing items forward is required, he said, and that requirement was not taken out of the proposed modified procedural bylaw. A simple call to the clerk could have clarified that, rather than starting a "ridiculous e-mail chain" that goes around.

"The doom and gloom in the e-mails that I get telling me that people are relating this alleged infringement of democracy to Libya and Egypt, which is a little hyperbole I think...it is just ridiculous," he said. "It doesn't advance the business of the Town, it doesn't put any of us in a good light, and it makes us all look a little foolish in my opinion."

"If we have questions, go to the clerk, go to the CAO, go to the directors."

In response, Councillor Gaertner said what Mayor Dawe said was inaccurate, noting that it said in the March 1 agenda that bringing items forward wouldn't be necessary.

"This is in our report from last week and Mr. Leach would know that under the delegations we want to change our practice of bringing the delegations forward and we want them to wait until it comes up in the

order of the agenda and I object to you saying that I'm saying something that is not true."

Mr. Leach addressed Councillor Gaertner's statement confirming that pulling an item forward would not be necessary to hear a delegate.

"The delegate will automatically be heard whenever the item is considered, but that does not eliminate the requirement that is in the procedural bylaw that the mayor just read, that the chair will call to the audience and see which items the audience is there to hear and bring forward those items independent of that other consideration."

Councillor Michael Thompson was another one to join the chorus expressing concern about the e-mail chain, saying it also reflects on the practices of other municipalities that have similar policies in their procedural bylaw.

"To read on a website

and see e-mails spread out by councillors that we're sacrificing democracy and that we're limiting democracy or no longer open and accountable, I guess what they're saying is that... none of [these communities] are open and accountable because they have adopted these policies that certain councillors are riling against," he said.

"In all honesty I think it was irresponsible for those councillors to circulate those e-mails and put that up using it as an official statement that they are a councillor and that we are sacrificing democracy. [We] simply could have had that conversation here in the room rather than accusing council of trying to limit the democratic rights of its citizens.

"We're joining the rest of the group. Right now we're on an island unto ourselves and I guess the question is, is everybody else wrong, or are we just stuck in our ways?"

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# Monday night hockey results

(Up to Monday, February 28)

TEAM STANDINGS						
TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Masterclean Contracting	15	3	4	90	48	34
Copper Creek	11	9	2	89	78	24
Rec Cycle N' Sports	9	8	5	68	65	23
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	9	9	4	65	66	22
Baldwin's	10	11	1	91	97	21
FPL Aggregates	8	12	2	69	84	18
Priestly Demolition	7	11	4	80	93	17
Tom & Jerry's	6	12	4	65	76	16

WEEKLY RESULTS			
Copper Creek	5	Masterclean	3
Highlands Chev	0	Tom & Jerrys	3
Rec Sports	7	Priestly Demolition	6
Baldwins	3	FPL Aggregates	3

PLAYER STANDINGS			
	G	A	Pts.
Mark Sedore Priestly	23	18	41
Tom Hussey Copper Creek	15	24	39
John Archibald Copper Creek	19	18	37
Al Perkins Baldwin's	22	14	36
Paul Wolanski Copper Creek	15	18	33
Steve Kavanagh Baldwins	11	17	28
John Andersen Rec Sports	15	12	27
Ryan Spampinato Tom & Jerry's	14	12	26
Ryan Bryce Masterclean	13	13	26
Darren Yaremko FPL	12	13	25
Phil Podstatzky Priestly	16	8	24
Pat O'Mahoney Masterclean	15	8	23
Brad McMillan Baldwin's	11	12	23
Gareth McDonald Priestly	7	16	23
Ed Kilroy Rec Sports	8	14	22
Rob Carnegie Masterclean	4	18	22
John Leader Baldwin's	9	11	20
Don Nichols Copper Creek	9	11	20
Ed Jackson Baldwin's	6	14	20
Alain Boudreau Masterclean	5	15	20
Doug Adair Rec Sports	9	10	19
Glen Bince FPL	8	11	19
Craig McConnell Highland's	5	14	19
Kevin O'Keefe Highland's	8	10	18
Darryl Thompson Tom & Jerry's	7	11	18
Ken Fisher Highland's	12	5	17
Jeff Sleep Rec Sports	11	6	17
Rob Blakely Masterclean	10	7	17
Steve Robertson Masterclean	9	8	17
Nick Weedon Rec Sports	5	12	17
Gerald Briand Baldwins	7	8	15
Raz Khamissa Tom & Jerry's	7	8	15
Dave Caverley FPL	6	9	15
Ken VanNoort Baldwins	4	11	15
Ron VanNoort FPL	9	5	14
Ken Heinrich Rec Sports	6	8	14
Mike O'Connor Copper Creek	8	5	13
Dave Mayberry Priestly	6	7	13
Ron Thiessen Tom & Jerry's	6	7	13
Craig Gellatly FPL	4	9	13
Billy Fetherston Priestly	7	5	12
Murray Campbell Highland's	6	6	12
Vince Greco Tom & Jerry's	6	6	12
Steven MacDonald Tom & Jerry's	6	6	12
Chris Neale Copper Creek	5	7	12
David deWulf Priestly	3	9	12
Scott Harris Tom & Jerry's	7	4	11
Ken Rumble Highland's	5	6	11
Andrew Dalton Rec Sports	3	8	11
Mike Caicco Copper Creek	2	9	11
Hugh Alcorn Masterclean	1	10	11
Brett Vickers FPL	6	4	10
Bob Nunn Baldwin's	5	5	10
Sam Speranini Masterclean	5	5	10
Craig Donaldson FPL	4	6	10
Julian Dalcin Priestly	2	8	10
Richard Fava Tom & Jerry's	1	9	10
Les Nip Masterclean	7	2	9
Rob Stroud Masterclean	6	3	9
Brandon Chappell FPL	5	4	9
Paul Gibson Tom & Jerry's	4	5	9
Jody Matthews Highland's	4	5	9
Jason Moring Priestly	4	5	9
Scott Thomas Tom & Jerry's	3	6	9
Dan Cote Baldwin's	2	7	9
Brian Horton Copper Creek	4	4	8
Jerome Flanagan Baldwin's	3	5	8
Bruce Ing Highland's	3	5	8
Brian McCartney FPL	3	5	8
Brad Wilson Rec Sports	3	5	8
Peter Briand Baldwin's	2	6	8
Mark Lemmon Masterclean	2	6	8
Dennis Tonello FPL	1	7	8
Neil Curran Rec Sports	3	4	7
Jason Hurlbut Highland's	3	4	7
Brad Jackson Copper Creek	3	4	7
Scott Pogue Priestly	3	4	7
Marty McDermott Highland's	2	5	7
Brian Horton Copper Creek	4	2	6
Mark Inglis Tom & Jerry's	3	3	6
Larry Martin Masterclean	3	3	6
Steve Bromley Tom & Jerry's	2	4	6
Charlie Steenhorst FPL	2	4	6
John Morning Rec Sports	2	4	6
Pat Davies Priestly	1	5	6
Doug Ikeda FPL	0	6	6

# Lawsuit decision reserved

from page 1

and that the particulars specified do not stand in for a proper claim.

He noted that Ms. Morris was still Mayor of Aurora when the claim was initiated and the notice of action served over the Thanksgiving weekend was served without a statement of claim.

Every pleading must contain a "concise statement of the material facts on which the party relies for the claim or defence", but that was absent from the notice of action, he said.

"The words are material facts," said Mr. Goldblatt. "It is clear, consistent, precise law that you cannot have a claim for defamation and not set out the words. In addition to what the law says, it would seem to be a basic principle of fairness that in the claim you have to tell the person what it is they are alleged to say."

Without the words spelled out specifically in the statement of claim, and without the "when, where, how, and to who", a proper defence was difficult, Mr. Goldblatt argued, adding that Ms. Morris and her counsel are of the position that "the defendants must know the particulars".

"I can't put forward a defence...unless I have the full circumstances put forward," he said.

Moving on, Mr. Goldblatt also argued that the allegations put forward by Ms. Morris and her counsel have changed in various documents they have issued since the process began in October, including specific allegations against Mr. Johnson.

There is, Mr. Goldblatt argued, "shifting sand" and a "moving target" in this action.

"I've tracked the language, the allegations that they have made against my clients and it has changed between the notice of action, the statement of claim, and [former Town Solicitor Christopher] Cooper's affidavit," he said.

"In the notice of action they are all alleged to be moderators. In the statement of claim, Mr. Hogg 'is a moderator', present tense, Ms. Bishenden 'was a moderator', past tense, and Mr. Jonson is 'a frequent writer on the website... and at all material times was a moderator'."

These allegations have changed, he argued, and the claim that Mr. Johnson was a moderator, for instance, has been dropped and that Johnson "is alleged to have actively supported and

encouraged comments.

"He also cited the inclusion of an August 20, 2010 post which, he said, was not pled in the statement of claim, only appearing in documents from February 28.

"These allegations are not in the statement of claim and you cannot plead defamation actions in this matter where essentially the plaintiff gives herself the right to amend her claim by way of filing [new documents]," said Mr. Goldblatt. "The passages that have been alleged to be defamatory are also changing. The difficulty is, of course, pleading to this.

"In my respectful submission the claim should be struck because without words there is no claim."

Following Mr. Goldblatt's arguments, court reconvened for Mr. Clark's arguments after a 15-minute recess.

In his argument, Mr. Clark denied there has been a "moving target" in this case and argued that the defence had "the vast majority of the statements they needed "to identify the words specifically pled." These were "clear as day" in Mr. Cooper's affidavit, he said.

Going on to state why the particulars weren't outlined specifically in the October notice of action, Mr. Clark said this was to mitigate damages to Ms. Morris as there were still a few weeks left in the 2010 Municipal Election campaign.

"The media was, as you can imagine, quite interested in this given that the election was taking place a couple of weeks after the notice of action was filed and the Norwich motion was served," said Mr. Clark to Justice Robert Spence who oversaw the hearing.

"In order to avoid having some of these very nasty words reproduced in the media we decided we would plead this as specifically as we could giving the date and time of the statements, the author of the statement, and where it was in the Aurora Citizen blog, but not giving the specific words.

"It was always our position that the defendants had this information already because of the affidavit from Mr. Cooper."

The first statement of claim in this action was issued within the 30-day limit of delivering the notice of action, said Mr. Clark, and when the defence requested particulars they were issued on

January 7.

Ms. Morris' counsel argued they "have not been playing games" and have endeavoured to provide the defendants with as much information as possible to plead their case.

He went onto argue that Mr. Hogg is a moderator of the site with the power to "publish, republish, encourage, and delete" posts and is "jointly and severally responsible for defamation that anonymous defendants had stated" and authorized the publication of defamatory postings.

Speaking specifically on the claims made against Mr. Johnson, Mr. Clark cited an article entitled "Council Watch", which he alleged may have been authored by Mr. Johnson.

In there, he said Mr. Johnson spoke about Aurora dropping the motto "A Character Community" and that the Town should be twinned with Salem, Massachusetts, for "the witch hunt we have witnessed unfold in our town".

A comment beneath the article, Mr. Clark went onto allege, congratulated Mr. Johnson on his writing, before going onto accuse Ms. Morris of being "one of the stupidest, most ignorant, lying hypocrites" they have had the misfortune of seeing or hearing.

Following the arguments, Justice Spence told both parties that he was going to reserve his decision in the defence's motion to strike.

As it stands now, the plaintiff's hearing in the Norwich Motion is still scheduled to be before the courts this Tuesday.

Following adjournment, neither Counsel ventured to guess when Justice Spence's decision would come back.

While neither party walked away from the courtroom with closure one way or the other, Mr. Johnson may have been the only person to come out of there with something he didn't go in with.

"I did want to apologise to Mr. Johnson for serving him on Thanksgiving," Mr. Clark told the court. "We had given our process server instruction to serve it on Friday, not at dinner on Thanksgiving. Our apologies for that."

"This case has been properly pled," Mr. Clark concluded. "There have been no



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# Salvation Army \$1 million short of goal

With \$6.5 million raised so far, the local branch of the Salvation Army is publicly launching Hope For Others, their capital campaign to make their plans to move their Northridge Community Church to Aurora a reality.

The site is secured, the plans are in place, but the campaign is still \$1 million short of "going over the finish line", according to Major Brian Bishop, pastor of Northridge, which serves the public in Northern York Region, from Richmond Hill to Bradford.

According to Major Bishop, however, the proposed new building, which will be built on the west side of Leslie Street just north of Wellington Street, will not just be a sanctuary for members of the church, but a new multi-use community hub which will boast an auditorium with a seating capacity of more than 500, available for large gatherings, conferences, and as a performing arts venue, and provide much needed space for community programs currently offered by the organization.

"There will be a community resource lounge and just a sense even for the seniors to come in and just have a place to be," said Major Bishop. "One of the things we are recognizing is that one of the number one needs [to combat] today is loneliness and that need is only going to increase once the senior population increases, which it is. We want to create more of those senior centre opportunities."

The new facility will also cater to the needs of the younger York Region residents with the creation of a children's wing and a gymnasium, which has been identified as a community need in the Town's

recently received Youth Needs Analysis.

The York Region Board of Education has stepped up to the plate with regards to daycare spaces, said Major Bishop, and the Salvation Army is looking to see whether there is a service gap that Northridge can fill.

"Whatever that gap in services is, we are going to endeavour to meet in that children's and youth wing," he said. "Certainly the gymnasium itself would speak in terms of sporting activities, recreational activities, drop-in opportunities for students and young people, plus there is going to be a youth mezzanine which is going to be sort of a games room and hang-out space."

"[We're trying] to provide them with an opportunity and a facility to continue to get them off the street [to] a safe environment with the opportunity to build good, healthy relationships and good character."

According to Major Bishop, the need to move to larger premises was first identified in 2003.

While the Salvation Army initially looked at expanding their existing facilities in Newmarket, tucked just behind Newmarket High School, there were site issues that couldn't be addressed including signage, visibility, and accessibility.

The new land purchased in Aurora will accommodate a building of approximately 10,000 square feet, about three times the size of the current Northridge Community Church.

Although the current site has not changed hands as of yet, the sale of the building has been factored into the \$6.5 million raised so far.

The new building will also account for the organization's community growth which currently holds events and stores items related to their Christmas initiatives in offsite facilities.

"[Our Christmas Initiative] has grown exponentially over the years and all of the other social services programs that have evolved, whether or not that's the seminars, whether or not that's grief or divorce care, or anger management programs, or our food bank, or help centre, or even the drop-in programs for young people... there just wasn't that thought in mind when [the current site] was being developed," he said.

"The way in which we're going about [serving the needs of the community] is changing now and the needs of the community are evolving as well, thus the reason why we want to move into a much more substantial facility that is going to give us the multi-functional use of so many different spaces."

While Major Bishop emphasises it has never been the vision of the Salvation Army to be a "come to us" organization, their in-community presence will continue, including various community partnerships like sports programs with the York Regional Police where schools are opened up on Friday nights for sports programs in a safe environment for kids over the age of seven.

"We recognize that the facilities we will offer in Aurora may not be convenient for some people to come to, so we're going to be offering some satellite opportunities as we go out into the community as well."

Over the past little while, the Salvation Army has developed a function-

al study and a needs analysis with the community.

It is their objective to understand these needs and not duplicate community services "unless they are required to be duplicated because there are some services we need more of".

The site plan is now in the Town's hands.

While they are going public with a capital campaign, the first time an initiative of this kind has

been undertaken by the Salvation Army in its 125-year history, Major Bishop was keen to emphasize the Salvation Army's appreciation for the community support they have received through the years, some of which he attributes to the group's image in the community.

"As I have been involved in the Salvation Army as an officer and leader for some 20 years it has just been overwhelming to see that kind

of support," he said. "One of the things we discovered during our feasibility study is the image of the Salvation Army has good credibility and the integrity of the Salvation Army has not been at all tampered with. I know people trust us."

To donate or to receive more information about the Hope For Others campaign, visit [www.hopeforothers.com](http://www.hopeforothers.com), or call Major Bishop at 905-252-4455.

## Arboretum partnership with others significant

New national and international partnerships are adding to the "prestige" of the Aurora Community Arboretum, according to local naturalist David Tomlinson.

The Arboretum has recently signed agreements for seed exchanges between the Montreal Botanical Gardens and England's Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew.

The latter partnership, he said, will lead to a wider network of partnership and a greater variety of international species from their seed banks that will one day populate the Arboretum.

"It gives us access to all the temperate plants throughout the world so eventually we can collect temperate plants from China, from Russia, because they have their own systems which, having gone into Kew, it is getting their email addresses of the various botanic gardens and putting in our applications," he said.

"Having gone into Kew is like getting your foot in the door. They're the hardest ones to crack."

To take advantage of the programming with Kew, one has to establish that one's group is a genuine arboretum with a healthy membership, and healthy plant stock.

They have to know your group is serious about the program, said Mr. Tomlinson.

"Once you've gone past the great hurdle of them accepting you then they have a system whereby, originally they used to circu-

late seeds from their collection, but now they basically circulate wild collected plants," he said.

Kew Gardens compiles an annual list of seeds which is frequently expanded, where partners can select 20 packets to plant in an arboretum.

As part of the agreement, however, the beneficiary needs to specify near the planting where the seed was collected.

While the plants can be traded amongst arboretums one cannot sell them for profit.

While a physical exchange has not yet taken place - "it is going to be several years before our trees produce seed and we can

only do wild collected seeds," said Mr. Tomlinson - the Arboretum has many seedling plants already "in the assembly line" comprising of several rare trees and shrubs.

"We're having a much better range of plants that can't be bought commercially," he said. "Most of these plants just aren't available from commercial source, so if you don't get into the network you are stuck with what you can buy from commerce, which is mainly varieties and not species."

Kew Gardens' seed bank partnership is networked with partners across more than 50 countries and has "banked" 10 per cent of the world's wild plant species.



Eight-year-old Grace Ramsell of Aurora, a student at Lester Pearson Public School, cut her hair off recently and donated it for the making of wigs for cancer patients.

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# Language presents problems

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Problems abound in our world, most of which can be contained and managed to the extent that life continues satisfactorily.

Among the confounding problems that arise in the cosmopolitan society that characterizes Aurora, is the problem of language, particularly among the senior population who arrived in our midst with little or no skill with the English language, complicated by little inclination or ability to abandon their native tongue.

Most new Canadians learn enough of the English language to manage everyday, but a small percentage learns little and tends to remain marginalized among their family and those who speak the common language of origin.

It is easy enough to criticize non-English speaking residents, but only they understand their personal limitations in acquiring the English language.

The Aurora Seniors' Association (ASA) confronts this dilemma with a language registry.

This registry, which presently offers 28 languages to assist non-English speaking members, is available on request and offers a lifeline to language of choice for those in need.

Members who speak other languages offer their services to members in need and this offer of assistance can often be of a vital nature.

It does not teach English to anybody, but does smooth some of the rough corners encountered when trying to navigate through Canadian society without benefit of the English language.

Inevitably, a member will materialize whose language is not covered by a volunteer.

This will be my last column before hip surgery, and the next column will depend on speed of recovery.

Spring is nearby, the sun shines longer and warmer daily and the remains of winter will inevitably capitulate as warmer weather predominates.

A reminder to valued members who have not yet renewed memberships for 2011, that every member is an asset to the Seniors' Centre and we sincerely desire your presence.

The active membership is close to 1,000 including 144 new members.

Not all seniors retain health or sufficient energy to be active but for those who do, the Seniors' Centre is a wonderland for stimu-

lating minds and meeting more people than could be achieved anywhere else in Aurora.

A delight for many is the novelty of participating in new activities, or casually assisting in something that needed assistance to find an unexpected new vocation emerging.

Finding something that requires a special commitment that blends easily with a particular person, and provides interest and sometimes delights, can develop a new side to senior life.

Everybody can find something and for those who find success in how to spend time profitably, the pleasurable rewards develop as an experience beyond measure.

The achievers in life rely on genuine interest to unlock doors to success; therefore, the good life costs little in the Seniors' Centre but can still rate as luxury in terms of friends and pastimes.

Life is what you make it, and getting into the right environment at the Seniors' Centre is a sure-footed step in the right direction.

Social action and reaction is where society congregates to feed off each other constantly, and merely by embracing this lifestyle allows the lifestyle to embrace you with a newly found lively enjoyment that well may grow to a passion fuelling everyday activities.

Three directors will complete their terms (they remain eligible for re-election) with the Board of Directors (BoD), therefore an election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) in

June, will confirm the election of three directors to fill these positions as the outgoing directors complete their term in office.

The process requires nomination of candidates who must accept the nomination, and the volunteers at the reception desk will supply forms for this purpose.

Nominations will continue until Thursday, April 21st.

Elections will run May 2nd until May 27th, and this window of opportunity allows a majority of members to determine who sits on the BoD.

Elections allow the electors the opportunity to voice a collective opinion on who directs the operations of the ASA.

The retiring directors remain eligible to run for re-election and this is often the case, but a strong case exists for an insertion of fresh ideas.

More winners emerge among Aurora seniors; this time in the All Ontario Senior 55+ Games (Winterfest-2011), which took place in Halliburton in February.

Medal winners are Ralph Burchert, Gold, Alpine Skiing; Lucille Sequeira, Audrey Robertson, and Nan McLean, all gold winners in Duplicate Bridge; Les Mulick, Bronze, Men's 55+ Hockey.

We are proud of all Aurora residents who entered and elated to see so many medals including four gold.

Not all of the Aurora winners are members of the Seniors' Centre, but we are proud of them all including those who did not win a medal.

## Topics discussed

From page 3  
accountable, transparent, and open".

These changes, she indicated, would diminish that.

Councillor Gaertner made her comments last week in response to Councillor Michael Thompson who pointed out that what was recommended at the table was standard practice in other municipalities.

"Although it is interesting to know what other communities are doing, I am interested in what Aurora is doing," she said. "I'm proud to say I think our bylaw is a cut above and I think we represent our citizens very well and I think they can appreciate that."

"Our procedural bylaw is critical as it is the foundation of how the elected body governs. If the actual procedural bylaw isn't designed to ensure open, transparent, and accountable government, then it is impossible for us to serve the public openly, accountably, and transparently."

At the end of the day, Councillors passed each of the recommendations made by Mr. Leach, with the exceptions of the length of time each councillor gets to speak to an item - Councillors voted for 10 minutes instead of the recommended five - and wording the passages related to open forum so that "persons" rather than "residents" or "ratepayers" have the right to take the podium.

At the end of the day, councillors passed each of the recommendations made by Mr. Leach, with the exceptions of the section relating to delegations, which was deferred until the procedural bylaw can be examined as a whole, the length of time each councillor gets to speak to an item - coun-

cillors voted for 10 minutes instead of the recommended five - and wording the passages related to open forum so that "persons" rather than "residents" or "ratepayers" have the right to take the podium.

The latter recommendation came from now former Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper in the interest of inclusiveness.

"I think the Town ought to be seen as, and is, open for business, so from that perspective if you restrict it you lose that opportunity," he said. "From a legal perspective I don't think it is perhaps good practice to discriminate against someone who may want to come from elsewhere to delegate to this particular council. If you're looking at what the term should be from an inclusive perspective I think the word is 'person'."

Some Councillors still had concerns, however, in looking at the procedural bylaw in what they described as a "piece-meal" process.

Chris Ballard, who tabled a notice of motion at the end of last Tuesday's meeting for staff to arrange a public workshop session to go through the procedural bylaw in its entirety, said the process would be beneficial.

"While I agree that we can improve our procedural legislation I am concerned that we're doing it in bite-size chunks," he said. "I would prefer that we hold off on making any decision to our bylaw until we have a chance to hold a workshop... and perhaps research that has been put together in front of us now because I would really like to see everything discussed all at once in public at one go."

Councillor Ballard's notice of motion is expected to come to general committee for discussion March 22.

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