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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 11 No. 9 905-727-3300 theauroran.com FREE Week of December 21, 2010

Council to reconsider decision regarding ex-mayor's lawsuit

Council will reconsider the lawsuit brought forward by former mayor Phyllis Morris against three local bloggers, among others, at a special meeting Tuesday, December 21 at 7 p.m.

They unanimously approved Councillor Michael Thompson's Notice of Motion to reconsider the decision made by the previous council in September that led to the Town retaining legal counsel to sue the three named bloggers for \$6 million.

The decision last Tuesday came after Mayor Geoff Dawe and councillors went into closed session for an hour and a half to discuss a report from Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper.

Council voted 6-3 to receive Mr. Cooper's report with Councillors Chris Ballard, John Gallo and Wendy Gaertner voting against it.

Although Council was scheduled to next meet for a general committee meeting January 18, the Morris lawsuit is next slated to appear before the courts on January 13.

Notice of a special council December 21 to deal with the matter was sent out on Friday afternoon.

According to Mayor Dawe, who spoke to The Auroran the Wednesday following Tuesday's vote, consideration was already being given to bringing the reconsideration forward at an earlier date in a special council meeting.

"We have talked about it, but we have not come to a conclusion," he said. "We're considering it [and] have been looking at the calendar to see what makes sense. The reconsideration really is probably the best route to go because it is the one that is most direct and least open to interpretation."

The matter is something Councillor Thompson said he would like to see dealt with expeditiously.

"Geoff has the right to call [a special meeting], as do the majority of members of council and I'm sure that is something we'll consider for sure," said Councillor Thompson

Please see page 13



The break-in didn't hurt the Aurora Lions' Christmas plans at all. Still reeling from a break-in at their Mosley Street hall in late November, Lions, with a little help from their friends, packed more than 170 boxes with food, toys and books, to be distributed to less-fortunate families on Christmas Eve. Helping with the duties Saturday were, left to right, Nicole Besse and Teresa, Jessica and Natasha Boyle.

Auroran photo by David Falconer


Briefly

No paper

In order that the staff may enjoy the holiday season, there will be no Auroran next week, between Christmas and New Year's.

The next issue of The Auroran will be available Tuesday, January 4th.

Merry Christmas
from the gang at The Auroran



PACT outlines program to watch Aurora's parks

Aurora could be the latest participant of a parks ambassador program if PACT - Police and Community Together - gets its way.

PACT's chairperson, Cyndy Skillins, was on hand at Tuesday's council meeting to discuss the benefits and impacts such a program would bring to the community.

Akin to a Neighbourhood Watch program, participants would keep a close watch on their assigned parkland area to identify issues that could be of concern.

"People who are walking, running, biking... get training and resources to identify with the police potential problems and get that

information to the proper authorities," Ms. Skillins said.

"It doesn't have to be the police. The Parks Ambassador program is designed to be a partnership among the Town, the Police, the community, and appropriate users of the public areas."

A Parks Ambassador program would serve to "fill the gap" between a number of different crime prevention programs in the community including Neighbourhood Watch and Business Watch, and engage the community in going out to familiar environments and "interact with the proper authorities".

"It generates local stewardship

and it also generates local guardianship," she said. "It increases a local perception of the individuals that our community is safe," she added. "[The program] would be managed by Aurora PACT and the volunteers from Neighbourhood Network have also volunteered to help us. It is not exclusive of anybody."

Potential participants in the program must be over the age of 18 (16, accompanied by an adult) and they must commit to work in the public space on a regular basis, not intermittently. They must also live and/or work in Aurora, with few

Please see page 13

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COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24
The First Baptist church on Wellington Street East, will hold its annual Candlelight Christmas Eve services beginning at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
Merry Christmas.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
Family First Night tonight at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy free skating, swimming, sleigh rides, and hot chocolate. In addition, enjoy reptile shows at 6.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. and family magic shows at 7 and 8 p.m. Everything is free.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1
Happy New Year.

JANUARY 4 AND 5
Jesus Christ Superstar auditions will be held at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, from 4 to 8 p.m. with Sheryl Thomas (Marquee Productions) and John Clements (reserve pianist for the London production). Performances will take place at Trinity at the end of April. Bring sheet music or instrumental CD with you. Narrators and musicians are also needed. To book your 10-minute audition, contact Sheryl Thomas, sheryl@marqueeproductions.ca.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12
Southlake Regional Health Centre is offering to the

community of Aurora a free lecture series on cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. The next lecture will be held this evening, at 5.45 p.m. in the Hospital's Medical Arts Building (581 Davis Drive - Level 6), the presenter is Michael Sherar, Vice President, Planning and Regional Programs, Cancer Care Ontario and his topic is "The Ontario Cancer Plan 2011-2015: A Roadmap for Improving Ontario's Cancer Services." To register call 905-895-4521, ext. 6947. For more information, visit www.southlakeregional.org

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19
The Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, presents the first in a three-lecture series "Our Aurora Heritage: Taking a Closer Look", an informative series of evening chats by local historian Jacqueline Stuart. Tonight's feature is Looking Through the Layers: Clues to Aurora's Past in Our Present Surroundings. Complimentary admission and refreshments, no registration required; starts at 7 p.m. Wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For information phone 905-713-1818 or e-mail info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22
Robbie Burns night at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, features a live celtic-rock band, Hadrian's Wall. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets, available from all members of the White

Heather Pipes and Drums band or from the bar at the Legion starting Dec. 1, are \$40 per person.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Bowl For Kids Sake, presented by the Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, will hold its Aurora Community Day today from 1 to 5.30 p.m. at the Gateway Café and Lanes. Call Mary Lynn Stephenson at 905-726-2149, extension 305 to book a lane for your team.

Explore different colours, textures and designs in glass with Daniela Weston while you create your own unique stained glass sun catcher at the Aurora Public Library. Event costs \$15 which includes all materials and is open for youngsters ages 9 to 14. Event lasts two hours and begins at 1.30 p.m..

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.

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 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 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 keepingsing@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.

This pair doubles fundraising goal

Aurora High School students Megan Scully and Tory Gibson doubled their goal in the fundraiser they took to the streets earlier this month to build awareness and raise money for the Thornhill-based North Toronto Cat Rescue.

Ms. Scully and Ms. Gibson, as part of an Aurora High School marketing project, set up their table outside the Pet Valu store just north of Bayview Avenue and Wellington Street for the weekend of December 10, selling hot chocolate and other goods to raise money for the animal rescue service.

"It's not a very big organization, but we wanted to choose a smaller one because they need our help," said Ms. Scully. "[This] is a marketing project and we were asked to promote a non-profit organization. Everyone else was doing really big, well-known companies that obviously still need help, but are probably pretty well-off."

Their activities to promote this non-profit event were not

confined to selling hot chocolate last weekend, but have been part of an ongoing campaign that included the creation of gift baskets for raffles, as well as food and toy drives.

Each \$1 cup of hot chocolate included special discounts for Pet Valu products as well, added Ms. Scully.

In their weekend efforts, Ms. Scully and Ms. Gibson raised over \$300 for the North Toronto Cat Rescue, up from their original goal of \$150, and they also facilitated the adoption of one cat from the shelter.

"Our teacher was pretty impressed," said Ms. Scully.

So, too, was the North Toronto Cat Rescue.

"Megan and friends have been to our Shelter, understand the work we do, the costs involved, and decided they wanted to help," said Donna Cox of the North Toronto Cat Rescue. "We get no government assistance of any kind and running a building, paying all the expenses in that regard, feeding

a lot of cats housed there, twice a day..."

"Megan came to understand that if this shelter is going to survive, folks who care really need to help - thus, this fundraising effort."

The Cat Rescue began 19 years ago as a small scale operation and gradually morphed into a charity, said Ms. Cox, who added the Cat Rescue is the only no-cage, no-kill facility in the Greater Toronto Area and houses more than 130 cats rescued from streets and ravines.

"People refer to them as ferals but honestly there are few ferals, just frightened cats," she said. "Before we had this amazing shelter in Thornhill staffed entirely by volunteers, we used to keep several cats all the time at that Pet Valu so we got to know them very well, including Megan who, at one time worked there as her part-time job."

The money raised in Ms. Scully's fundraiser will go to feeding the cats, and taking care of their veterinary services.

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Queen's York Ranger Cpl. Graham Sherman gets a welcome home from his mother, Julia, following his arrival in Aurora from Afghanistan last week. Cpl. Sherman was given a tour home, courtesy of the Rangers and York Regional Police, who provided an escort for the young soldier from Pearson International Airport to the Armories in Aurora.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Neufeld series gets extension

Juno-award winning pianist and Aurora resident Paul Neufeld's Sunday Series will be held over into the New Year at the Aurora Cultural Centre, with three further concerts scheduled between January and March.

Mr. Neufeld's musical series began in September with guest-artist Quisha Wint, and was slated to conclude with a "Jazzy Holiday Family Concert", featuring guest-artist Lester McLean, which was held at the Centre on December 19, but due to the success of the previous three events, Mr. Neufeld's engagement has been extended until March.

"The [concerts] have been fabulous," said Laura Shembri, Executive Director of the Aurora Cultural Centre. "Due to the popular demand, we're extending the series for another three concerts in the New Year in January, February, and March.

"I haven't quite got the line-up [for the three] yet, but it was been very well received. It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon. There are some light refreshments, and some honest-to-goodness world-class music."

The line-up for the first two concerts, however, was firmed up late last week, according to Jane Taylor of the Cultural Centre.

The first concert in the extended series will be Sunday,

January 30 at 2 p.m. and feature Mr. Neufeld in concert with Paul Reddick.

Ms. Taylor, Mr. Reddick is "one of the finest songwriters in the blues/roots scene today."

"He has won many awards and is appreciated the world over as a poet of the blues and a brilliant singer and harmonica player," she said.

Mr. Neufeld and Mr. Reddick have nearly 20 years of collaborative effort under their belts and, along with Paul Brundland, once formed a band called "the Paulist Brothers."

"You might remember them from some pub or sports bar back in the mid 90s. This concert will be a bluesy and rocking affair."

The next concert, Sunday, February 27 at 2 p.m., features "multi-instrumentalist" Louis Simao.

"[Paul and Louis have been friends] for a number of years and are exploring the fact that they are both multi-instrumentalists," she said. "Louis may be best known as a bassist but that is not for sure. He is equally accomplished on double bass, electric bass, accordion, nylon string guitar, piano, and voice.

"As a result, his presence in the Brazilian music scene is just as important as his presence in the jazz scene and the pop world too. Expect a lot of variety in this concert with Paul on the piano, tuba and bass, and Louis on as much stuff as will fit into his car!"

The next concert in the series is scheduled for March 27, but the guest is yet to be announced.

Tickets for Paul Neufeld's Sunday Sessions are \$15 per session (or \$50 for a family of four) either in advance or at the door.

Bridge results

Monday, December 6: N/S - Nan McLean and Carol Bell; Gloria Smith and Rose White; Frank Henriques and Anna Kennedy. E/W - Bev Kilpatrick and Gayle Connor; Priscilla Hull and Inger Kamel; Sandra Davey and Sylvia Thompson.

Monday, December 13: N/S - Carol Gordon and Marg Cyr; Frank Lablans and Dennis McFadden; Frank Henriques and Irene Doran. Ed Werenich and Joe Badali; Jeannine Mackie and Melody Irving; Priscilla Hull and Inger Kamel.

Two items will be dealt with at next council meet

Terminating the contract of Integrity Commissioner David Tsubouchi and revisiting the Town's Code of Conduct will be two items on Council's January 18 General Committee agenda after councillors adopted Mayor Geoff Dawe's notices of motion at last Tuesday's meeting, despite the objections of Councillor Wendy Gaertner.

The first item, which was number 15 on the agenda, indicates Mayor Dawe will move to have the July 21, 2009 Code of Conduct complaint against Councillor Evelyn Buck removed from the Town website, while the second, number 16, indicates he will ask council to consider the Integrity Commissioner be given 30 days notice of termination and the Code of Ethics and the Code of Conduct be reviewed.

When the items came up for approval last week with the approval of the agenda, Councillor Gaertner immediately expressed her concerns to council and the Town Clerk, saying the inclusion of the items was in conflict with section 3.13 (a) of the procedural bylaw.

Section 3.13 (a) outlines that a council member wishing to introduce a notice "shall... verbally provide notice of the proposed motion", followed by a written copy Thursday preceding the meeting at which it is to be discussed.

Mayor Dawe's notices of motion were above board, however, according to Town Clerk John Leach.

"That section provides for a notice of motion to be introduced verbally, either at a council meeting or at a general meeting," he said. "In this case it was placed on the agenda and I have no problem with that. The person who placed the notice of motion here has the option of doing it verbally at the meeting or, in this case, having it in writing which, I believe is actually more preferable."

Having notices of motion in writing is followed in other municipal jurisdictions, he added, indicating this would be reflected in amendments he will bring forward to the procedural bylaw.

"The difference in this case is that instead of being presented verbally, it was presented in written format and then it will go onto the agenda in the written format, assuming that council

approves this agenda," he added.

"As I indicated earlier that is the way most councils deal with notices of motion, but technically it is not exactly what our procedural bylaw provides for and I believe council has it within its discretion to accept the notice of motion in this matter and I believe it would be appropriate to do so."

In her response, Councillor Gaertner said she was "not concerned with what other councils do", and Aurora should stick with its procedural bylaw.

"I would say that if council intends to uphold the procedural bylaw to the letter of the law and apply it consistently and fairly, then these two items, which have not been presented in accordance with our procedural bylaw, must be removed.

"I would like to make a motion that items 15 and 16 be removed from the agenda tonight as they contravene the procedural bylaw and the mayor can give notice of motion verbally under new business as is our custom in Aurora Council."

Councillor Gaertner's motion to remove the items from the agenda was seconded by Councillor Chris Ballard, but failed to pass in a 7-2 vote with only Councillors Ballard and Gaertner voting in favour of the motion.

"Just to make it clear to this council and this audience: we have just contravened our procedural bylaw and I think, Mr. Dawe, you were very adamant about not doing that!" said Councillor Gaertner in a raised voice following the vote.

Following Councillor Gaertner's final comments, which were cut off by Mayor Dawe, she proceeded to go into the audience and hand The Auroran three pages of her notes, which included a type-written copy of section 3.13 of the procedural bylaw (with pertinent passages underlined and circled), interspersed with a page of comments not only about Geoff Dawe, but also reflecting the

Please see page 13

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They tried, but when all was said and done, neither Ted McClenny nor Philippa Hajdu, could name everyone in the picture. They did, however, come up with a few names and we list them here. They are in no order, and perhaps you will recognize someone in the photo who has not been identified. In the photo, somewhere, are Ron Starkey, Dennis Mills, Frank Gregoire, Wilf Adams, Arnold Miller, Liau Griffiths, Mary Flutcher, Lois Spooner, J..H. Knowles, the principal of the high school at the time, R.O. Smith, Dean Cameron, Miss Wilkie (does anyone know her first name?) Norm Johnson, the vice-principal, M. Gerrow, Roland Moddle, Jamie Scott, Ron Fortier, Boris and Tamis Orachuk, Joe Gasko, Marg Barringer, Norm Stokes, Ernie Eveleigh, Louise Bastedo, Carole Morrison, Suzanne Hulse, Jean Closter, Nancy Beckwith, Janice Couter, Nora Scott, Jean Rowat, Patricia Simpson, Rosemary Gurtrum, Elsie Antkem, Doreen Chapman, Edgar Dobson, Barbara Speck, Noreen Wells, Edith Geary, Philippa

Garstane, Suzanne Wheelok, Mary Rowat, George Weaver, Ted Rogers, Bob Wosley, Bob Bull. Roger Rollings, Clifford Preston, Ted McClenny, Leon Ellis, Ron Knowles, Earl Ferren, George Rowan, Shirley Rowlings, Noel Coe, Florence King, Mary Adams, Peggy James, Jack Jans, John Urquhart, Don Morning, David Bestile, George Kirby, Jim Hiney, Mary Gilbert, Dave Harrison, Ron Brooks, Bill Carl, George Hately, John Langdon, David Bachly, “Stubb” Edwards, Charlie Morrison, Bob Andrews, Frank Leskowski, John Gilbert, Ron Geddes, Betty and Bob Arbuckle and Tony Zimera. Our apologies if names are spelled wrong. Photo was taken in 1952 in front of Wells Street School, then the only high school in town. Only two of you were able to identify the location of the stones in the photo in this spot last week. The wall is located in the front yard of the Cobblestone Lodge at the corner of Yonge and Kennedy Streets. Go look...it’s still there.



Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

In this corner, an upset councillor

Seems Councillor Wendy Gaertner is a tad upset. So is a letter writer, and, frankly, so is this editor. She had a lawyer issue me a notice last week, “calling upon” me to publish a retraction of “Mr.” Smallwood’s letter to the editor of The Auroran, which appeared two weeks ago. After the lawyer sent a similar notice to “Mr.” Smallwood advising “him” to “send a letter to the editor of The Auroran in which you retract your allegation that you saw Ms. Gaertner sitting at a table with Mr. Gallo”. Well, I finally caught up with “Mr.” Smallwood last week, and it turns out he’s a she. S. (it stands for Shirley) Smallwood, is a senior citizen residing on Davis Drive in Newmarket. She did, however, once live in Aurora, and moved to Newmarket. I learned that after Shirley mailed me a second letter (it was a long way from a retraction) postmarked Newmarket, and signed S. Smallwood. It also included a phone number. I phoned her Friday, left a message and she returned the call Saturday morning. Yes, she said, she had written the original letter, and, according to her second letter, was adamant that she saw the two of them in the coffee shop. Her second letter to the editor appears on Page 7. I believe Shirley Smallwood has the right to express what she believes she saw. Equally, Councillor Gaertner has the right to rebut it. I have no reason to disbelieve either of them. Because this incident is now in the hands of a lawyer, I can’t, or at least shouldn’t, talk to Wendy about it. When I think of all the items I wrote about her “Hot Spot”, the almost 20-year-old Aurora response for a youth centre, I can’t help wondering where I went wrong with her. She never once sent me a letter from a lawyer thanking me for all the free publicity and the deal on advertising I gave her. Legal action seems to be the flavour of the day. I’m a tad disappointed...

Letter to the Editor

Overwhelmed by generosity

To the editor,

There is a lot of giving to the less fortunate in our town of Aurora and it was never so evident than on Saturday, December 11. Someone phoned Lorna our Director at the Aurora Food Pantry earlier in week to see what was needed. On Saturday in pulled about eight or so trucks and SUVs from I.B.I.C. (I believe in Christmas) loaded to the rim

with food and I mean loaded. Here was everything they were told and more, multiples of it and more. Food, drinks, diapers, health products, etc., etc. This group of men and women had gone to Costco, and purchased all these items new and delivered them to the food pantry at 350 Industrial Parkway South (formerly Aurora Cable Internet). This building was offered to the food pantry last Christmas

by Jim Irvine of the Aurora Cable family (my last Christmas 2009 surprise, as I was at pantry when he came in with the suggestion). Now this group of individuals and families who live in Aurora, who just went by I.B.I.C., this my 2010 surprise. The last two years make me believe in Christmas. Do not get me wrong as this town as a whole is such a giving community.

It’s just that the above instances at this time of year overwhelm me and I had to express my personal view and that of the Aurora Food Pantry and all its volunteers. The high school students here doing their community hours were also overwhelmed by what had just taken place, even though it was a lot of extra work for them. John Sargent Aurora

Letter to the Editor

Here’s a few tips on how to reduce telemarketers

To the editor,

I would like to provide some possible solutions for Ms. Bonnie Tiffin to consider in order to minimize her frustrations from receiving unwanted telemarketing calls and possibly reducing the number of such calls. These are some ways in which I handle these calls: 1. I have an answering machine and as a general rule always let the call be picked up by the answering machine (which has feature that I can hear the message from the caller including announcing his/her number). This is how I use to screen all the calls that come to my home without having to pick up the phone. If the person calling is a telemarketer, I will not answer the call. Most times, they do not even leave a message when answered by an answering machine. However, if they do leave a message, then I just erase the message immediately after they have hung up (I do not have to listen to their entire message before I can erase the message).

I have set my answering machine to go to my welcome message after four rings and my regular callers all know that and as soon as they start to speak, and I recognize their voice I pick up the phone. 2. Using the same technique that I described in item 1, if the telemarketer continues to pester and is not getting the message, then I may occasionally pick up the phone and tell them to hold for a second and then leave the phone on the table until they hang up. This process certainly wastes their time (and time is money for them). Hopefully they will then get the message that it is not in their best interest to continue calling you, as they will derive no benefit from calling you other than waste their valuable time. If they are smart, they will leave you alone or at least reduce the number of calls you get. I know that this method is a rather mean trick, therefore I use it only to discourage those who have little or no respect for my privacy and time.

3. For the cell phone, I will not answer any calls that do not display who is calling. You may wish to register your cell phone also with the do not call registry and hope that the number of telemarketing calls coming to your cell phone is thus reduced. Of course, it is not in your best interest to use the trick described in item 2 for cell calls, as you will end up paying for the air time, unless you have unlimited air time on your plan. Please note that most

telemarketers have now become smart and have unlisted numbers, so that you cannot report them to the Do Not Call registry. I hope these tips help. It certainly has reduced my unwanted calls to a manageable number. Of course, you could also try to talk to the people calling you that you do not wish to get calls from them in the future. A few may respect your wish and others will continue to pester you. Joshy Kallungal Aurora

THE AURORAN

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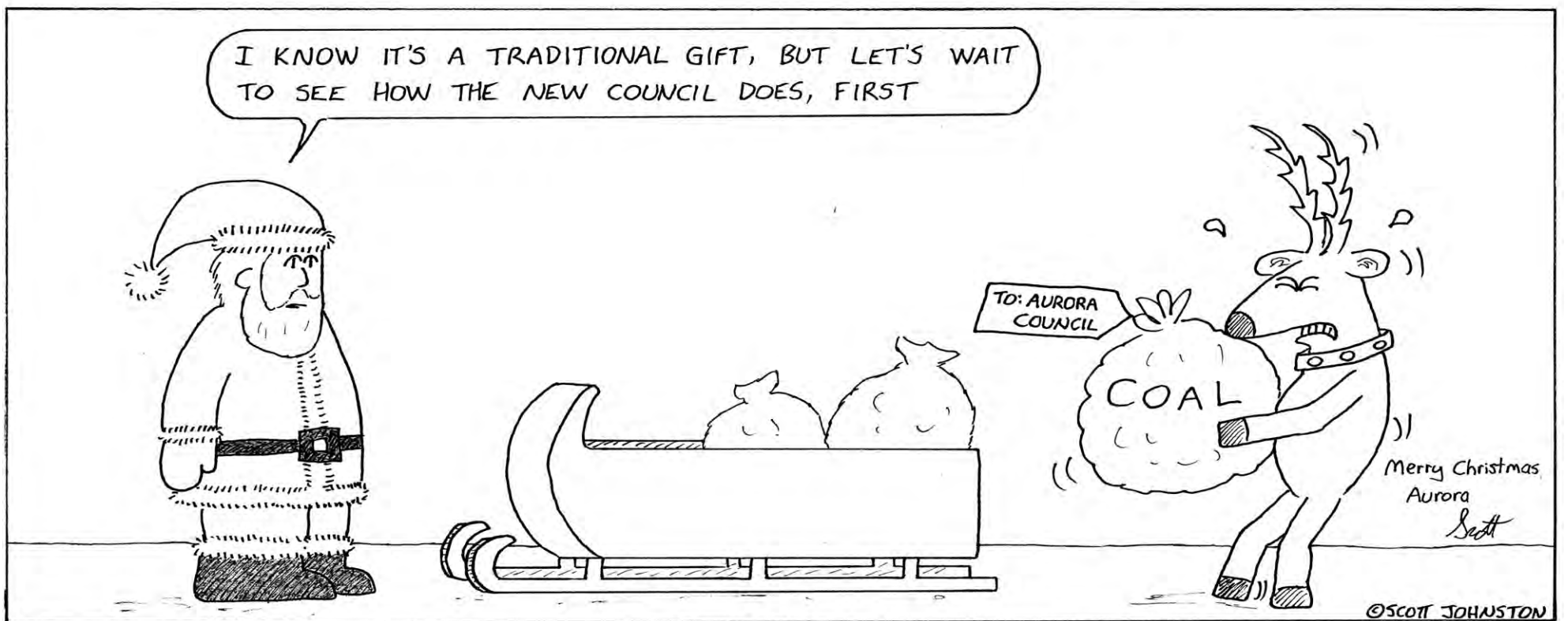
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

2014 election

Have you ever been to a party and one person makes such an issue of him/her self that you wonder why they were invited in the first place?

I guess that I'm that person. And truth be noted, it wouldn't be the first time!

With the last faint echoes of a previously fractious town council slowly leaving our collective subconscious, and now that harmony, love and tranquility has returned to Aurora's Town Hall, I thought it my civic duty to properly seed discontentment among the new mayor and his fellow councillors.

By now I imagine that the team at the Town Hall has been provided with information on several housekeeping items such as the internal telephone system, e-mail system, office accommodation and the allowances and policies for attending training seminars and municipal conferences. Hopefully, all the councillors have located the washrooms by now!

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe and the eight councillors have only just been officially invested with their office and yet I'm already writing about the 2014 municipal election.

Why, you ask?

We have all heard of the big Three; GM, Ford and Chrysler.

We have also heard of the Holy Trinity; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Well, we have our own kind of local democratic Trinity here in Aurora; the ward system, the introduction of term limits and the realization of another Aurora representative on York Region Council.

I have written about each of these in the past, but as they are important issues, it seems as good a time as any to revisit two of the topics.

Along with restating some thoughts on reforming the structure of

electoral representation in town, I also kindly suggest that Aurora deserves another voice at the York Region table.

Currently there is no ward system in town.

But being typically Canadian, I would like to see a hybrid solution developed.

I believe in a system whereby a portion of the councillors are elected by a specific geographic region and will be accountable to that area while a number of "at large" councillors would also be elected.

Generally speaking, I would suggest that Aurora be divided up into say four electoral precincts and then have four "at-large" councillors.

While certainly not as important an issue as the type of ward system that could be utilized, but far more interesting is the impact that a ward system - if implemented on time - would have on the next municipal election.

The eight councillors that we elected last reside in various clusters around Aurora.

And whether you go with eight ward seats or four ward seats and four "at-large" seats, there would potentially have been some councillors without a chair when the music stopped in November 2014.

From reading various letters to the editor about this issue over the last few years, I think it will come up again during this term.

As for another of the local democratic Trinity, Aurora has a "rep by pop" issue.

Some background is in order.

York Region is comprised of nine municipalities (March 31, 2007 population in brackets) - Aurora (49,716), East Gwillimbury (22,721), Georgina (46,026), King (20,386), Markham (283,297), Newmarket (79,448), Richmond Hill (178,327), Vaughan (250,032) and Whitchurch-Stouffville (27,788).

Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Whitchurch-Stouffville and King each receive one seat, while Georgina and Newmarket receive two seats, Richmond Hill three seats, Vaughan four seats and Markham gets five seats.

Aurora, based upon the fact that its current population is greater than Georgina, should have two seats.

A couple of questions to ponder:

Is there anything that the new mayor can do about getting us another seat?

Assuming we do get a second seat, would we have a direct election for a regional councillor, or, like in Newmarket, or would we simply have the person with the second most votes - the deputy mayor - as the representative?

The arguments for Aurora having another seat, while no doubt sound, don't mean this is a slam dunk.

After all, we are talking about Aurora receiving something extra, which implies another municipality losing out.

Moreover, true rep by pop does have its limitations. If having a population of 50,000 people means having two region seats, then the good people in Markham and Vaughan may start clamoring for additional seats to preserve the status quo.

I wish the new mayor and council good luck this term and I can't wait for the ward debate to begin - I will bring the popcorn to the Council Chamber!

Incidentally, to the councillors and mayor now looking to purchase a Christmas present for me - that lump of coal will be a welcome addition to the box of it given to me by my wife.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

Waiting for the moment

This is a special time of year.

Or at least, it's supposed to be.

But sometimes it's hard to appreciate, because the pace of things picks up so exponentially.

You know what I mean; life is always busy, but as December rolls around, it accelerates through the addition of all the shopping, and wrapping, and cards, and baking, and decorating, and school plays, and family obligations, and more.

And that's on top of everything else going on in our lives.

So while this is the season of wonder, happiness and goodwill, it's sometimes hard to see that from the back of the checkout line with 10 people in front of you, most of whom are trying to return well-used items without receipts that they purchased at other stores six months ago.

And it's not that all of this extra activity can get you depressed, although that's certainly possible, but it can make you wonder when the fun part associated with "the most wonderful time of the year" will start.

Fortunately, for most of us, at some point during the seasonal busyness, there's a "moment" when this happens.

We see this on TV every year.

Just when it seems all is lost, the Grinch's heart grows three sizes, Charlie Brown finds the true meaning of Christmas, and Scrooge realizes it's not too late to change his ways.

I'm not saying that ghosts of past, present and future necessarily need to visit you in your bedchambers, because it can also happen in small ways.

But sooner or later, whether we consciously notice it or not, a little emotional light comes on, and the joy of the season comes through.

It can happen while sitting and listening to favourite carols, or walking on a crisp evening admiring the neighbourhood Christmas lights, or watching skaters on a frozen pond, or just sitting at home in front of the fire with a loved one.

When it happens, it's magical, and makes all of the effort of the season worthwhile, or at least less of a headache.

As for myself, it's been a chaotic month, so I've been anxiously awaiting my "moment".

I thought it had occurred the other day when I saw the wonder of a wide-eyed child gazing up at a department store Santa.

But then the spell was broken when the youngster start-

ed rhyming off his wish list of toys, that I wouldn't be surprised to hear several days later, he's still reciting.

So, it didn't happen for me there in the Mall.

Nor did it happen later on when the smell of fresh pine boughs turned out to be coming from a display for a new forest scented hockey equipment deodorizer.

But I know that there's a seasonal epiphany out there somewhere with my name on it, so I'm keeping my eyes and ears open, because you never know when it will occur.

The odds are that mine will happen when I'm shovelling snow, or trying to find a parking spot at the local big box store, because that seems to be how I'm spending most of my free time this month.

If it does strike me at one of these times, that's fine, because it doesn't have to be a greeting card setting.

Besides, part of the fun is that you never know when it will take place.

But, given enough time, it will...for all of us.

Here's wishing all Aurorans their own seasonal "moment".

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, everyone.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at:
machellscorners@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor

Former council decision “logical”, he says

To the editor,

I have heard that our new mayor, Geoff Dawe, has concerns that the previous town council's rejection of Mr. Lebovic's proposal to build 75 condominiums and a golf course in a rural area of Aurora, directly on the fragile Oak Ridges Moraine, and that has neither sewer nor water services, is not in the best interests of the Town of Aurora.

I can assure Mr. Dawe that the previous town council's decision to turn down the irrational proposal was certainly the only logical decision and was certainly in the best interests of our town.

Mr. Lebovic has been trying to get approval for his project for more than 20 years.

The issue is now in the hands of the Ontario Municipal Board which is in process of a hearing to consider the proposal.

Some of us who are against the project were allowed to make a representation to the hearing and set out below is a copy of my presentation that I made to the Hearing in October. I sent a copy of this presentation directly to Mayor Dawe earlier in December.

(Presentation is in boldface)

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say. My name is Ronald Lanthier, I am a retired chartered accountant and I live at 100 Westview Drive, just north of the proposed development.

For over 20 years, Mr. Lebovic, a well-known developer and builder in and around Aurora, has been trying to obtain approval to build, in a strictly rural area of Aurora, directly upon the protected and fragile Oak Ridges Moraine, designated only for estate homes on at least 2 acres of land. Over these many years, the original plan was changed several times.

The latest proposal, which abuts estate properties of 25 acres up to more than 100 acres whose owners are prohibited from building even one more home on their properties, calls for 75 town home units to be built on 12.5 acres and a completely superfluous golf course, on the restricted Oak Ridges Moraine, in an area that has neither sewers nor water services. The Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) has been considering this illogical and game-changing proposal for almost 4 years.

Well over 4 years ago, on May 19, 2006, at a meeting at the site between officials of the developer and officials of

the Ministry of the Environment, MOE declared their concern that there was not sufficient groundwater at the site to support the proposed development.

Relevant minutes of that meeting, clearly indicating the concerns of the Ministry of the Environment, were made available to all interested parties.

At that meeting, the MOE was taking a very logical and justifiable approach: namely, that groundwater in this area of Aurora is a limited resource under pressure from multiple users, the Oak Ridges Moraine is in jeopardy and the taking of this limited and precious resource for recreational purposes was ill-advised and inappropriate.

Mr. Cherniak, an official of the developer has chided the opponents of the proposed development, stating that they do not understand the water problem and he and the hydrogeological experts on the Lebovic payroll insist that, "the withdrawal of groundwater to meet the requirements of the development will not interfere with existing groundwater users".

This partisan opinion is completely opposed by everyone else with an interest in the project, not only citizens residing in the area, but other professional bodies that bring immense expertise, experience and understanding to the question.

I refer here to groups such as Earthroots, Ecojustice, STORM(Save the Oak Ridges Moraine), Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT), Oak Ridges Trail Ass'n (ORTA), Oak Ridges Friends of the Environment, York Region Environmental Alliance, Concerned Citizens of King, among others, all of whom disagree wholeheartedly with the views of the developer.

In fact, I know of no one who agrees with the developer and his experts. Additionally, the Town of Aurora, after having studied, assessed, analysed and seriously considered the proposal for a number of years, dismissed the proposal on March 4, 2008.

Even a ground water neophyte has trouble with the judgement of the developer and his experts who state that the surrounding wells will not be affected by adding a village of 300 new residents, milking the fragile

groundwater system for their everyday needs and the imposition of a thirsty, storm water guzzling golf course.

And we must not forget that, even without this "village of 300" and the unnecessary golf course, each year the Town of Aurora has to restrict the use of water by all residents. When the Magna golf course was developed some years ago, surrounding wells were, in fact, seriously affected, even resulting in some residents' wells running dry and having to be re-dug at considerable expense. This is not the opinion of a hydrogeological expert, this is fact.

To repeat, when the Magna course was developed, surrounding wells ran dry. Magna did not have the added burden of the village of 300. It stands to reason, then, that if the proposed development is approved, we will obviously see the same result. This is not hydrogeological calculations, but simply common sense.

And let us not forget, that after years of trying, the developer has been unable to convince the MOE to issue a PTTW (permit to take water). There was one glitch to this story. On April 30, 2007, the MOE mistakenly issued a PTTW, but less than 4 months later the MOE realized the serious error that it had made and rescinded the PTTW. It has not been re-issued. The developer cannot proceed without a PTTW. After 20 years, one would have thought that the message is clear.

In spite of the foregoing, the developer is persisting in his quest and is clearly abetted by the OMB, even though OMB must know that, under present circumstances, the proposal cannot be brought to fruition.

The approach followed by the OMB is particularly puzzling. Since early 2007, the OMB has been chairing what we refer to as "partial" hearings. By this, we mean that not all parties needed to make a final decision have been included in these meetings, i.e. neither The Environmental Review Tribunal nor the Ministry of the Environment, whose approval must be granted before the development can proceed to finalization, have been invited to attend the hearings.

In fact they have been deliberately excluded by the OMB. Not surprisingly, no final decision has been able to be rendered.

The lawyer representing some of the residents in the area of the proposed development has been trying, for more than two years, to convince the OMB to allow for a full hearing, but his efforts, including resorting to legal action in the court system, have been rebuffed at every turn by the OMB. A very serious question arises here. If the OMB wants to find a resolution to this problem, why would it exclude MOE who has expressed such serious apprehension about the water situation at the site? For over three years, I have been pressing OMB, through letters and phone calls to many staff, on different management levels, to arrange meetings with MOE to elicit its absolutely essential views. My letters and phone calls have been rebuffed out of hand.

My letters to OMB included many-page letters to the chair (person), Marie Hubbard and to two members, Colin Hefferon and S.J. Stefanco. I did not receive even an acknowledgement of my letters from these OMB executives.

I might say here, that my letters at that time to MOE also fell on deaf ears. It seemed as though no one would take any initiative in case it might lead to a resolution of the problem.

In this application, there are not just planning issues to be debated, but also, and just as important, environmental issues, which, of course, are under the jurisdiction of MOE.

My understanding of the Consolidated Hearings Act is to provide for such situations and save the parties involved, government authorities and courts, time and money by hearing the merits and demerits of the case at one hearing rather than dragging on and on through various levels of approval.

I would respectfully suggest that an investigation be undertaken to determine who at OMB made the continuing decisions to exclude MOE from the hearings and from all contact and the justification for such illogical reasoning.

I can't imagine a clearer

case for a joint hearing than this one. There are very serious environmental issues, the Oak Ridges Moraine is in jeopardy, MOE has declared its concern that there is not enough water at the site to support the proposed development, no PTTW has been issued, the environmental assessment is incomplete.

I firmly believe that it's time to stop playing with a partial deck and call a joint hearing with all necessary participants to make a final decision, all sitting around the decision table at the same time.

I would like to comment here on a part of the testimony given on the opening day of this hearing by the expert witness, Mr. Webster, called upon by Mr. McQuaid.

When smoothly describing the conceptual treatment of groundwater from well, through the village of 300 and then its use to irrigate

the proposed golf course, one could get the impression that it was a fait accompli, especially where Mr. Webster stated that he had seen this plan actually in operation elsewhere.

If I had had the opportunity to query Mr. Webster, I would have asked him the following questions:

1. Are these other projects to which he referred situated on the fragile Oak Ridges Moraine, as the proposed Westhill project is?

2. Did these other projects not have a PTTW issued by Ministry of the Environment ? The Westhill project does not have a PTTW.

We must not lose sight of the fact that the concept outlined by Mr. Webster is only that, a conceptual plan which will not see the light of day without the approval of MOE, which, after years of

Please see page 16



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Others saw two councillors in coffee shop, too: reader

To the editor,

last week's Auroran.

RE: Letters from Wendy Gaertner and John Gallo in

Let me start my letter by saying there are at least two

Klees' arguments simplistic and may not be true: reader

To the editor,

Frank Klees, in his column "Frankly Speaking", has the luxury of a regular soapbox in The Auroran that allows him to make wildly ridiculous claims.

The latest example is his rant about the Ontario Government's program to provide graduate scholarships to outstanding foreign doctoral students and thus, he falsely claims, denying similar funds to students from Ontario.

Mr. Klees knows his arguments are simplistic, at best, and not true at worst.

First of all, what he does not tell us is that most advanced countries around the world, including Canada, have similar programs in place to attract foreign students who are outstanding scholars and researchers.

He fails to tell his readers that his federal Conservative counterparts have offered an even more generous program than Ontario's for a similar purpose-The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships-valued at \$50,000 a year (Ontario's are worth \$40,000) and open to both Canadian and foreign students.

Reader thinks Aurora councillor shouldn't call anyone delusional

To the editor,

Re: letter from Wendy Gaertner, last week's Auroran

The only one who is delusional seems to be Ms. Gaertner.

At no point in the letter from S. Smallwood does it accuse Ms. Gaertner of meeting with a councillor about political tactics; it simply says he saw her at a local coffee shop.

However, Ms. Gaertner feels compelled to deny talking tactics – not whether she was actually at the coffee shop.

Seems like more than one person in town saw the councillors in the chosen coffee shop, so why the need to deny and act like everyone else is losing it?

Do both councillors feel that by making S. Smallwood look like she was seeing things, we will believe their stories? In my opinion, the actions of both Ms. Gaertner and Mr. Gallo are being watched with great interest by the residents of Aurora and for Ms. Gaertner to call a local senior citizen delusional won't be doing her any favours.

Charitee Lesage
Aurora

"delusional" people in Aurora who saw you in On The Bean.

Me and the person or persons who told Mr. Sargent, which was not me as I do not even know the man.

I saw two members of the former council having coffee on that day and I can guarantee that one of them was not Evelyn Buck.

These two people mentioned Evelina at one point and Alison at another point (do regular citizens call the councillors by their first names?).

I also heard them go through the members of council and where they had been sitting at the table and that, yes, that was all eight of them.

Is that something else that a regular citizen would have been talking about?

I had recognized both of them before I heard any of their conversation.

I could go on with a few more things that I overheard that totally convinced me that it was the two councillors in question.

I really do not want to do every word of my column is factual. I simply direct him to the Premier's own website where he boasts of the program. Second, the fact that the federal government has a similar policy doesn't make it right. I disagree with it at any level of government, and I said so. Third, while it is obvious that the writer agrees with Mr. McGuinty's policy, based on the comments I have received by email and phone in response to my column, the vast majority of my constituents happen to agree with my perspective on this issue. In fact, I have not received one email or phone call in support of Mr. McGuinty on this issue. Finally, it is interesting that although I invited readers to contact me with their comments, this individual chose not to contact me directly to express his views. I would welcome the discussion.

And by elevating the economies of their native countries, utilizing their Canadian educational experience, they contribute to the reduction of their country's reliance on foreign aid, while improving the lives of their fellow citizens.

What could be wrong with that?

Mr. Klees owes it to his readers-his constituents-to do his homework before making wildly ideological claims.

He should be trumpeting the value of investment in Ontario. Perhaps he should speak less "Frankly" and more honestly.

Larry Davies
Aurora

Frank Responds: I am not surprised at this response. I do have the following observations: First, I can assure the writer that

that as it goes against my strong sense of fair play.

I only wrote my first letter to defend Mr. Sargent against their untrue allegations.

I knew that they would then do the same to me. Is there anyone else out there who can now come to my defense?

I stand by my statements of what went on that day, but I am done with the he said-she said situation.

They may think they have won but I bet a great many people believe Mr. Sargent and myself.

And anyway, who else cares? They were just having coffee, not planning to overthrow the Government.

For everyone else in Aurora, I wish you a Merry Christmas.

S. Smallwood
Newmarket

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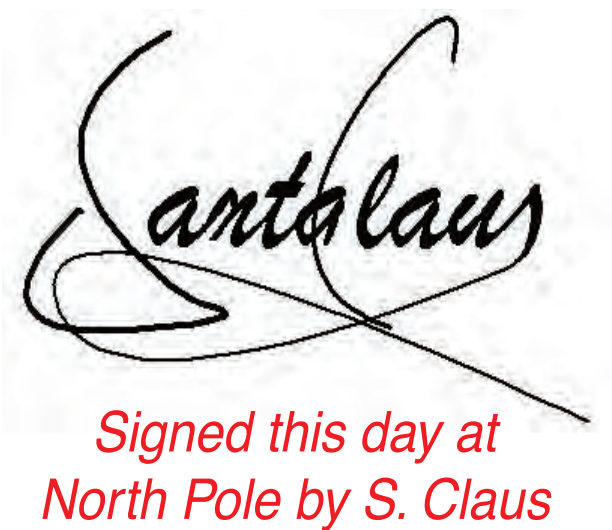
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103 Timbits White 3 - Maxwell McConkey 2G, Ryan Cariou 1G 1A, Matthew Gianforcaro 2A, Jack MacFarland 1A, Alex Morra 1A, Matthew Song 1A. **105 Timbits Black 3** - Aidan Kirchmair 1G, Jacob Smith 1G, Myles Graham 1G 1A, Caspar Timothy 1A, Liam Taylor 2A.

105 Timbits Black 3 - Liam Taylor 1G, Myles Graham 1G, 1A, Eric Silver 1G, Matthew Reid 1A. **107 Timbits Kelly Green 2** - Daniel Iwai 1G, Liam Cohen 1G, Chase Keeler 1A.

102 Timbits Gold 2 - Jake McMillan 1G, Dylan Andersen 1G. **103 Timbits White 0.**

101 Timbits Red 2 - David Iacovetta 1G 1A, Ethan Solilo 1G, Easton Irvine 1A. **106 Timbits Powder Blue 0.**

104 Timbits Blue 4 - Gavin Loria 2G, Jake Worthman 1G, Emmett Ross 1G, Aidan Quinn 1A, Noah Bobrow 1A. **108 Timbits Grey 3** - Ayden Posa 2A, Riley Pearl 1G, Nicholas Pisapia 1G, Anthony Russo 1G 1A, Andrew Flores 1A.

204 Caravan Kids Blue 9. 203 Caravan Kids White 4.

205 Caravan Kids Black 9 - Ethan Joiner 3G 2A, Jackson Galbraith 2G, Matthew Cowl 3G, Harrison Gruenig 1G, Aiden O'Toole 2A, Michael Parkin 1A, Aaron Murphy-Sealy 1A, Nathan Clark 1A. **202 Caravan Kids Gold 4** - Liam Vivian 2G, Jonathan Avgousti 2A, Tommy Green 1A, Thomas Raeburn 1G, Michael Pantalone 1G.

404 Tilemaster Blue 6 - Dillon Varone 4G, Benjamin Godber 1G 1A, Paul Cotturo 1A, Nicolas Alvarez 1A, William Reid 1G, Liam Collins 1A, Matthew Parkin 1A, Adam Wochenmarkt 1A, Ethan Cohen 2A. **409 Pfaff VW Teal 1** - Liam Patterson 1G.

402 Omar's Shoes Gold 10 - Michael Vivian 1G, Jacob Turriff 1G 2A, Francesco DeBartolo 1A, Kyle Trumper 1G, Noah Johnson 1G 1A, Nicolas Verbeek 1G, Cole Sheremeta 1G 1A, Christopher Walsh 1G 2A, Noah Dempsey 2G, Jack Gauthier-Moulton 1G, Michela Venosa 1A. **401 Chouinard Bros. Red 5** - Raffaele Parente 1G, Dalton Slind 1G 1A, Dylan McFee 1G, Austin Martin 1A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1G 1A, Garrett Kohler 1G 1A.

406 Mastermind Toys Powder Blue 4 - Carter Wilmsmeyer 2G, Vaughn Hewgill 1G, Tony Davelman 1A, Keegan Fisher 1G. **407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 1** - Nicholas Robinson 1G, Nathan Smith 1A.

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609 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 4. 607 Envirocar Kelly Green 0.

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 4. 601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 1.

606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 6 - Will Ashton 5G, Connor Reilly 1G, Alex Carter 1A, Ryan Vallancourt 1A, Lucas Ackerman 1A. **605 Lakeshore Valu Mart 0.**

603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services White 5 - J Camplin 2G, C Dyer 1G 1A, J Leblanc 1G, Skelhorn 1G, H Lambrinos 3A, J Samson 1A, **608 Crabby Joe's Grey 2** - Jack Dion 1G, Connor Tripp 1G, Stephen McNeil 1A, David Robertson 1A, Liam DeSouza 1A.

602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 7 - Jordan Screech 2G, Colin Boorn 1G 2A, Joel Attalla 1G, Connor Devoigel 1G, Daniel Cariou 1A, Dustin Crossley 1A, Paige Crossley 2A, Ryan Cameron 1G 1A, Sean MacKrell 1G 1A, Aidan burbank 1A. **609 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 5** - Nat Leontis 2G, Evan Lambert 1G 2A, Zachary Machell 1G 1A, Christian Loria 1G, Nicklaus Reid 1A, Marcello Denuzzo 1A, Santino Denuzzo 1A, Calem Pollock 1A.

607 Envirocar Kelly Green 4 - Ian Rucker 1G 1A, Jake Polenz 1A, Alex Sesto 1G 1A, Jacob Cann 1G, Shawn Mason 1G, Cory Brear 1A. **604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 2** - Colin Read 1G, Tyler Wilson 1G, Ryan Simmons 1A.

601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 3 - Nicolas Pearce 2G 1A, Spencer Bain 1A, Matthew (Matt) Glionna 1A, Tyler Justice 1G 1A. **609 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 1.**

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 6 - Alex Tashos 2G 1A, Robert Iervasi 1G, Max Bruckner 1A, David Tonelli 1G1A. **611 Purple 1** - Sam Speranini 1G, Cameron Jackson 1A, Elias Pasani 1A.

603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services White 3 - L Bulmer 1G, C Dyer 2A, A Skelhorn 2G, H Lambrinos 1A, J. Camplin 1A, J Camplin 1A. **607 Envirocar Kelly Green 2** - Alex Sesto 1G, Ian Rucker 1G, Jacob Cann 2A, Ryan Motazedian 1A.

606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 5 - Will Ashton 3G, Jordan Elliott 1G 1A, Dylan Cowell 1G, Anthony Loduca 1A, Lucas Ackerman 1A. **604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 3** - Colin Read 1G, Ben Kissack 1G, Tyler Wilson 1G 1A, Adam Wilson 1A, Justin Miller 1A.

805 Aurora Home Hardware Black 3 - Ben Ashton 3G, Harris Riopelle 1A, Carter Goan 1A. **809 AHPA Teal 2** - Russell Johnson 2G, Graham Killby 1A.

804 Frontline Fire & Safety Blue 3 - Lucas Brutto 1G 1A, Adam De Roos 1G, Kevin Siery 1G 1A, Adam Ashraf 1A. **810 Pizza Pizza Orange 3** - Ryan Owroules Jin 1G 1A, Mitch Palmer 1G, Troy Foster 1A.

803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 4 - Stuar Reid 1G, Alexander MacKinnon 1G, Matt Sanita 1G 1A, Aaron Rival 1A, Chris Sanita 1G 1A, Andrew Foresi 1G. **811 Caruso & Company Purple 1** - Joel Robinson 1A, Matt Walker 1A, Andrew Foresi 1G.

802 Manhattan Trophies Gold 4 - Ian Dunlop 1G, Mackenzie Smith 1G 1A, Adam Petit 1G, Cody Child 1G, Taylor Gadsby 1A, Michael Imesis 1A, James Power 1A, Landon Kirby 2A, Mitchell Arnold 1A. **812 Municipal Engineering Solutions Burgandy 5** - Sandy Rundle-Sanderson 1G, Joshua Bell 2G, John Sherwood 2G, John Barber 1A, Justin Chalmers 1A, Ryan MacMillan 1A, Derek Capone 1A, Joshua Capodagli 1A, Luc Martineau 1A.

801 Rogers Red 5 - Alex Harrison 2G 2A, James Johnston 2G 2A, Brett Bond 1G 3A, Jason Glionna 1A, Eric Bortolotti 1A. **807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 2** - Ben Goldman 1G, Alexander MacDonald 1G, Declan Johnston 2A.

806 Laurion Law Office Power Blue 6 - Sean Foxwell 3G, 2A, Evan Nichols 1A, Christopher Ottman 1A, Andy Butler 1A, Emerson Cepelak 1A, Tyler Abushinov 1G 2A, Mitchell Lamantia 1G, M D'Allessandro 1G 1A. **808 Crabby Joe's Grey 1** - Tyler Futterer 1G 1A.

905 ATS Healthcare Black 5 - Michael McCreesh 2G, Vince Duggan 1G 1A, Will Brogan 1G, Matt Melito 1G 1A, Drew Marshall 2A, Dylan Lyons 1A, Stephen Wilkins 1A. **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 3** - Gregory Milligan 1G, Trevor George 2G 1A, Quinn Harris 1A, Tyler White 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 7 - Zachary Seto 1G, Josh Lawlor 2G 1A, David Marsillo 1G, Chris Falfalios 2G 1A, Andrew Seguin 1G, Will Miller 1A, John Dinocolantino 3A, Nick Moffatt 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 1** - Michael David 1G.

902 Boston Gold 1 - Trevor Rice 1G, Daniel Bresolin 1A. **901 Graystones Restaurant Red 1** - Andrew Begg 1G.

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 2 - Scott Cosentino 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Evan Jones 1A, Quinn McGowan 1A, Ryan Dowling 1A. **910 Philly Orange 1** - Brian Pedron 1G, Thomas Scougall 1A, Graeme Allison 1A.

904 St. Louis Blue 3 - Alex Woodward 2G, Eric Bulloch 1G, Matthew Warner 1A, Dustin Partanen 1A, JP Hudon 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 1** - T. Thiessen 1G.

901 Graystones Restaurant Red 1 - Andrew Martin 1G, kieran Cullen 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 1** - Tal Litmanovitch 1G, Michael David 1A.

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 5 - Quinn McGowan 3G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G 1A, Kelly Hudson 1G1A, Cole Roffey 1A, Scott Cosentino 1A. **902 Boston Gold 1** - Connor Flynn 1G.

908 Crabby Joe's Grey 5 - Ryan Eberlin 1G 1A, Quinn Harris 1G 1A, Ryan Dalcin 2G, Eamon Reilly 1G 1A, Tyler White 1A, Jason Eberlin 1A. **906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 5** - Alexander Seto 3G, Chris Falfalios 1G 1A, William Tang 1G, William He 1A.

905 ATS Healthcare Black 5 - Vince Duggan 3G, Drew Marshall 1G, Will Brogan 1G, Adam Durante 3A, Martin Wood 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 2** - Matthew Roach 1G, Jason Mizuguchi 1G.

904 St. Louis Blue 4 - Alex Woodward 1G 2A,

Eric Bulloch 1G, Andrew Hall 1G, Matthew Warner 1G, JP Hudon 2A, David Roberts 1A. **910 Philly Orange 1** - Daniel LaFlamme 1G, Ryan St. Germain 1A, Brian Pedron 1A.

905 ATS Healthcare Black 5 - Vince Duggan 1G 2A, Drew Marshall 2G, Adam Durante 1G, Zachary Cook 1G. **910 Philly Orange 2** - Daniel LaFlamme 1G, Ryan Rival 1G, Jeremia Diaz 1A.

0908 Crabby Joe's Grey 7 - Eamon Reilly 1G 1A, Jamie Poutney 1G, Tyler White 2G 1A, Ryan Dalcin 1G, Trevor George 1G 2A, Gregory Milligan 1G 1A, Quinn Harris 1A, Madison Shaeffer 2A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 2.**

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 3 - Kelly Hudson 2G, Quinn McGowan 1G, Andrew Walter 1A, Ryan Dowling 1A. **901 Graystones Restaurant Red 2** - Kieran Cullen 1G, Stephen Faiello 1A, Andrew Begg 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 3 - Chris Falfalios 1G, Alexander Seto 1G 1A, Andrew Seguin 1G, Josh Lawlor 1A, Zachary Seto 1A, Mathew Stewart 1A, David Marsillo 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 1** - E Foxwell 1G, T Thiessen 1A.

904 St. Louis Blue 3 - Alex Woodward 1G, Josh Carducci 1G, Eric Bulloch 1G, Braedon Mackenzie 1A. **902 Boston Gold 1** - Ryan Byerlay 1G.

REP LEAGUE

Tyke Select - Aurora 1 - Ryan Catania 1G, Nicholas Giorgio 1A, Charles Huxley 1A. **Ajax 1.**

Tyke Select - Aurora 4 - Nicholas Giorgio 3G 1A, Ryan Bryden 1G 2A, Charles Huxley 1A, Owen Papulkas 1A. **Markham 3.**

Tyke Select - Ajax 3. Aurora 0.

Novice AA - Aurora 3 - Andrew Langlois 1G, Samuel Morin 1G, Evan Ellig 1A, Carter Beswick 1A, Josh Lombard 1G, Geoffrey Wilson 1A, Ethan Cameron 1A. **TNT 2.**

Novice AA - Aurora 4 - Jake Adams 2G, Evan Vierling 1G 2A, Dylan DaCosta 1G 1A, Ben Barber 1A, Ethan Cameron 1A, Josh Lombard 1A. **Markham 2.**

Novice AA - Aurora 4 - Samuel Morin 1G, Evan Vierling 1G, Ethan Cameron 1G, Geoffrey Wilson 1G, Daniel Gaeta 1A, Zachary Kolm 1A, Josh Lombard 1A. **Richmond Hill 1.**

M Atom AA - Aurora 2 - Luke O'Keefe 1G, Wesley Reid 1A, Ben Liotta 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 1A. **Markham 2.**

M Atom AA - Aurora 6 - Harris Goan 1G, Anthony DiPietro 1G 1A, Luke O'Keefe 1G, Luke Jarvis 3A, Wesley Reid 1G 2A, Tyler Sawyer 2A, Jeremy Gonsalves 1A, Andrew Wolanski 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 1G, Myles Vasilevski 1A, Ben Liotta 1A. **TNT 2.**

M Atom AA - Aurora 6 - Ben Liotta 1G 1A, Anthony Iacovetta 1A, Andrew Park 1G 1A, Anthony DiPietro 2G, Harris Goan 1G 1A, Tyler Sawyer 2A, Wesley Reid 1G, Luke Jarvis 1A. **Georgina 6.**

M Atom AE - Newmarket 2. Aurora 1 - Alex Sandras 1G, Luc Catania 1A, Thomas Childerhose 1A.

Atom A - Collingwood 7. Aurora 3 - Andrew Cundari 2G 1A, Ryan Jamieson 1G 2A, Cameron Tyndall 1A, Jamie Stewart 1A.

Atom A - Barrie 7. Aurora 1- Ben Spittle 1G, Joseph Grassa 1A, Anthony Capraro 1A.

Atom A - Aurora 4 - Anthony Capraro 1G, Ben Spittle 2G, Jason Cox 1G 1A, Peter Chimienti 1A, Ryan Jamieson 1A, Jaedon Jackson 1A. **Lindsay 1.**

Atom A - Stouffville 7. Aurora 2 - Ben Spittle 1G, Jaedon Jackson 1A, Anthony Capraro 1G, Ryan Jamieson 1A.

Atom AE - Aurora 5 - Finn Reeves 2G, Braeden Joynt 1G, Justin Evans 1G, Sebastian Giorgio Thomas Morra 2A, Michael Fodero 1A, Stephen Silverio 1A, Jason Langdon 1A, Nicholas Keller 2A, Lucas Surace 1A, Adam DePiero 1A. **Orangeville 1.**

Atom AE - Newmarket 2. Aurora 1 - Finn Reeves 1G.

Atom AE - Milton 4. Aurora 0.

Atom AE - Whitby 3. Aurora 2 - Braeden Joynt 1G, Justin Evans 1A, Finn Reeves 1G, Adam DePiero 1A.

Atom AE - Aurora 4 - Justin Evans 3G, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1A, Stephen Silverio 1A, Fraser Ciocca 1A, Lucas Surace 1G. **Richmond Hill 1.**

Atom AE - Markham 3. Aurora 0.

Peewee AA - Aurora 2 - Alec Magnante 1G, Taylor Kauffeldt 1A, Cameron Morrison 1G, Tyler Williams 1A. **Markham 1.**

Peewee AA - Georgina 3. Aurora 2 - Taylor

Kauffeldt 1G, Cameron Morrison 1G, Keegan Matthew 1A, Michael Shum 1A, Patrick Servideo 1A.

Peewee A - Aurora 3 - Daniel McConnell 1G 1A, Cameron Zinner 1G, Colin Kostin 1G, Bryan Manweiler 1A, Anthony Orlandi 1A. **Richmond Hill 2.**

Peewee A - Aurora 4 - Ryan Coveart 1G, Colin Kostin 2G 1A, Daniel McConnell 1G, 1A, Bryan Manweiler 1A, Matthew Liscio 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

Peewee A - Aurora 3 - Alistair Johnston 3G, Evan Cherubini 3A, Ryan Coveart 1A, Eric Shennan 1A, Cole Chapman, shutout. **Stouffville 0.**

Peewee A - Aurora 3 - Spencer White 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1G, Alistair Johnston 1G 1A, Evan Cherubini 1A, Matthew Liscio 1A, Colin Kostin 1A, Eric Shennan 1A. **Richmond Hill 1.**

Peewee A - East Gwillimbury 4. Aurora 3 - Cameron Zinner 1G, Alistair Johnston 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1G, Michael DaCosta 1A, Evan Cherubini 1A, Shaun Broad 1A, Eric Shennan 1A.

Peewee AE - Aurora 5 - Christian Arcuri 1G, Jordi Severini 1G 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1G, Michael DaCosta 1G, Cooper Hewgill 1G, Zach Fletcher 1A, Connor Downs 2A, Brendin Ramsay 1A, Louie Kirkos, shutout. **Golden Hawks 0.**

Peewee AE - Aurora 1 - Jeffrey McKay 1G, Connor Downs 1A, Cameron Anderson 1A. **Whitby 1.**

Peewee AE - Ancaster 4. Aurora 1 - Brendin Ramsay 1G, Jordi Severini 1A.

Bantam AA - Aurora 9 - Brett Thiessen 3G 1A, Quentin Campbell 2G 2A, Connor Cowl 1G 2A, Konner McMillan 1G 1A, Spencer Green 1G, Nick Scott 1G 1A, Jordan Nanos 3A, Matt Iwai 2A, John MacDonald 1A, Austin Lane 1A, Nic Delzotto 1A. **Barrie 1.**

Bantam AA - Aurora 5 - Lucas Pozzebon 2G 1A, Spencer Green 2G, John MacDonald 2A, Konner McMillan 1G, Nick Scott 1A, Tait Snedden 1A, Quentin Campbell 1A. **TNT 1.**

Bantam A - East Gwillimbury 2. Aurora 1 - Liam Coll 1G, Liam Beresford 1A.

Bantam A - Aurora 3 - Erik Balkovec 1G 1A, Mitch Arnew 1G, Zac Cowl 1G, Liam Coll 1A. **Orillia 2.**

Bantam A - Aurora 5 - Liam Beresford 4G 1A, Austin Persaud 1G, Robert Stokes 1A, Liam Coll 2A, Zac Cowl 1A, Gabe Oulahan 1A. **Schomberg 4.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 2 - Nicklaus Steiner 1G, Kyle Nice 1G, Nelson Hossack 1A. **Barrie 3.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 7 - Johnathan Read, shutout. Victor Chadarov 1G 1A, Brayden Beswick 1G 2A, Matthew Reynolds 1G, Nicklaus Steiner 1G 1A, Kyle Nice 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1G 1A, Scott Kostin 1G 1A, Joel Gouveia 1A, Jonah Blaser 2A, Brian Langdon 2A. **East Gwillimbury 0.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 1 - Kevin Spiering, shutout, Kyle Nice 1G. **Stouffville 0.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 6 - Jonah Blaser 1G, Kyle Nice 1G 1A, Brayden Beswick 1G, Scott Kostin 1G, Nathan Nealon 1G, Victor Chadarov 1A, Brett Bond 1A, Nathan Sinclair 2A, Nicklaus Steiner 1A, Matthew Reynolds 1A, Nelson Hossack 1A, Nathan Nealon 1G. **Newmarket 5.**

M Midget A - Aurora 9 - Conor Fennell 3G, Eric Archibald 1G 1A, Ryan Baskin 1G, Andrew McDonald 2G 1A, Hayden Trask 1G, Quincy Ing 1G 2A, Liam Killops 2A, Liam MacKichan 1A, Matthew Pryse 1A, Eric Damecour 1A. **Orillia 1.**

M Midget - Barrie 4. Aurora 2 - Ryan Baskin 1G, Quincy Ing 1G 1A, Daniel Fiori 1A.,

M Midget A - Aurora 4 - Eric Archibald 1G, Andrew McDonald 2G, Ryan Baskin 1A, Quincy Ing 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1A, Liam MacKichan 1A, Matthew Pryse 1A, Eric Damecour 1G, Liam Killops 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

M Midget A - Aurora 3 - Hayden Trask 1G, Ryan Baskin 1G, Conor Fennell 1G, Vincent Ruscica 1A, Eric Archibald 1A, Daniel Fiori 1A. **East Gwillimbury 1.**

M Midget A - Aurora 4 - Liam Killops 1G 1A, Andrew McDonald 1G, Conor Fennell 1G, Matthew Pryse 2A, Quincy Ing 3A, Colton Lee 1G 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 2 - Connor Moody 1G, Collin Laird 1G, Eliot Harkin 1A. **Whitby 4.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 2 - Sasha Dajia 1G, Connor McQuillan 1G, Connor Moody 2A. **TNT 1.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 2 - Connor McQuillan 1G, Eliot Harkin 1G, Collin Laird 1A, Paul Steiner 1A, Kyle Fedec 1A. **Markham 1.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 3 - Eliot Harkin 2G, Kyle Fedec 1G 1A, Connor Moody 1A, Casy Severini 1A, Matthew Reeves 1A, Paul Steiner 1A. **Barrie 3.**

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Tigers win two, lose to Newmarket 3-0

The Aurora Tigers picked up four of a possible six points last week, winning two of three games in the Provincial Junior A hockey league.

Sunday afternoon in Aurora, the Tigers handed the Milton Icehawks a 6-2 drubbing in front of only 105 fans, while defeating the powerful Stouffville Spirit 9-6 Thursday night in the Stouffville Arena.

They couldn't, however, solve the Battle of Yonge Street, as they lost 3-0 Friday to the Newmarket Hurricanes in front of a hometown crowd of more than 200.

Sunday afternoon, the Tigers played their final game of 2010.

Knick Dawe stopped 22 of 24 shots for the win.

Friday night, the Hurricanes needed only the second period to score three unanswered goals, and give Newmarket a 3-0 win and a commanding 3-1 lead in the Battle of Yonge Street series.

Aurora has beaten Newmarket only once in four games so far this season, when they won 4-3 October 29.

Newmarket still leads the North Division, and

the league for that matter, with a total of 64 points, thanks to 25 wins.

Aurora, meanwhile, thanks to its four points last week, has sole possession of fifth place in the north division, and are four points ahead of Orangeville. Tigers have 34 points, based on 12 victories so far this season.

On Friday, the Hurricanes scored power play goals in the first and last minutes of the second period en route to a 3-0 shutout the Tigers.

The feisty Tigers tried to get Newmarket off its

game but the Hurricanes were in control throughout as the score could have been much more one-sided, considering the Canes hit four goal posts.

Jimmy Sarjeant posted his OJHL-leading fourth shutout of the season, stopping 19 shots.

Newmarket peppered Aurora's Knick Dawe with 42.

Despite a substantial edge in play, Newmarket headed to the dressing room scoreless after the first 20 minutes of play.

Josh Phillips scored on a power play early in period two.

Morgan Bonner picked up his team-leading 23rd goal of the season midway through the stanza to put the Canes up by a pair.

Chris Chiste wrapped up a penalty-filled middle frame with Newmarket's second man-advantage marker.

The third frame saw a spirited bout between Kevin Woodyatt and Aurora's Patrick Moran. However, no goals were scored.

Sunday afternoon the Tigers played their final game of 2010 and came

away with a 6-2 victory over the Milton Icehawks.

Jordan Gidaro and Kyle McLaughlin each had a pair of goals for Aurora.

Jordan Reed had a goal and two assists, while Sloan Stewart also scored.

The Tigers are now off for the Christmas Break and return to action in 2011 on Sunday, January 2nd when they meet the visiting Orangeville Flyers.

Game time at the Aurora Community Centre is 2.30 p.m.

Councillors will hold off-site meet in King

Aurora Council approved a recommendation to hold an offsite education meeting in the New Year near King City, a meeting which will be behind closed doors, despite objections from some councillors.

The meeting will be held at the Kingbridge Centre from Friday, January 14 at 6 p.m. and will wrap up the following morning.

Topics discussed during the meeting are expected to include the development of a strategic plan, budget pressures and options, land/space accommodations, and the needs of Aurora youth.

For Councillor Wendy Gaertner, discussing new information behind closed doors was not something of which she could vote in favour, including the development of a strategic plan, and pressures relating to the upcoming budget.

"This is an education and training session, so there will be no seeking of council direction on any one given item," responded Aurora CAO Neil Garbe to Councillor Gaertner's concerns.

"It will be an education on municipal finances, what the structure of the reserve funds are, what the future forecast and what the current budget environment look like, some pressures we already know about that council will be dealing with, and council will have the opportunity to ask us clarifying questions."

Councillor Gaertner also questioned the inclusion of land space accommodation and youth needs. Both, she said, were subjects of consultants' reports and hadn't been presented to the public.

"I will repeat that it will be presenting the findings of the study and there is no discussion of the substance of it," said Mr.

Garbe. "The same discussion will be presented in public. It is the opportunity to have dialogue about what the findings are. It is not about making decisions on what the recommendations will be."

Dialogue continued between Mr. Garbe and Councillor Gaertner over the content of the meeting, with Councillor Gaertner countering that "presenting any new information or any new documentation" that hasn't been put out in the public is "inappropriate, and if it is considering information that will provide the basis of any future decisions then, according to the ombudsman, that is not appropriate."

That is why the Town of Aurora relies on its solicitor, said Mr. Garbe, to vet all material to ensure that everything is kept on track.

"Staff will be in attendance, and it is our jobs that we follow what is intended in the legislation to make sure the information is presented in a way that conforms with the legislation and provides an opportunity for council to be educated in this manner."

Councillor Evelyn Buck, however, said that offsite orientation meetings have been a practice in the Town for quite some time.

"I would not want the public to get the impression that the council is doing anything that is inappropriate despite whatever comments might have been made by the ombudsman, but an orientation meeting is a practice undertaken and has been undertaken for many years for the benefit of new members of council elected to bring them up to speed on what the issues are that are facing the municipality...in the next four years," she said. "It's absolutely imperative that new members of council be given that opportuni-

ty. It is a fast learning curve. The last one I went to went from Friday afternoon to Sunday at lunch time, so this is certainly shorter than it has been in the past and it is a matter of councillors giving up an entire weekend in order to inform themselves.

New Councillors Michael Thompson and Sandra Humfries appeared to agree with Councillor Buck's assessment.

Councillor Thompson, in particular, said he liked the idea of meeting before the budget process to learn more about the budget and issues that may be a factor.

Councillor Humfries, however, said she has already seen the benefits of an offsite orientation meeting.

"Obviously we've got great direction from our Town Solicitor but from my experience though, I think this is more of an approach from a team building exercise to get to know each other, how we work, what our backgrounds are, along

with some of the strategies that are presented to us.

"Again, from background experience in leading teams, it is a good way to start in the right direction."

On the other hand, Councillor Chris Ballard, who said he has no objection for a council education meeting, said he opposed the motion due to its out-of-town location and access.

"I really haven't heard anything here that I wouldn't want to hear in public," he said. "I just have a fundamental issue that [it] happens behind closed doors no matter how above board we are."

But for Councillor Buck, an offsite orientation would put council back on track.

"We did not have [an offsite orientation meeting] in the last term," she said. "I believe that was not a good thing for the council as it went forward that we did not have an opportunity for an offsite orientation meeting. We started off at a disadvantage and we stayed that way for four years!"

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Tuesday to Friday



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Monday night hockey results

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
Masterclean Contracting	9	2	1	50	28	19
Highland Chev-Olds-Gep-Cad	8	3	1	45	35	17
Copper Creek	6	5	1	46	39	13
FPL Aggregates	6	5	1	40	44	13
Copper Creek	6	5	1	46	39	13
Baldwin's	5	6	1	56	56	11
Rec Cycle N' Sports	4	6	2	34	43	10
Priestly Demolition	3	8	1	39	45	7
Tom & Jerry's	2	8	2	37	45	6

WEEKLY RESULTS

Highlands Chev	5	Copper Creek	3
FPL Aggregates	3	Tom & Jerrys	3
Priestly Demolition	3	Masterclean	7
Rec Sports	0	Baldwin's	2

PLAYER STANDINGS

	G	A	Pts.
John Archibald Copper Creek	8	13	21
Al Perkins Baldwins	12	8	20
Steve Kavanagh Baldwins	7	13	20
Tom Hussey Copper Creek	8	11	19
Ryan Spampinato Tom & Jerry's	9	8	17
Mark Sedore Priestly	10	6	16
Brad McMillan Baldwins	8	8	16
Paul Wolanski Copper Creek	8	8	16
Kevin O'Keefe Highlands	6	9	15
Darren Yaremko FPL	7	7	14
John Leeder Baldwins	6	8	14
Rob Carnegie Masterclean	1	13	14
Jeff Sleep Rec Sports	9	4	13
Pat O'Mahoney Masterclean	8	5	13
Rob Blakely Masterclean	7	6	13
Ed Kilroy Rec Sports	6	7	13
Craig McConnell Highlands	4	9	13
Ed Jackson Baldwins	3	9	12
John Andersen Rec Sports	9	2	11
Phil Podstatzky Priestly	8	3	11
Ken Fisher Highlands	8	3	11
Steve Robertson Masterclean	6	5	11
Gareth McDonald Priestly	4	7	11
Ryan Bryce Masterclean	5	5	10
Raz Khamissa Tom & Jerry's	5	5	10
Dave Caverley FPL	4	6	10
Scott Crabbe Highlands	6	3	9
Doug Adair Rec Sports	5	4	9
Ken Rumble Highlands	5	4	9
Glen Bince FPL	4	5	9
Jody Matthews Highlands	4	5	9
Ron Thiessen Tom & Jerry's	4	5	9
Murray Campbell Highlands	4	4	8
Ron VanNoort FPL	4	4	8
Alain Boudreau Masterclean	2	6	8
Jody Matthews Highlands	4	5	9
Darryl Thompson Tom & Jerry's	3	5	8
Don Nichols Copper Creek	4	3	7
Sam Speranini Masterclean	4	3	7
Craig Gellatly FPL	3	4	7
Steve MacDonald Tom & Jerry's	3	4	7
Bob Nunn Baldwins	3	4	7
Mike O'Connor Copper Creek	3	4	7
Peter Briand Baldwins	2	5	7
Hugh Alcorn Masterclean	1	6	7
Ken Heinrich Rec Sports	1	6	7

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Town seeks allocation report

The Town of Aurora needs to come up with a new pool allocation policy, according to Yvonne Catrall, head of the Aurora Selkies Swim Team.

Ms. Catrall was on hand at last Tuesday's Council meeting, along with swim coach Gudmundur Hafthorsson, and club members, young and seasoned alike, to make her case known.

A draft pool allocation policy was drafted by the Town two years ago, she said, after they petitioned for equal access to Town pools comparable to other area swim clubs, such as the Aurora Master Ducks.

But the team is "no farther ahead today than we were in 2008 when taking into consideration a fair, equitable, and transparent pool allocation policy guideline," she said.

Since the 2007-8 season, the Selkies have increased from 37 members with eight pool lane hours to 150 members with 35 lane hours weekly in the 2009-2010 season.

"I closed our membership last year on December 31 and began taking a waiting list," she said. "As of today, we have 215 members for the current 2010-2011 season. I closed my memberships even earlier this year, two weeks into the program on September 30. We now have an even longer waiting list than last year."

The team, however, has been "short changed" compared to other clubs "when it comes to fair and equal access to Town pools for training purposes", she said.

"We are being strongly opposed by two other user groups who secured their posi-

tions first in Town pools," she said. "When my membership numbers were low, we were all happy to focus on a policy where Aurora resident numbers would be taken into account. Now that my numbers are higher, all talks turn to a possible contract agreement signing procedure. I have no issue with signing any three to five-year agreement with the Town for pool allocation. I am fully aware of the benefits to all parties involved.

"As long as the allocation of available pool lane hours is properly and fairly allocated, I would be happy to sign any agreement or contract. I'm not asking for much - just the right to be treated without discrimination against myself and my swimmers.

"The Town of Markham has recently implemented their pool allocation policy which proves it can be done."

Ms. Catrall's comments were received by council and referred to an item of correspondence placed on the agenda by Councillor Chris Ballard. Councillor Ballard then proposed a motion that the issue of pool allocation be referred to the January 18 General Committee meeting for the receipt of a staff report on the issue.

He indicated he wanted the staff report to include a copy of the Town's draft pool allocation policy, a copy of relevant council resolutions, "an explanation as to why the pool allocation policy was not brought back to council at the end of the three month deferral period [and] whether any staff member has bound the Town by entering into a contract with any of the swim groups outside of what was directed by council outside of its June 2009

meeting."

Councillor Buck objected to the motion as she felt it implied staff had done something "inappropriate."

"My problem is the insinuation that something inappropriate has been done by staff and I don't see that it should be allowed to stand," she said. "If Councillor Ballard would like to take that out, the reference to any agreements or contracts being signed without the authority of council then I will go along with the resolution."

Councillor Ballard, however, said that the motion did not infer anything.

"It simply asks whether or not," he said. "That is not an insinuation in my books. That is simply a question of whether this happened or not. The answer may be no."

The very inclusion insinuates that something happened, countered Councillor Paul Pirri.

"I would prefer that we move forward without it because...I feel like having it put in there automatically infers something has gone wrong."

Newly minted Deputy Mayor John Abel, said that all these answers would come forward if they motioned simply for a "full staff report."

"I simply want some clarification on what happened to the resolutions coming out of [those dates]," said Councillor Ballard. "If there is some guarantee to me that those can be dealt with in a full report, I am quite happy to amend this to say I want a full report on what happened to the pool allocation policy and to Council resolutions from June 2009."

Councillors approved the amended motion and Al Downey, Director of Parks and Recreation Services, anticipates the full report will be ready for the January meeting.



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SPCA set to reopen, he tells council

After the ringworm outbreak earlier this year, the York Region branch of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is looking to rebrand itself for the future.

The reputation of the Newmarket-based York Region

SPCA took a hit when it announced its decision to euthanize hundreds of animals following the April outbreak.

Scores of people converged to protest the decision at the Woodbine Avenue facility.

Closed since the outbreak in April, the Newmarket SPCA

is slated to reopen in early 2011 as the new "Provincial Education & Animal Centre".

"You probably refer to [the facility] as either 'The Shelter', 'The Humane Society', or the 'York Region Branch', but that is all about to change - and change big time!" said Brian

Moreau of the SPCA at last Tuesday's council Meeting.

"While the Shelter has been effectively closed for eight months due to the ringworm outbreak, we still had to maintain our animal rescue services for the towns of Aurora, Markham, and Richmond Hill,

as well as fulfilling our mandate of the Ontario SPCA Act to enforce animal cruelty laws in York Region."

Mr. Moreau called the outbreak an "unfortunate and isolated incident" but one that brought positive outcomes to the organization.

"It allowed our management team to rethink our delivery and protocols of animal welfare services, care and rehabilitation, advocacy and humane education," he said.

Staff members of the SPCA are pulling together towards a common cause, noted SPCA Officer Brad Dewar, which he called a "full sea of change" which includes rebranding, changing the culture of the SPCA, and making it a "flagship branch" for the province.

"It is our pet project and will be a valuable resource for the communities we serve in all areas of animal welfare," said Mr. Dewar.

Mr. Moreau said the Centre

will provide experiences for volunteers and donors, and also serve to help educate kids "for compassion for living things".

"Part of our job at the OSPCA is to save lives and we take that duty seriously," he added. "We help save the lives of animals that would otherwise die and place companion animals into qualified homes. The new Provincial Education and Animal Centre will be an integral resource for animal welfare communities and partners across the province and we truly believe across the country."

"It will provide practical and leading edge methodologies to build both sustainability and capacity in animal welfare."

For Mr. Dewar, the rebranding of the SPCA builds on its legacy and looks towards the future.

"The new Centre is truly about continuous improvements in humane education," he said.

Council reconsidering lawsuit

From page 1

after the December 14 vote. "Would it be nice to deal with this situation before Christmas? Yes, but we'll see."

Although Councillor Gaertner voted in favour of Councillor Thompson's notice of motion to reconsider the lawsuit, despite giving the go-ahead in September, she gave no indication that her vote will be any different when the reconsideration comes forward.

"At a council table we have to debate," she said. "I want to hear what Michael Thompson says about his reasons for wanting to reconsider it. He has the right to want to consider something. I want to hear what he has to say [and] to vote against it would have just been a slap in the face."

"I made my [initial] decision based on facts and reasons I believe were important, so unless I hear something to change my opinion of why I voted the way I did the first time, I can't see that I'll

change my mind."

For Richard Johnson, who was named in the lawsuit along with former Councillor Bill Hogg and Elizabeth Bishenden, the notice of motion to reconsider is a step in the right direction. Although he expressed concerns about the timing, he said he is optimistic.

"I'm confident that the Town and the council have the desired will to revisit it," said Mr. Johnson, who was on hand for the vote. "I will leave it to their good judgement. I'm a little bit baffled that we can be in this position in the first place and I just hope it is resolved sooner rather than later."

He added that it was "hard to find the words" when looking at how the lawsuit unfolded, forcing residents to "spend tens of thousands of dollars" to defend themselves.

"It's unconscionable [what the Council chose] to do to residents in the name of integrity and democracy," he said. "It's pretty appalling. I

think this council has demonstrated a will to change its

PACT may watch parks

From page 1

exceptions, and obtain police clearance.

"They are making a solid commitment to be part of it," she said. "They're going to [be dedicated] so it is not just a leisurely walk in the park. They also have to agree to attend 80 per cent of the meetings, which keeps them informed, and keeps them abreast of new information. This is not a situation where people will engage. They give the information to people who can do something. They're not going to be around and picking up needles from the park and they're not going to be hassling the people that are hassling others. They will call the appropriate authorities to do so."

According to Ms. Skillins, Vaughan adopted the program in 2005, where it has been successful. The suc-

cess in the city is a testament to the program's integrity, she added. Richmond Hill, Markham, and Barrie have also started similar programs.

"This is something very sustainable and we would like to bring it here," she added. "With [council] support, we can request police training. With your support we can approach your own staff and have an ongoing dialogue about the program. With your support we can also steer the interested citizens in a sustainable format to have active crime prevention in Aurora."

The PACT Parks Ambassador Program has been fully endorsed by York Regional Police and local fire departments.

PACT hopes to begin selecting ambassadors for the program this winter and begin a full launch in the spring.

Gaertner goes after mayor

From page 3

argument put forth by Councillor Gaertner earlier in the evening.

"Dawe's Notice of Motion should not have been printed and circulated with the agenda two contraventions of the procedural bylaw [sic]", read the paper handed over by Councillor Gaertner. "Dawe as chair should know better and Mr. Leach as Clerk should have known a violation existed."

"The agenda as circulated should not be approved. I would exclude the two items off the agenda during approval of the agenda and Dawe can give a verbal Notice of Motion as required per the procedural by-law."

Her notes go on to state that a Motion to Refer is not

debatable or amendable "and shall not be reconsidered or tabled."

"Clearly, one can see how inappropriate Dawe's actions are in these matters," it goes on to say. "First, the Notice of Motion should have been provided verbally during the meeting, second, a Notice of Motion does not have a motion or a vote, and thirdly, a Notice of Motion cannot be referred to a meeting as a Motion to Refer is to refer to another entity and not a different meeting."

These notes were readied in advance of last Tuesday's vote.

"Dawe said he would be upholding the Procedural By-Law to the letter of the law and would apply it consistently and fairly," the note

concludes. "Well, he has failed right from the start. He has breached the procedural by-law right from the start clearly for personal reasons."

Following the meeting, Mayor Dawe said he was "disappointed" by the comments.

"I don't really want to respond to it right now," he said. "There is no personal gain. There is absolutely no personal gain and I am very disappointed they would be there."

On Councillor Gaertner's part, she denied all knowledge of the comments' existence.

"Somebody printed out the notice of motion. What

else is on here?" Councillor Gaertner said, examining the papers when asked to clarify her statements. "Somebody handed this to me. I don't know who wrote this. I was only looking at the [first page covering the procedural bylaw]."

When asked who printed it off and handed it to her, she said "I guess I shouldn't answer because this might get them in trouble."

"I don't know whose comments these are. I have no idea. Do you think that I would hand that to you knowing that there was something like that on the back? I never wrote that, but that is somebody's opinion. That is not my opinion."

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Seniors' Games winners

By BRIAN WARBURTON

York Regional 55+ Senior's Games 2010, Aurora Seniors Association medal winners include: Ten Pin Bowling Bronze, Bill Hofmann. Badminton: 65+ Women's Gold, Myrna Rawlins; Duplicate Bridge: Silver Lucille Sequeira and Audrey Roberts. Hockey: 55+ Gold, Les Mulock. Hockey: 65+ Gold, Sam Isgro and Alex Ansell. Hockey: 65+ Silver,

Jim Thompson; Non-Sanctioned Games. Pickle Ball: 65+ Mixed Gold, Joanne Keates and Charles Sequeira; Pickle Ball: 55+ Men's Gold, James Alberga. Pickle Ball: 55+ Mixed Silver, Minoo Nejed and Joshy Kallungal; Cribbage: Silver, Mike Denny and Dorothy Giles. Carpet Bowling: Silver, Joan Best.

Congratulations to all

these fine senior contestants.

I feel certain that these ASA stars of the Senior Games will be telling stories about the games for years to come.

They also set an excellent example for all who could benefit by the example of those who compete and continue to thrive in the so-called declining years.

They found enjoyment in sport, which eventually carried them to Seniors' Games success. Moreover, their successful endeavours resulted in medals to show for their fun filled efforts and subsequent cherished memories.

Rescheduled tentatively to February 13th, is "Comedy Hour" and this comedy produced by Judy Buchanan, will erupt with life in the depths of winter, when real live entertainment by these senior comedy specialists, will drive winter from our thoughts and create a paradise of laughter and scintillating sketches.

In the meantime, a Karaoke night, also produced by Judy Buchanan will enliven Friday, January 28th, an event that promises members

all the brightness that the human mind can muster.

Judy Buchanan is a strong willed woman and her effort in producing the Karaoke night will bring sparkle to seniors in the middle of January.

Judy is busy in the depths of this winter, and the forced suspension of the "Comedy Hour" was an unexpected blow.

However, the suspension now serves to validate constant assertions that seniors really possess indomitable reserves of tenacity.

The Evergreen Choir presented a "Holiday Concert" on Tuesday to a large and appreciative audience, which together with the choir members, filled the West McKenzie Hall in the Centre.

Richard Heinzl directed the choir and Hadara Jacoby played piano.

Christmas music was naturally the powerful theme of the evening and when the choir sang "Tis the Season to be Jolly" they captured the sentiments of the audience perfectly.

The choir sang about Christmas the way we feel about Christmas.

The past year presented difficult challenges to the Evergreen Choir, but

an impressive way emerged to resolve them and consequently optimism, confidence and interest all appear to be high and the future of choral music among ASA seniors looms brightly.

Be aware of the holiday hours for the Seniors' Centre, which will close at noon on December 24th, and reopen Tuesday, January 4th, at 9 a.m.

The year will close with the New Year's Eve

Dinner/Dance, and the centre will be open on December 31st to accommodate the dance.

At the time of writing, a few tickets remain available for the dance at \$55 for members and \$60 for non-members, but the likelihood is strong that they will not last long.

In closing this last article of the year, I wish you and your family and friends, a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Aurora's First Night celebrates New Year's

Aurora's mayor and council are inviting the public to take part in the Family First Night event Friday, Dec. 31.

Fun starts at 6 p.m. and runs until 9 p.m. at The Aurora Family Leisure Complex, 135 Industrial Parkway North.

"On behalf of council and the Town, I would like to welcome residents and visitors to join us at Aurora's annual Family First Night," said Mayor Geoffrey Dawe. "Ring in the new year with exciting activities while spending time with family and friends. Let's make this New Year's Eve a night to remember!"

Family First Night offers several activities for the family.

Stay warm with complimentary hot chocolate (while supplies last) and enjoy an evening of fun-filled events including sleigh rides (snow willing), a bonfire, free swimming and skating, a sing-a-long, craft making and skills games.

Children of all ages can enjoy magic shows at 6.30 p.m. and 7.45 p.m., as well as reptile shows at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.

This family event also gives residents and visitors the opportunity to celebrate the arrival of the new year at an alcohol-free community event.

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Council decision “logical”, he says

From page 6 pursuing, it does not have.

I would imagine that a body financed by public funds, as is OMB, would search for the most cost-effective methods to ensure that taxpayers' money is wisely spent.

To have spent close to 4 years on a search for a solution that has produced no resolution in all that time, and to exclude, from all contact, meetings and hearings, the views of an absolutely necessary party to a final decision, is, to me, akin to throwing taxpayers' money down an open sewer.

The Ministry of the Environment has determined that the project does not warrant the issuance of a PTTW. Obviously, the

responsible officials of OMB are aware of this fact.

In the circumstances, would not OMB be normally curious to want to find out why MOE has not seen fit to issue a PTTW, particularly as it reflects so much on their deliberations? But OMB has resisted, at every turn, to get in touch with MOE. As Shakespeare would say, I find this "wondrous strange."

Is it fair and reasonable, then, to ask these questions, "why are we here?"

Is it time to say "enough is enough?" and declare that it is "game over?"

I do hope that you will understand my plea and my frustration. How can OMB even justify spending a day, let alone six weeks, to con-

sider approving the proposed development if, after such a long time, the MOE has not even seen fit to approve a PTTW?

It is assumed that this proposal is "grandfathered" and not affected by the Oak Ridges Moraine Protection Act which was ratified in 2001. I am not of the same opinion. Before 2001 Mr. Lebovic's plan was to build 58 estate homes on at least 2 acre lots. The plan after 2003 calls for 75 condominiums and a golf course.

The only connection between these two different plans is the involvement of Mr. Lebovic. The two plans are totally different and cannot be considered to be grandfathered. Even if somehow Mr. Lebovic can find some loophole, to allow this development

to proceed on the Oak Ridges Moraine is ludicrous.

For more than 20 years, the Ministry of the Environment has refused to issue a PTTW, without which the proposal cannot go forward.

If this proposal were to be approved, the whole concept of rural living in Aurora would be inexorably and forever changed and the town council would be deluged with requests for the same nonsensical treatment from a myriad of owners of five acres and up.

The OMB has completely disregarded the obviously justi-

fied decision by the town council to deny the proposal and has spent countless weeks and untold taxpayers' dollars by holding hearings to allow the developer to present his case. Since the developers do not have a PTTW, without which the proposal cannot proceed, these hearings are, at best, entirely inappropriate and premature.

It is a wonder how even a day could be spent on such a questionable, implausible and completely unlikely proposal, let alone 20 years.

The town's previous coun-

cil's (almost) unanimous decision (the one dissenter was - you guessed it, Evelyn Buck) was obviously right and proper, and must not be rescinded.

I would hope that our new mayor will not choose to countermand a well thought-through decision of our previous council and will have the courage to fight OMB to ensure that the decisions of our town council are respected and that the interests of our town will take precedence.

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By CYNDY SKILLINS

Historical references indicate that mankind and wolves have enjoyed beneficial relationships dating back 10,000 to 15,000 years. The DNA of dogs and Grey wolves differ by 0.2% or less. Mankind and dogs/wolves both are, by nature, pack animals and while there is a different structure to their packs these two mammals worked well to protect and provide for each other in almost a symbiotic relationship. While today we are not fighting Sabre Tooth Tigers or hunting elk for food, the relationships with canines and their human partners are still strong and mutually beneficial.

York Regional Police (YRP) Canine Unit & Police Service Dogs (PSD) have been in service since 1989. YRP has the third largest Canine unit in the province. The 15 officers & 16 PSDs now work out of their new facility on Don Hillock Drive in Aurora. Fifteen of the dogs are German Shepherds and there is one Yellow Labrador Retriever. The Labrador Retriever is used for guns, ammunition and narcotic detection. The German Shepherds are general purpose dogs; this term, general purpose, means these PSDs are trained for tracking, area searches, building searches article searches and criminal apprehension.

The PSD are coupled with one canine officer for its entire working career. The relationship between officer and PSD is remarkable to watch. They rely on their own skills and each other to achieve the desired outcome.

During my interview with Sgt Daryl Holland, my enthusiasm in talking about dogs, one of my passions, dissolved into a realization that this is one of the most challenging and dangerous divisions of policing. Frontline officers have a remarkably challenging and dangerous job. They never know what the next call will bring or how the call will unfold once on site. There may be a baby on its way, cat up a tree or an armed hold-up being reported. The Canine officer and PSD are brought into situations they know have a high probability of violence. ERU have lots of demands, but they also have lots of tools and protection to assist them in their task. The Canine division have their skills and in most cases the same protection as the frontline officer. Occasionally the Canine unit are requested for search and rescue (S&R) where the assumption of violence is low. This call would be for a missing child or wandering elder. In 2009 there were 2,200 calls for Canine assists.

The most commonly used PSD are the European lines of Shepherds. These dogs are well suited for this job and for our climate. They are highly intelligent, ranking as one of the most intelligent dogs. One source states dog's sense of smell is estimated to be 10,000 to 20,000 times more sensitive than a human's. To replace one hour of outdoor search by a police dog you would need 30 police officers. Not all Shepherds are suited for police work. They must have a good mix of desire to obey and independence, courage, drive, ability to train and other specific abilities to even be considered for the job.

Freddy

There are only a few brokers that breed or import PSDs for police services in North America. Dogs are on average 11 months to 2 years when they start their training with an officer. Training takes 4 months but is continuous throughout the dog's and handler's career. Each Canine officer is responsible for the care and maintenance of his canine partner. The PSD works with and is part of the officer's family. While on duty these PSDs are with their Canine officer, training, in their cars, working or in the kennels at the station. Off duty they remain with their handler, but not as a house pet. Their high energy and desire to work is not conducive to sleeping by a roaring fire in the family room as are most typical family pets. They have their own areas at the officer's home, outdoor with their own dog-run and house. The typical working span of these working dogs is 7 to 8 years. At the end of their service time the PSD take their leave with their handler and family to enjoy a well deserved retirement.

The Canine unit works on the same schedule as the platoons which is a rotation of 2 (12 hour) days on, then 2 nights then 4 days off. This allows for 24 hour availability within the Unit for call responses. There are 2 training officers and one Sergeant in the unit. A Canine officer can be messy work; tracking does not always occur on dry clean pathways. An officer can go through 2 or 3 changes of clothing in a single shift. Remarkable physical condition is another demand on the Canine unit members. They must keep up with their PSD while tracking as the dogs are in harness and on leads. Officers are carrying an additional 20 - 30 lbs in vest and waistband with sidearm. There are injuries to both canine officers and their dogs due to the line of work but they endeavour through training to keep the time off to a minimum.


The overall arrests and retrievals for this unit are impressive. They have earned bragging rights for their accomplishments.

From an RCMP source:

A dog can search a car in approximately three minutes. Dogs can work up to four hours with rest intervals. The estimated cost to train a member & dog team is \$60,000. Healthy police service dogs cost less than \$1,000 annually to maintain.

For more information: www.yrpsb.ca/presentations/2010/Apr/

PSD & Canine Unit of YRP...



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