

OAKVILLE The Beaver.

WEEKLY IN PRINT. MUCH MORE ONLINE ANYTIME. InsideHalton.com

OAKVILLE PLACE DENTAL

dentistoakville.com
905-842-6030

\$2.00

IMPACTING YOUR COMMUNITY

OAKVILLE'S BILL FOR GLEN ABBEY FIGHT NOW APPROACHING \$9 MILLION

DAVID LEA
dlea@metroland.com

The Town of Oakville has now spent almost \$9 million on consultants and lawyers in its fight to preserve the Glen Abbey Golf Club, according to a Freedom of Information Act request filed by a local resident.

This was the second request Jill Gowland has filed with the town in an effort to get more information on exactly what the fight to save Glen Abbey has cost.

See THE TOWN, page 18



SPRING ARRIVES

Graham Paine/Metroland

Mike Hundertmark, a Town of Oakville greenhouse worker, tends to plants including these pink and white Amaryllis that are in full bloom inside the Cornwall greenhouse. Spring officially began at 5:58 p.m. on March 20, but has already clearly arrived at the greenhouse, turning it into a virtual floral oasis.

CARSTAR
Collision & Glass Service

www.carstaroakville.com
916 Winston Churchill Blvd.
905-845-7579
2212 Wyecroft Rd.
905-847-2595

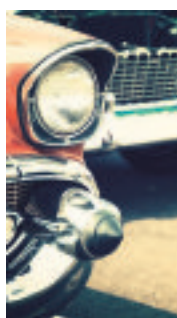
Life's better with an agent



Darryl Demille CFP, Agent
1226 White Oaks Blvd.,
Oakville
905-842-1020

Desjardins Insurance

Visit InsideHalton.com to keep your local news alive!



Remember when new cars cost \$1,300?

Choose your budget and monthly terms to plan final arrangements, and take advantage of today's prices.

Take the first step and get a Family Registry Estate Planner™
905-257-1100

Glen Oaks Funeral Home & Cemetery
by Arbor Memorial
3164 Ninth Line, Oakville, ON • glenoaks.ca

Arbor Memorial Inc.

High quality wood & vinyl shutters

SHUTTERS
ETC.

905.691.4455 www.shuttersetc.ca

WINNER OF BEST WINDOW COVERING & BLIND CENTRE SINCE 2006



THE TOWN HAS FOUGHT CLUBLINK SINCE PLANS WERE ANNOUNCED TO BUILD 3,222 RESIDENTIAL UNITS

Continued from page 1

She filed her first freedom of information request in July 2018 and learned that from 2015 to July 9, 2018 the town spent approximately \$5.3 million on consultants and legal costs related to:

- The creation of the 2016 Interim Control Bylaw (and the extension) for the Glen Abbey property and appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

- ClubLink's applications for the redevelopment of the Glen Abbey property and the appeals to the OMB.

- The identification of the Glen Abbey property as a significant cultural heritage landscape in 2017.

- The designation of the Glen Abbey property under the Ontario Heritage Act in 2017.

- The town's Cultural Heritage Landscape Conservation Plan and bylaw for the Glen Abbey property and the related court application by ClubLink.

- ClubLink's application under the Ontario Heritage Act to remove the golf course, and the related court applications by the town.

The town has been engaged in a fight with Glen Abbey Golf Club owner ClubLink since the organization announced plans to build 3,222 residential units at the site, including nine apartment buildings between nine and 12 storeys.

The company also wants to build 69,000 square feet of commercial/retail space and 107,000 square feet of office space at the site.

Town staff have argued

that amount of development is not permitted or appropriate for the site and would amount to an unplanned growth area.

In January 2019 Gowland filed a second freedom of information request with the town and found that from July 9 to the end of 2018 the town spent an additional \$3.6 million on consultants and legal fees related to the Glen Abbey fight.

Included in this figure were the bulk of the costs involved for two hearings before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

One hearing, which occurred July 16-17, 2018, focused on whether ClubLink even had the right to apply to demolish the golf course given the property is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

A second hearing,

which took place Oct. 22-23, 2018, involved a challenge by ClubLink to the conservation plan and related bylaws, which the Town of Oakville put in place to protect Glen Abbey Golf Course.

Judge Edward Morgan ruled against the town following both hearings.

The town has appealed these decisions to the Ontario Court of Appeal.

The demolition application matter is scheduled to be heard May 21 and the conservation plan matter is scheduled for May 23.

Since the matters have been appealed any court costs the town may have to pay to ClubLink for these hearings are not captured in Gowland's freedom of information request.

The latest request does show the town had to cover ClubLink's court costs to

the tune of \$16,500 after the town lost at the OMB in June 2017.

The town had argued ClubLink's development application was incomplete, however, ClubLink appealed the matter to the OMB, which declared the application was complete.

The freedom of information request also showed that from July 9 to Dec. 31, 2018 the law firm Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP alone got more than \$2.9 million from the town while the corporate law firm Goodmans LLP got more than \$619,000.

The litigation firm Lenczner Slaght Royce Smith Griffin LLP got another \$49,780 while the consultants Macaulay Shiomi Howson Ltd., were paid nearly \$9,000.

Gowland, who was upset when the costs of fight-

THE ISSUE:
THE ONGOING BATTLE BETWEEN THE TOWN AND CLUBLINK ON THE FUTURE OF GLEN ABBEY

LOCAL IMPACT:
THE FUTURE OF AN ENTIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD IS BEING DECIDED

ing to save Glen Abbey were \$5.3 million, is deeply concerned the figure is rapidly increasing with no end to the Glen Abbey litigation in sight.

"This is going to hit \$10 million before the end of this year," she said.

"I'm just so fed up with the town spending money on this kind of issue ... They are trying to tell a private company how to run their business. That just isn't something the town

See - page 19

Join Us for an Informative Presentation What to Expect in 2019 Volatility and How to Manage It

Topics of discussion include:

- Using low volatility products to minimize downside risk
- Using active strategies for tactical portfolio management
- Why many investors fail
- Angela's time tested investment approach to wealth creation
- Benefits of advice and discipline

Hosted by:

Angela J. Galer-Grist, CIM, CFP®, FMA, BA,
Investment Advisor, Financial Planner, BMO Nesbitt Burns

Featured Speaker:

Laura Tase, cfa, Director BMO Exchange Traded Funds

Date: Wednesday March 27th, 2019

Time: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Location: Art Gallery of Burlington, 1333 Lakeshore Road, Burlington, Ontario L7S 1A9

Light Refreshments Will Be Served

Please RSVP early to reserve your seat. Space is limited.

Contact Angela at 905-681-6031 or angela.galergrist@nbpcd.com

BMO Wealth Management

We're here to help™

Sponsored in part by
BMO Global Asset Management

BMO Wealth Management is the brand name for a business group consisting of Bank of Montreal and certain of its affiliates, including BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., in providing wealth management products and services. © "BMO (M-bar roundel symbol)" is a registered trade-mark of Bank of Montreal, used under licence. © "Nesbitt Burns" is a registered trade-mark of BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc. BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Montreal. If you are already a client of BMO Nesbitt Burns, please contact your Investment Advisor for more information.

MUSIC LESSONS Guitar, Piano, Drums, Vocal & Ukulele

Sign up today...

- NO REGISTRATION FEES
- NO CONTRACTS
- PRIVATE - ONE ON ONE
- ALL AGES WELCOME
- ALL LEVELS AVAILABLE, BEGINNER TO ADVANCED

HUGE SELECTION OF GUITARS, AMPS, UKULELES, ACCESSORIES & MORE!

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS MUSIC LESSONS

Expert Service and World Class Repairs

THE GUITAR WORLD

905.257.3110 • theguitarworldoakville.com

380 Dundas St. E. at Trafalgar Road in Longo's Plaza

BOSS Godin PERLEY Seagull YAMAHA Ibanez EVH

NEWS

Continued from page 18

government should be doing."

Gowland emphasized she has no connections to ClubLink but supports the project they have proposed particularly the large green space area that would be open to the public.

She slammed the town for spending millions fighting ClubLink rather than working with the company on the redevelopment.

"Why isn't there someone on the council that sees the advantages of allowing this redevelopment," Gowland asked.

"It's mind-boggling. It's horrifying because there are so many other things they could be spending this kind of money on."

Not everyone agrees. Bill McKinlay, a spokesperson with the Save Glen Abbey Coalition, said the group continues to support the town's efforts to prevent the world-renowned golf course from being developed.

"At Save Glen Abbey,



Graham Paine/MetroLocal

Re-development of the Glen Abbey Golf Club property, pictured during the 2018 Canadian Open, is pitting Oakville against ClubLink.

we believe the town is absolutely doing the right thing in defending their right to plan and have their planning decisions upheld," said McKinlay.

"This is really a fight for municipal democracy. As far as the investment the town is making in this -

Glen Abbey is a historical property, the community was built around it - if Glen Abbey is not worth fighting for, then what is?"

Oakville Mayor Rob Burton has previously said the cost of saving Glen Abbey will be comparable to saving green space and

limiting growth to what fit in north Oakville.

He has argued the fight is about more than just a golf course.

"Any municipality that cannot defend its official plan's rules for land use doesn't really have an official plan and its neighbourhoods are wide open to whatever developers want," said Burton.

"That's why council and I are so committed to defending our town and its policies."

Burton has previously mentioned his support for maintaining a strong legal defence reserve so the town can fight these legal battles.

According to the town's director of strategy, policy and communications Jane Courtemanche, the town has amalgamated its litigation reserve into a broader tax stabilization reserve of more than \$40 million.

These funds come from a variety of sources such as annual Town surpluses and capital gains on investments and are used to provide funding for things like

litigation and unforeseen storm events.

When asked why the town doesn't rely more on its own lawyers to handle the Glen Abbey litigation, as opposed to hiring outside law firms, Courtemanche said the town tries to strike a balance in the use of its internal and external legal resources.

"The town's legal team provides legal advice and support to all town departments on a wide variety of issues including developing bylaws, prosecuting offences, undertaking real estate transactions, providing legal advice on planning matters, and representing the town at various tribunals and courts," said Courtemanche.

"It is simply not possible to drop this work to take on a complex and lengthy litigation file such as Glen Abbey. The town is better served by seeking external specialized legal experts for this type of case. We do make every effort to manage external legal costs, but as noted previously, the number of court ac-

tions and appeals launched by ClubLink on this file is without precedence for the town."

The town and ClubLink are expected to have multiple courtroom clashes in the near future.

On Dec. 17, 2018 ClubLink applied to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice to quash Glen Abbey Golf Course's heritage designation, which Oakville council put in place on Dec. 20, 2017.

The hearing date for this challenge has yet to be determined.

ClubLink's appeal of council's rejection of their development proposal will be heard by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal on July 6, 2020.

That hearing is not expected to conclude until Nov. 20, 2020.

STORY BEHIND THE STORY

The Town of Oakville has now spent almost \$9 million in its fight to preserve the Glen Abbey Golf Club.

NOFRILLS

3.77 LB 8.31KG SIRLOIN TIP OVEN ROAST cut from Canada AA grade beef or higher or USDA select grade beef or higher

4.97 ST HUBERT or SWISS CHALET MEAT PIES selected varieties, frozen, 650-800 g

1.87 EA BLUEBERRIES product of U.S.A. or Mexico, no 1 grade or HONEYDEW product of Guatemala or Honduras

3.77 ARMSTRONG BARS 400-500 g or NO NAME® SHREDDED 320 g CHEESE selected varieties

1.97 COUNTRY HARVEST BREAD or BAGELS selected varieties 460-600 g

2.00 NEILSON CREAM 5%/10% 1 L or 18%/35% 473 mL, INTERNATIONAL DELIGHT or BAILEYS COFFEE ENHANCER 473/400 mL

897 ROYALE BATHROOM TISSUE

2.97 SCHNEIDERS BACON 375 g or SMOKED SAUSAGES 375 g/450 g or MAPLE LEAF READY CRISP BACON 65 g selected varieties

30 = 60 ROLLS

1395 Abbeywood Drive, Oakville

FLYER PRICES EFFECTIVE IN ONTARIO STORES ONLY. THURSDAY, MARCH 21 TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019. nofrills.ca

MANY ITEMS WILL BE SOLD ON THE BASIS OF

NO MINIMUM - NO RESERVE PUBLIC AUCTION

INVESTORS DREAM - ONE DAY ONLY

SWISS MADE WATCHES

ROLEX - PATEK - CARTIER - AUDEMARS PIGUET AND MORE

GIA CERTIFIED DIAMONDS AND PRECIOUS JEWELS

Date: Sunday March 24th, 2019
Preview from 1.00 P.M.
Auction at 2.00 P.M. Sharp

Location: Holiday Inn Bronte
2525 Wycroft Road (QEW & BRONTE)

Proper photo ID required upon registration. Payments: Visa, M.C., Debit, Cash and Certified Cheques. Some reserves may apply. Sale subject to additions, deletions, errors and omissions. 15% buyers premium & applicable taxes to be added. www.galerystartinternational.ca