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OCNA ONTARIO'S TOP NEWSPAPER - 2005-2008

RIZIERO VERTOLLI / OAKVILLE BEAVER

HEAD OF THE CLASS: Teacher of the Year award recipient Kathy Douthart is the centre of attention during a kindergarten lesson at St. John Catholic Elementary School on Monday morning.

Kindergarten teacher humbled by award

By Dominik Kurek OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

An Oakville teacher says receiving an award for doing her job is a surprise and wishes to share the honour with her colleagues.

Longtime kindergarten teacher Kathy Douthart, from St. John Catholic Elementary School, received a Teacher of the Year award at this year's Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence.

"I'm overwhelmed, humbled, ecstatic, surprised. All those words," she said.

"I realize as a teacher that every day I have the ability and the opportunity to create a memory because we all remember kindergarten. Each and every day, I strive that the memory that I make for those children is a positive one and a wonderful one."

Kathy Douthart, St. John kindergarten teacher and Teacher of the Year, Premier's Awards for Teaching Excellence recipient

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"I was very fortunate and very lucky to get the award. Something like this never happens without being in a fantastic school board, a fabulous school with a fabulous community and working with the best teachers and the greatest kids."

Douthart is one of two Oakville teachers to be honoured with such an award this year. Alison Wojkowski, kindergarten teacher at W. H. Morden Public School, took home the New Teacher of the Year award.

See Teacher page 5

Did the mayor act improperly?

Integrity officer will decide

By David Lea

OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

The Town of Oakville's Integrity officer will launch an investigation into some of the complaints directed against Oakville Mayor Rob Burton by Oakville MP Terence Young.

"In my own heart, I believe the integrity commissioner will come back and say there was absolutely nothing done procedurally out of order, but I want to put this to bed."

Allan Elgar, Ward 4 Town and Regional Councillor Town council voted unanimously Monday night to direct Integrity Officer Robert Swayze to undertake the investigation of alleged improper use of influence by the mayor and the cancellation of Town meetings prior to the federal election.

Councillors again

cited the need to settle this matter in an open and transparent way as the reason behind their decision.

"In my own heart, I believe the integrity commissioner will come back and say there was absolutely nothing done procedurally out of order, but I want to put this to bed," said Ward 4 Town and Regional Councillor Allan Elgar before the vote.

Oakville Mayor Rob Burton recused himself from this vote to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Ward 6 Town Councillor Max Khan, who was also See Council page 3



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