

Council defers taxi decision

Residents who think the town needs more taxis will have to wait until July 4 to see whether those additional cabbies are coming.

Town council voted Monday night to defer a number of changes to Oakville's taxicab bylaw, including one which will see the taxi plate (licence) issuance ratio gradually change over the next five years from its current level of one cab for every 2,000 residents to one cab for every 1,540 residents.

Town staff have argued reducing the ratio would enhance customer service levels and bring the town closer to the ratio average employed by other municipalities.

Opponents of the change argue there is not enough business to support increasing the number of taxis allowed to operate in Oakville.

A total of 29 delegations were scheduled to speak Monday night.

Council opted for the deferral after hearing from former mayor Bill Perras, representing Oakville United Taxi, that his clients needed time to turn over financial information that can apparently prove the decline of local taxi business.

With news of the deferral, the 28 other delegates opted to hold their comments until July 4.

BlackBerrys stolen

BlackBerry Playbook tablets appear to have been the main target of an early morning break-in at a Telus store on Saturday that saw around \$37,000 worth of cell phone products stolen.

Police said thieves broke into the Telus store, at Fourth Line and North Service Road, around 5:30 a.m., and stole numerous electronics products including \$25,000 worth of BlackBerry Playbooks.

The store was equipped with an alarm system, but the thieves were able to escape before police arrived.

Police believe the same thieves may be responsible for the robbery of another Telus store on Wycroft Road on Monday at 5:15 a.m.

Police are still determining what was stolen during the second robbery.



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