

Equity policy a non-issue, says gay trustee

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the past 20 years. I think a lot of people, a majority of people, in Oakville would say the same thing."

Marai is a co-chair on the Out on Bay Street organization, a gay activist group that helps gay business and law graduates and students land jobs in Toronto's business sector on Bay Street. He is currently employed at a Bay Street company.

He said he's a practising Catholic and is gay.

Marai said the Equity and Inclusive Education policy has already been decided—passed by the previous board on Nov. 2—and is no longer an issue.

"I'll have to stand behind the policy of the board that was already made," he said. "If it comes up again, for me it's about talking to the people I represent. What I want to know is what they think about the equity policy, and I would craft an argument based on that, and you have to look at other things like policies of other boards and what's worked and what hasn't worked, what's within the law and what is not within the law."

Board chair LeMay said she has no concerns about the board's policy being affected by Marai's presence on the school board.

"What he does as a private person and what he does as a school board trustee are pretty well separate is-

sues," she said. "Like anybody's work or lifestyle, it has nothing to do with the board policy. He knows what his duty is as an elected trustee. The policy had passed, so he will just uphold what the board decision was."

Marai said he was open about his gay activism during the campaign to anyone who asked. He said that part of his life has no bearing on the school board, and he never made any attempt to hide that part of his life.

"If people asked me about that policy, I made it very clear that I am gay. If you Googled my name, the third thing that came up was about my involvement in this group. That's because I raised a lot of money for this group as a mentorship opportunity for these students to connect with different corporations and I'm proud of that."

Marai said he has not seen a conflict between his lifestyle and his Catholic faith.

—With files from Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

Home broken into

Halton Police are investigating a break and enter into a home on Bishop Ct. about 8:50 p.m. Friday A bedroom window was forced to gain entry. Jewelry was taken.

Giveaways netted 6 tonnes of items for food banks

Halton residents donated 6.2 tonnes of food and \$9,257 to local food banks during the Region's two Compost Giveaways in 2010.

In exchange the 4,240 Halton households, which took part, took home free compost for their gardens.

The 2011 event will occur one week in May and one Saturday in the September.

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