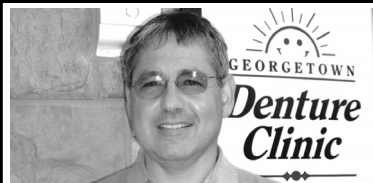


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Best Buy CORRECTION NOTICE

Please be advised that on the April 8 flyer, page 7, the promotion "Get a Free Samsung 32" 720p 60Hz LCD HDTV (LN32C350), with purchase of the Samsung UN55D6000 HDTV for \$1999.99" was advertised in error and is NOT valid.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

Best Buy CORRECTION NOTICE

Please note that the Sony XR550 Camcorder (Web Code: 10140603) advertised on page 21 of the April 8 flyer DOES NOT have a 3.5" touchscreen, as previously advertised. It only has a regular 3.5" LCD screen.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

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Getting tech-nical

At the annual recent Acton High School Tech Olympics, Cody Adema (right) drilled a precise hole in the picnic table that he worked on in the team carpentry category while Breanne Tanser pinned a pocket on a pair of pajama bottoms she designed in the fashion design category.

Photos by Ted Brown



School official sorry for 'Indian-giver' remark

By **TIM WHITNELL**
Metroland Media Group

For the second time in three months a senior official with the Halton Catholic District School Board is apologizing for uttering words considered to be inappropriate.

Business services/treasurer superintendent Paul McMahon used the phrase 'Indian giver' at Tuesday night's board meeting during his discussion on the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) provincial funding parameters released last week by the Ministry of Education, as boards prepare their budgets for next year.

McMahon specifically cited the ministry's intent to give school boards two per cent more funding within the student transportation grant in 2011-12 but that it was then going to take

back one per cent of it. He also noted the ministry is giving three per cent more for teaching and non-teaching staff salaries in 2011-12 but it will also be taking back \$10 million of that provincially.

He did not retract the Indian giver remark during the course of his presentation or at any point during the rest of the meeting.

No trustees or board staff commented on the phrase either, although several people around the room appeared surprised, possibly shocked, by the choice of words.

Trustees went into private session at the end of the meeting.

The superintendent's word choice comes about three months after the chair of the Halton Catholic board, Alice Anne LeMay, apologized for making

remarks that linked Nazism with reasons why the board initially would not allow gay-straight alliance clubs in its schools.

That remark spurred immediate condemnation from some individuals and groups offended by the term and the comparison.

When contacted Wednesday morning, McMahon apologized repeatedly for making the remark.

"I felt bad at the time I said it. I'm probably dating myself with that phrase. It's not politically correct right now.

"You're not the first one to point it out to me," said McMahon, indicating he had talked to other people since the board meeting who mentioned his use of the term.

"It was an unfortunate utterance on my part that I would retract in a heartbeat. The context was that the ministry is giving us money on the one hand and taking it back on the other.

"That was a colloquialism that I know is no longer appropriate and I wish I could have taken it back as soon as I said it."

The top administrator at the board, Education Director Michael Pautler, said he first talked to McMahon about the remark Wednesday morning.

"I did hear the comment at the time. The comment was entirely inappropriate.... I think I thought at the time I had heard something (inappropriate), but in the back of your mind you are kind of second-guessing yourself," said Pautler.

For the full story visit www.independentfreepress.com

—with files from
Torstar News Service

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By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

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