

Man charged with murder 'undeserving' of ordeal

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"It would cause anybody concern and distress to get arrested for that, knowing you hadn't done it," said Neil, adding he has a lot of respect for McGuin.

O'Marra said Halton Police had grounds to lay the charge believing there had been an altercation between the two men.

The charge was withdrawn in Milton court May 16 following the release of the post mortem report.

Neil said it was "a little unusual" for it to take that long to get post mortem results.

"I feel I shouldn't have been charged with this offence in the first place," said McGuin, who provided no further details of the night in question.

"Myself and my family were certainly undeserving of the ordeal we had to go

through and I'm sure it's devastating not only for my family but Rick's family as well."

He said he and MacLeod were friends.

"Rick was a good friend and he's going to be missed. I wish we could have supported his family throughout this ordeal," said McGuin.

McGuin, who spent approximately five weeks in Maplehurst Correctional Complex before being granted bail in February, just wants to carry on with his life.

"I've got grandchildren and three wonderful children. I have everything to look forward to."

He's appreciative of the support he and his family received over the past months.

"Everybody in this building (where he lives) and all of our family and friends have stood by us 100 per cent," said McGuin.

'I feel I shouldn't have been charged with this offence in the first place.'

—Eddie McGuin

Highway comments needed soon

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and Ward 2 representatives are trying to alert residents and businesses about the deadline for public comments on the proposed GTA West Highway.

The deadline is Monday, June 6, either by emailing project_team@gta-west.com or by calling 1-877-522-6916.

Stage 2 of the GTA West Environmental Assessment Study recommends construction of a new east-west four-lane highway from Hwy. 400 to Hwy. 401 in the vicinity of Tremaine Rd., crossing Halton Hills, between Five and 10 Sideroads. A second six-lane north-south freeway is proposed to connect this east-west component down to Hwy 401/407 interchange between the Eighth Line and Winston Churchill Blvd.

"The EA proposes designating a study area in which development would be limited or prevented until the next stage of the GTA West EA is done, which is to finalize the alignments and freeway corridors. That could take five to seven years," the Town letter reads.

Bonnette, and Councillors Clark Somerville, Bryan Lewis and Joan Robson have sent a letter to all south Halton Hills, which could be affected by this highway.

Bonnette said in a telephone interview they had become concerned that not all residents were aware of the proposed highways, despite ongoing public meetings since 2009. All meetings had been advertised in and reported on in *The Independent & Free Press*.

More information on the project can be found at www.gta-west.com



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