

COMMUNITY

Former region manager faces charges

A former Halton manager who worked with the region for 16 years is facing fraud and municipal corruption charges.

David Atsushi Ohashi, who was manager of plant capital and engineering, had been under investigation since last year, Halton police said in a press release Wednesday.

It is alleged (Ohashi) gained personal benefit between November 2010 and January 2016 by providing confidential information and advantage to contractors that he had personal relationships with, police said.

His post allowed him to approve maintenance and construction to municipal infrastructure that was later deemed not necessary or without justification, police allege.

Ohashi also submitted altered business expense claims to the region for personal travel outside of Canada, they also allege.

Police say the fraud unit launched an investigation after receiving an anonymous tip last year. There was no sign of wrongdoing by other current or former municipal employees, the press release noted.

Ohashi, 56, of Mississauga, was dismissed from his position on Jan. 21, 2016 after the Region of Halton investigated his activities.

He is scheduled to appear in Milton court Sept. 13. Anyone who may have information is asked to call investigators at the police fraud unit at 905-825-4747 ext. 8739, or to contact Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-8477.

Scotsdale Farm dog hike Sunday

Dog owners are invited to join a hike with their pets later this month for some exercise and to raise awareness about the lack of a rescue centre in Halton Hills for stray, abandoned or surrendered animals.

Jennie Joyce, owner of Strut Your Stuff Dog Walking & Pet Care, said the hike will take place Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Scotsdale Farm in Halton Hills beginning at 9:30 a.m. with registration. The hike starts at 10 a.m.

Joyce will also be at the Georgetown Farmers Market this Saturday collecting donations and raffling off a fish tank donated by Strictly Fish.

Scotsdale Farm is located at 13807 Trafalgar Rd. N. near Ballinafad, 8 km north of Georgetown.

For more info or to pre-register, call 416-996-4164 or email strutyourstuffpets@gmail.com

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