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Prestipino new Chamber chair

The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce elected Steven Prestipino its new chair at last Wednesday's annual general meeting held at the Halton Hills Civic Centre.

Delegates also voted in the new 2013/2014 board of directors.

Prestipino has been part of the Halton Hills business community since 2005 and replaces Glen MacDonald as chair.

Prestipino became the operating partner of Express Employment Professionals in 2009 and has acquired years of managerial experience, first in the restaurant industry for 20 years and then joining Express Employment Professionals in November 2004.

Living in Caledon with his wife Maria and daughter Samantha, Prestipino has been the Chair of the chamber golf committee, and active on the finance, economic development and MARCOM committees.

Appointed to the Executive Committee as chair-elect is Carman Widdess, George-

town Chrysler Dodge Jeep Fiat Ltd. Trevor Buttle, Buttle and Tavano Chartered Accountants will be remaining on the as treasurer: Glen MacDonald, Georgetown Chevrolet Buick GMC will serve as past-chair.

Returning to the 2013-2014

Board to are: Michael Huggins of Mindwalk Internet Marketing, Art Skidmore, Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation and Tracey Wellon, TY Virtual Assistant. Matthew Donohoe, Co-operators Insurance-Ray Johnson & Associates Inc.; Alan Haas, Booster Juice; Wesley May, Maple Lodge Farms Ltd., and Lana Walsma Hoar, Deker Electric Ltd.

Joining the Board this year to begin three-year terms are

Marnie Hughes, Communication Artist-ry and Wendy Farrow-Reed, Downtown Georgetown BIA.

Kathleen Dills has been named general manager after taking over the position on an interim basis earlier this year.



STEVEN PRESTIPINO

Parents concerned about state of school

Continued from pg. 1

"Hopefully that will improve conditions, but we still may have pockets of hot and cold," said Corbacio.

Tracy Noonan, the co-ordinator of the school's successful Food For Thought program said the conditions in the school's kitchen are "very limiting."

There is an ant problem, they have very limited space, their wash stations are inadequate, and they need a bigger refrigerator and more storage space, said Noonan. She added their area is also shared with the health and first aid rooms.

"It's very, very restrictive and it's just not sanitary," said Noonan.

"We do understand the constraints under which you're operating," said Board Chair Diane Rabenda.

Holy Cross School Council chair Norina Andrews said the school, built in 1958, had deteriorated to the point of serious concern.

She reiterated some concerns already raised and added in spring, fall and winter due to the school's location on a hillside there is often a dangerous ice and mud build-up on the hill, steps and blacktop, decreasing the play area due to unsafe conditions.

She said they had been patient waiting for a new school, but asked it be made a top priority of the Board.

Rabenda said the Board is requesting a replacement for Holy Cross. "It's in a very good position, but the money has to come from the Ministry," she said.

In response to a parent's question about what parents' rights would be if they be-

lieve their child is in a health hazard situation in the school, Rabenda said a parent would have every right to ask to have the student transferred to another facility.

"We are doing our best to improve and maintain a comfortable learning environment for students and staff," said Corbacio. "If there was a true health and safety concern, the Health Department would not allow us to have children in that room. We haven't received that order from the Health Department. It does meet the standards."

Regarding a reference by a parent that construction of a new Holy Cross school had been bumped from the priority list in the past Corbacio said, "I don't recall a time when that has occurred."

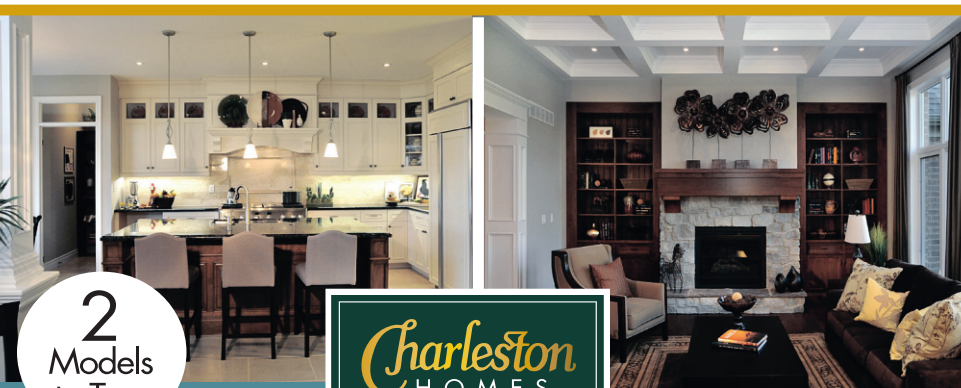
He said in the Board's capital priority submission to be handed over to the Ministry of Education at the end of October, a replacement Holy Cross School could be it's number one or two priority.

But he said regardless of what the Board decides, the Ministry will select which project is number one on the list.

"The Ministry's preference is to take students out of portables and put them into solid, established buildings," said Corbacio. In the Ministry's eyes, he said, Holy Cross is "one of the better schools within the province, maybe not within Halton."

He added they were hopeful however the Ministry would go forward with construction of a new Holy Cross.

He said it could take between four to eight months, or even a year before the Board hears about a replacement school, or perhaps sooner if a provincial election is called.

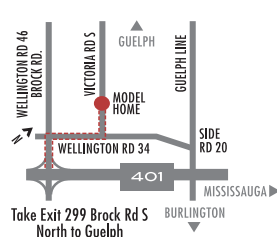


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