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Thursday, May 7, 2015

Residents horrified by clear-cutting on woodlot

By Eamonn Maher
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Residents in an area near Georgetown Hospital have expressed their concern following the cutting down of numerous trees over the past couple of weeks on a woodlot belonging to Halton Region.

On April 7, residents in the area received notice that a "cleanup" of the Dr. Claude V. Williams Woodlot, located on Princess Anne Dr. near Mary St., would take place last month stemming from damage caused to hundreds of trees during the December 2013 ice storm.

But resident Paul Gorjup, whose home sits on the west side of the woodlot, was shocked to see a large logging-type machine cutting down dozens of trees beginning April 20.

The tree-cutting operation also caught many Town of Halton Hills officials unaware.

"They've essentially clear-cut the area," said Gorjup.

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Princess Anne Dr. neighbourhood residents were notified by Halton Region in April that the Dr. Claude V. Williams Woodlot would get a 'cleanup' but were horrified to see the clear-cut result.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Elementary teachers to begin job action on Monday

Halton District School Board has sent home letters and emails to parents, notifying that province-wide job action by elementary teachers will begin on Monday, May 11.

The letter by Chair Kelly Amos and Director David Euale stated that "The Halton District School Board has received formal notice that the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

(ETFO) will initiate a job sanction at all Ontario elementary schools beginning on Monday, May 11, 2015."

The form of the job action has not been detailed by press time— it could be work-to-rule (likely), or a full strike. A work-to-rule means a partial withdrawal of service where schools remain open and teachers are in their classrooms.

The Halton District School Board is scheduled to have a meeting with the Halton local ETFO union on Thursday, May 7, to seek clarification regarding details of the job action.

HDSB will keep parents informed of the details by email, on the HDSB website, www.hdsb.ca and through social media.

See story on latest talks, pg. 8

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