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COURT GRANTS HALTON HILLS, CAO ORDER TO RELEASE IP ADDRESS CONNECTED TO ANONYMOUS, 'DEFAMATORY' EMAIL

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The Town of Halton Hills and its CAO Brent Marshall have successfully petitioned the court for a Norwich order to obtain the IP address of a device from which a "defamatory" anonymous email was sent in early September.

In a Milton courthouse, Justice J. Gibson granted the request, as tech giant Microsoft chose not to oppose the order. However, as of Oct. 26, the Town had yet to receive this information.

A Norwich order compels a company to release information to an applicant. The legal testing for granting this preaction discovery includes stipulations that the applicant has made a reasonable claim, establishing that the third party has a relationship, or is somehow involved in the acts, and whether the release of the information is in the best interests of justice.

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The judge's order, issued on Oct. 3, was obtained by the IFP last week. It states that Microsoft Canada Inc. must request that Microsoft Corporation provide the applicants with the IP address information "as soon as reasonably possible and no later than 10 business days after receipt of this order from Microsoft Canada."

The order specifies that Microsoft is required to provide information in its possession with respect to the IP address connection and history for the email account from which the anonymous email was sent.

"Microsoft was unable to provide the information," Alexandra Fuller, Halton Hills manag-

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DOGGONE GOOD COSTUME



Ray Lavender photo

This Scooby Doo trio of trick or treaters, including from left, Douglas Brake, 5, his brother Michael, 8, and sister Vanessa, 4, enjoyed Acton's Trick or Treat on Mill and Main Street. For more photos of the annual event hosted by the Acton Business Improvement Area, see page 35.

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