## Mystery surrounding CAO's departure beginning to unravel

BY GLORIA HILDEBRANDT

nstead of dying down with time, the issue of the resignation of Steve Andrews, Halton Hills' Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), continues to concern Halton Hills citizens, but for opposing reasons.

If Mr. Andrews quit, some people claim that taxpayers' money is being wasted on a settlement. If Mr. Andrews was fired, others fear some councillors may have a conflict of interest.

The possibility exists that Mr. Andrews was asked to resign, not because he performed his job improperly, but rather because he did his job too well.

As reported in The Compass on September 5, the chain of events leading to Mr. Andrews' departure began with a dispute over the Town's acquisition of nine acres of land that executives for The North Halton Golf and Country Club believed they would receive from Mattamy Homes, which is building the neighbouring Arbor Glen development.

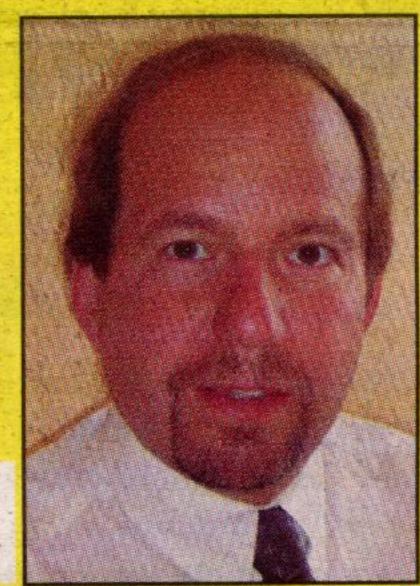
Mayor Kathy Gastle explains that there is provincial legislation for municipalities to acquire public lands when reviewing development

plans, and declares, "Steve Andrews was acting in the best interest of the Corporation of The Town of Halton Hills in negotiating land for the public." This opinion may not have been shared by all the councillors regarding the controversial nine acres.

Ted Thompson, a resident of Norval, appeared before Council on September 22 to raise the issue of a possible conflict of interest by councillors with connections to the golf club. He suggested that Councillor Moya Johnson, whose husband was general manager of

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FACT: Halton Hills cannot afford new public transportation

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FACT: A 10% tax hike is unacceptable. Concentrating expenditures on safety is a priority, i.e. road improvements, fire and police protection.

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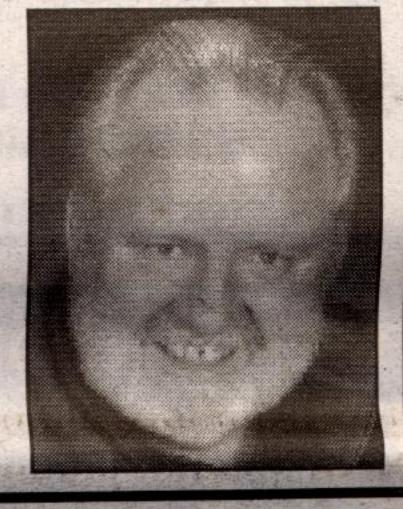
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