

Hang in there, Fair Board – you are right!

To the Editor:
Thank you Hartley Coles for your observations with respect to the obviously inflated costs presented to the Fair Board with respect to the

Prospect Park Arena. Many people understood that this study was to determine the cost of rendering the facility safe for other uses, not to rejuvenate it in one sweeping step to new condition. The engineering firm report would have been responsive to a mandate provided by local self-interested bureaucrats whose primary goal is to see the facility eliminated and any possible contra-proof to the vindication of decisions to demolish the structure washed away.

The admission by senior bureaucrats that the building had been band-aided for years in anticipation of a new facility obviates the bureaucrats' long term hidden agenda for a new facility irrespective of the wants and needs of local residents in the majority or prudent fiscal management.

Allowing the building to deteriorate at a rate beyond normal by "band-aiding" it was ultimately a key element in the self-fulfilling prophecy of the bureaucrats that the old arena had to be replaced due to its deterioration. One has to seriously question whether the concept of fiduciary responsibility applies at all to local as well as provincial and federal bureaucrats.



Removal of a supposedly defective transformer is a questionable new element to the puzzle, however where senior bureaucrats would have been "politically astute" enough to have a number of reports and studies from various lower level bureaucrats in varying departments to support its' condition, all butts will be covered. The question is, when did the transformer start to malfunction and for how long while the facility was in use was it not "safe" or "suitable" or "sufficiently functional"?

To the fire dept.: when did the sprinkler system become so decrepit that the water had to be shut off and for what period of time was the system "unsafe" while the bulding was being used?

Don't give up Fair Board; you have a lot more support than you may think. It seems to me that \$200,000 will be plenty of money to render the facility usable and safe, if not pristine. By all means, be wary of the broad-sides that will come your way from every department imaginable

in the town, region and province. Every bureaucrat and government paid decision-maker you run into will be rallying around their fellow bureaucrats in the ivory tower of officialdom and every conceivable obstacle will be placed in your path. Please persevere! Fight for what the majority of the citizens of Acton want, and don't let paid government administrators formalize and implement their own long-term hidden agenda.

This building is only 50 years old, is useful, is centrally located and is a part of "Acton's" history. It can be used for the fair, lacrosse, indoor soccer, roller blading, flea markets, pet shows and other income generating purposes. As for the administrators' request for a business plan, they would only use it to argue every idea raised and challenge every number to destroy its credibility.

The business plan would be totally hypothetical with proposed time-lines and projected revenues and expenses, all of which the bu-

reaucrats would tear away at knowing full well that none of the plans is provable or pr sufficiently supportable until well after implementation.

If you don't persevere, let's not waste any more time, energy or money. Leap-frog into the long-term agenda and start planning for the Halton Hills Fall Fair which will be held in the only currently suitable location once the old arena is gone: Georgetown Fair Ground.

Mr. Bonnette and Mr. Elliott; if you were not aware that the facilities were being inadequatly maintained, find out who perpetuated this fraud on you and have their head. Find out where the money was allocated which should have maintained this corporate asset, and have it as well as the \$120,000 allocated for demolition provided to the fair board, not to rejuvenate it, but to catch up on maintenance. If you were aware of the mis-allocation of maintenance moneys, then where is your fiduciary responsibility?

The engineer's report is bureaucracy's continuation of doing whatever is necessary to meet its own agenda.

They work for us and report to our councillors and it's high time they helped the citizens and the fair board accomplish goals devised by the residents of Acton rather than work against saving a useful facility which would cost millions of dollars to replicate and whose destruction will lead to the loss of other activities and opportunities for Prospect Park.

One last point! The engineer's report suggests that less than \$1 million could have added all of the rooms and offices (filled with employees) that are in the new arena. Why is a multi-million dollar capital expenditure preferred by administrators spending our money to a much lesser cost of properly caring for existing assets. We now have a new arena and a very useful facility standing empty. Let's optimize and enjoy the benefit of both.

Mr. Bonnette and Mr. Elliott-let's support this with the same energy you used to raise \$200,000 of additional taxpayer money to properly equip the new arena, Fair Board – hang in there – you're right.

Dave Watson, Acton

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Soccer

Friolet boots winner

GIRLS Under-9
Melissa Friolet scored the lone goal in Royal Jug City's 1-0 win over Halton Credit Union last Wednesday at McKenzie Smith Bennett. Grace Turner is credited with an assist and Veronica Edwards earned the shut-out. Both Jessica Dunn and Kimberly Galvin made some good saves for Credit Union.

BOYS Under-9
Acton's Joshua Essiembre booted both goals for Clarke's Newfoundland Store's 2-2 draw with Rockwood Fire Fighters last Tuesday night. David Bingeman, Nils Olav Stockinger and Brydon Pole had great games for Acton. Kevin Jadesku had Rockwood's goal.

Under-11
Acton Building Contractors drew a 3-3 tie with MacMillan's last Wednesday at MSB. Daniel Nikic, Paul Sharples and Jordan LaRose scored for ABC; LaRose also had two assists.

Brandon Ceccotti scored four goals as Town & Country Window Cleaning handed MacMillan's a 7-2 loss on Monday night. Brian Moore, Davin Pole and Sebastian Mena Diaz had singles in a game that was evenly matched until the second half when Town & Country came on strong.

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