

# Trout return to Black Creek

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

Like the canaries once used to monitor gas levels in coalmines, the trout in Black Creek near the former Beardmore tannery are environmental health monitors.

The clean up of the Beardmore property was the focus at Thursday's annual general meeting of POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources). Guest speaker John Basudz of the Ministry of Environment told the sparse crowd that the creek is in good shape and was not harmed by 154 years of heavy industrial use.

"There was a stretch where there were no fish, mainly due to the quality of

the water," Budz said, adding that since the tannery closed fish are migrating a lot further up Black Creek.

"You hear stories about people taking canaries down into mines, well, here is a good comparison. You have a very sensitive type of fish being able to live in that water," Budz said.

Budz outlined the Ministry's program to deal with its concerns about leachate and methane gas from three landfills on the site, ongoing monitoring of ground water and security at a PCB storage shed on the property.

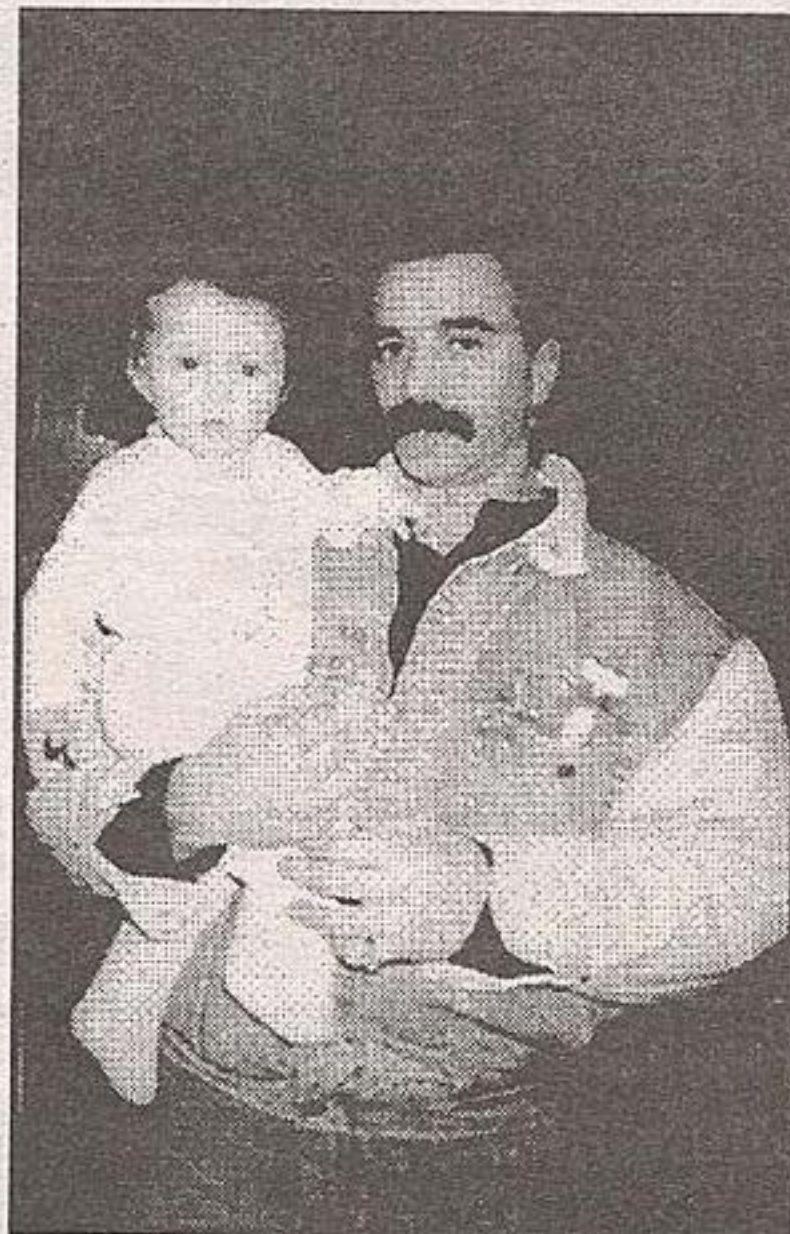
"Although there was some indication of contamination, mainly chlorides, in the past, it has improved and the cleanup is progressing well."

Consultants with the en-

gineering firm hired by property owner Maple Leaf Foods to decommission the site gave an overview of the work done to date to demolish the buildings and consolidate contaminated soil and waste on the 380-acre site.

Questions from the crowd mainly dealt with on-going monitoring of the landfills for methane gas and leachate and security of the PCB storage shed. Budz said the Ministry issued an order to Maple Leaf late last month to replace a worn door lock to the PCB shed.

Having won the big fight to stop the Acton dump POWER officials are turning to new issues including protection of the escarpment, ground water management and a clean up of the Credit



**RECOVERING IN HOSPITAL:** Bert DaSilva, 43, of Acton, seen here holding his daughter, injured his back and wrist in a construction accident on Friday in Georgetown. - Submitted photo

# Acton man injured in construction accident

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
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Doctors say it's a miracle that Eldeberto 'Bert' DaSilva, 43, of Acton, is not paralysed after falling on his head and fracturing a vertebra in a construction accident Friday afternoon in Georgetown.

DaSilva, employed by Greenleaf Homes, lost his balance and fell approximately ten feet to the basement of a house under construction on Maple Avenue when a piece of plywood he was standing on shifted.

"We took him by ambulance to Brampton on Tuesday for a CT scan and the specialist compared Bert's

injury to Christopher Reeve's," DaSilva's partner, Carol Lavinge, said in an interview on Wednesday. Reeve was paralysed in a riding accident.

"His recovery looks good, although he'll be in a back brace for three to six months once they let him come home from Georgetown Hospital. He's cut and bruised and looks pretty mangled," Lavinge said.

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**JUNIOR WINNERS:** Master Bowler Junior Winners are Leah Bутtenham, Darlene Labombard, and Joey Kavangh competed in the Provincial Master Junior five-pin bowling tournament this past weekend in Newmarket. - Ellen Piehl photo

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If your child needs help on the street, and doesn't see a Block Parent sign, point out the kind of stores it is safe to go into if her or she is scared. Most neighbourhood or convenience store operators will call you if something is wrong, and keep your child safe until you get there.  
Of course the store owner cannot call you unless her or she can find-out from your child whom to call. So teach your children to say their name, address and telephone number clearly - and then let them know when it's okay, or even important, to give out that information. Impress on them, however, that they should not tell just anybody who asks who they are and where they live.

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