

Acton woman killed in two-car crash on 401

EAMONN MAHER
Staff Writer

An Acton woman was killed and three others were badly injured in a two-vehicle head-on collision on Highway 401 near Chatham early Sunday evening.

Twenty-six-year-old Hara Kim, a passenger in the westbound Mazda Protégé, was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of that vehicle, an unidentified 42-year-old woman, also from Acton, remains in stable but serious condition at University Hospital in London, Ont.

Two adult male occupants of an eastbound Chevrolet Safari minivan were taken to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance. A 45-year-old from Kitchener is in critical condition with his injuries, while a 35-year-old Waterloo man was listed in serious but stable condition Tuesday afternoon.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the Protégé crossed the median at about 6:40 p.m. Sunday and collided head-on with the Safari, closing the highway for several hours while the OPP investigated.

Constable Aaron McPhail of Chatham-Kent OPP said initial reports suggest the roadway was dry and clear at the time of the accident. No charges have been laid and two Technical Traffic Collision Investigators have been assigned to the incident.

McPhail noted it could take up to two weeks before investigators reveal their initial findings in the determination of a cause for the crash.

Chong resignation stuns colleagues

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Chong said he reflected on his view of the resolution for several days trying to see if he could reconcile voting for it, but he couldn't.

His resignation was a dramatic turn of events, stunning his caucus colleagues, several of whom were pondering late into the day Monday whether to abstain from the vote over their own personal doubts on the issue. In the end, many who had privately voiced concerns, bit their tongues.

The resolution passed 266-16. Fifteen Liberals and Halton Independent MP Garth Turner voted against the resolution.

Chong stressed that Harper was presented with a difficult dilemma by the Bloc Quebecois.

"I do not fault him for what he felt he had to do," said Chong, who portrayed his decision as one based solely on principle, but also admitted he hadn't been consulted by Harper when he was crafting his solution to the quandary posed by the Bloc motion.

He said he believes in the uniqueness of the French fact of Canada.

"I also believe that this is best accomplished through the policies of official bilingualism and multiculturalism. Above all that, it is done not through retreating into our solitudes, but rather by engaging each other through a common civic nationalism," Chong said.

—With files from Torstar News Service



Holiday house tour

Caroline Peasgood takes a peek inside 53 Northridge Crescent Saturday during the annual United Way Holiday House Tour. A total of six local homes were decorated for the tour. Photo by Sabrina Byrnes

Ontario Court of Appeal rules bar must relinquish its liquor licence

LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

Liquor can't legally be served at Nashville North after the Ontario Court of Appeal on Friday dismissed a motion to appeal the revocation of the bar's liquor licence, but the bar's owner is fighting back.

Appeals have already been filed to overturn last week's decision with both the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, a spokesperson for the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) said Tuesday.

The Ontario Court of Appeal could hear the motion to stay its order as soon as today (Wednesday), he said.

The AGCO spokesperson also said a numbered Ontario company has already filed an application for a new liquor licence for the Norval bar.

Despite the court decision, which also ordered the Norval bar's owner to reimburse the AGCO \$1,000 in court costs, Nashville North spokesperson Brian Mitchell said the "bar remains open and fully operational."

When asked if they were serving liquor, Mitchell said they "were in compliance with the court orders."

"With respect to recent developments in the courts of Ontario our solicitors are preparing comment. With respect to matters before the civil



A spokesperson for Nashville North says the bar is "open" and "in compliance with the court orders" following Friday's court ruling. Photo by Ted Brown

courts we intend to pursue all current litigation and are in the process of additional actions," said Mitchell.

"Nashville North will continue to support the residents of Norval via the Norval Community Association and their membership," Mitchell added.

A liquor licence application for the Norval bar was received by the AGCO Nov. 15, said the commission's spokesperson.

He said the application is filed under the name 1715406 Ontario Inc. Michael Frances Tesce is the contact name provided, the spokesperson said.

Mitchell said Monday he had "no knowledge of that application" and that he is "personally not involved in the application."

The AGCO revoked Nashville North's liquor licence in December 2004 after AGCO board members found the bar violated the Liquor Control Act on several occasions in 2003 by serving liquor to intoxicated persons, allowing overcrowding and not being in the public interest.

However, the decision was appealed and the bar had retained its liquor licence until Monday.

Pauline Gladstone, a Norval resident who was a party to the 2004 hearing on the matter, declined to comment because she said she had not yet received a copy of the decision from the Ontario Court of Appeal.

In its 2004 finding that the Norval bar had violated the Liquor Control Act several times in 2003, the AGCO Board said Nashville North often left area residents "under siege."


At the hearing Norval residents complained of late night noise from bar patrons, rowdiness of drunken patrons and destruction of property.

The board said while there may be a problem with youths drinking in Norval, "the overwhelming evidence is that patrons of Nashville North are causing the negative effect on the lives on the residents."



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