

Jannock denies delay a stall tactic

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Jannock's call for a deferment, explained the company's vice-president of real estate Mitch Fasken.

"The issue is one of corporate direction. It is a change of ownership and direction," he said. "(Jannock) is a publicly traded company. It is out in the marketplace."

A possible ownership switch at Jannock could serve to sink the application for good, admitted Mr. Fasken.

"The question will be whether we will be proceeding with the hearing," he said. "We will know whether we will proceed by January."

Until then, the application is merely on ice.

"Everything goes on hold for three months," said Mr. Fasken. "Hopefully at

the end of that time we'll pick up where we left off."

It is ironic that Jannock has called for the delay, since the company has been frustrated at being forced to cool its heels on the issue in the past.

"We waited for two years before the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) even began to deal with our file," said Mr. Fasken.

But he denied that the latest postponement is a stall tactic.

"We were set to go," he said. "We have been ready since 1995."

Recently three of the four landowners suffered two consecutive blows in their quest to develop their lands.

The first came when Halton Region took the position that only a portion of Central

Holdings should be considered for deletion from the NEP. A second hit came in the form of a 9-3 decision by the NEC to keep all the lands in the protected zone.

Though he didn't attend the preliminary hearing in which the deferral was requested, staff scuttlebutt had it that if Jannock pulled out, other landowners may follow suit, said Mayor Gord Krantz.

"Their interpretation is there may be one or two others who may be willing to withdraw," he said.

But Barbara Halsall of Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (POWER) said she wasn't about to hold her breath on the matter.

"I sort of think that it is unlikely. It is one of the things that is already in the process. Money has already been spent."



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

'Tis the season

Unseasonably warm weekend weather brought many outside to finish their fall raking — including old Saint Nick, who wants to remind everyone about the Milton Santa Claus Parade November 14. Organizers are still looking for float entries.



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