

Town will build limestone trail to stairs

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and wastewater servicing from Halton Region.

If those conditions are met, he can take ownership of the land and he would be responsible for paying the property taxes. There's no timeline for when a development application must be filed with the Town, Mr. Lupis said.

He also said P.L. Robertson "has no intention of developing on that parcel" should it be conveyed to them from CN Rail. It's portion is zoned greenlands A and future development. It doesn't allow for development on the piece zoned greenlands A and the piece tagged future development entails strict parameters and ultimately town council approval.

He said the intention is to use it as a buffer to further separate its property from the residences abutting the area.

In an interview after the committee meeting, Ms Smelko said the Town should have thought about ensuring it had available land to keep a grade-level crossing when the Town bought the trestle bridge and a six-metre section of land on the far south side of the rail corridor a few years ago.

"It's so obvious (to buy both properties). I don't know how it could have been missed," Ms Smelko said.

The committee was told the Town will build a limestone trail this year along the

six-metre easement, starting at Bronte Street, to hook up with the stairs at the bridge.

Jennifer Reynolds, Milton's director of community services, said in an interview that a grade-level crossing to meet the mouth of the bridge's east side makes sense and is something her department will attempt to explore with P.L. Robertson.

"We'll certainly look at that," she said, not providing a timeline. "We can look at making some kind of opportunity to connect that grade. Our immediate plan is to put in a limestone screenings trail. Very much the intent was for public access to our existing parks system and our overall trails connection, and that was the plan from the get go."

Ms Smelko later said she's encouraged to hear the Town hasn't shut the door on a potential grade-level crossing.

"I hope they do that and are not spouting out words."

As for the application, Ms Smelko said she's happy to see it won't involve an industrial development.

"But we really won't know about something until (Mr. Durante) approaches the Town and says I want to put up this type of development."

Town councillors told staff at the Monday meeting that the site plan application, which Mr. Durante will have to submit outlining his intended uses for the site, will be crucial to ensure residents aren't unfairly disrupted.

Ward 4 Councillor John Challinor said "this particular piece of property is so close to the residential area." He expects issues like lighting, noise and hours of operation to be closely looked at through the site plan.

Mel Iovio, Milton's director of planning and administration, assured council those kinds of issues will be looked at "very closely."

Jason Misner can be reached at jmisner@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

TRU team used most recently in Aldershot

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"He wouldn't talk to us. We cut off his power (electricity) because he was blaring music," Staff Sgt. Fletcher recalled.

A family doctor was consulted and it was determined the man suffered from paranoia. Power was restored to the home to calm him down. The climax to the 14-hour standoff was the ESU's use of an irritant gas to try to subdue the suspect.

"He still didn't come out," said Staff Sgt. Fletcher, who remarked with astonishment that the gas had no effect on the man, who ended up running around inside the home to evade police when they ultimately barged in.

The TRU squad was used most recently in Burlington.

A Mississauga man wanted on numerous sexual assault charges was tracked down to a Burlington motel in Aldershot by Peel Regional Police detectives. Halton's TRU team broke down a door in the darkness and apprehended the suspect.

"A psychologist told us he might kill himself," said Staff Sgt. Fletcher, explaining why the team stormed the room instead of waiting for the man to come out.

Staff Sgt. Fletcher also noted that Halton's TRU team was used despite requests by Peel that they perform the take-down. "We said, 'no'. They don't know the area like we do and our (communication) radios are not compatible."

Extensive training required

All ESU members undergo extensive initial training and ongoing re-training in Halton and at sites outside the region. TRU team personnel train as a full squad once a week while those on day shift engage in training three days a week.

Since around 2000 and the implementation of stricter police standards by the provincial government, the TRU team in Halton has gone from a 16-member part-time squad to a dozen full-time members.

"We ask for a five-year commitment because of the intensive training required," said Staff Sgt. Fletcher. "You must be a first-class constable and have at least four years of policing. There are fitness requirements and you can't have discipline (action) on your record."

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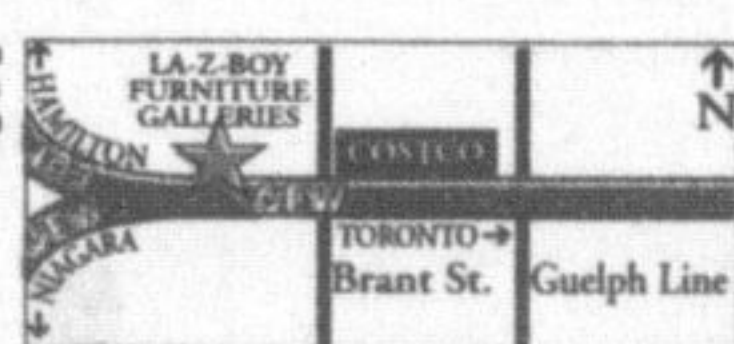
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