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Tatone fumes over Baker Ave. allegations

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Ward 3 councillor Nick Tatone publicly roasted the Stouffville Sun this week for printing erroneous statements about his involvement with a real estate deal.

Tatone was raked over the coals in several issues of the Sun for allegedly misleading the present owners who purchased the property in 1990.

35 Baker Ave. History

The 35 Baker Ave. deal, according to town records:

● in 1988 a company named Canadian Sales Inc. owned 35 Baker Ave. and made use of the second dwelling. At that time the company was notified by the town that the use of the second dwelling was a violation of the bylaw.

● in 1989 the property was sold by Canadian Sales Inc. to Tatone's group. The violation was resolved and no illegal double occupancy took place. The owners actually got rid of the occupants from both homes.

● in 1990 Tatone's group put the property up for sale. The real estate company inaccurately listed the homes as legal and received a call from the town asking the ad be corrected. It was. When the property was sold to the present owners, the ad was not in contravention of the bylaw.

"When the Tatone group owned the property there was no violation," Panizza said.

That is untrue, according to town records.

The property (35 Baker Ave.) has two homes on one serviced lot, which contravenes the town's bylaw and the Ontario Building Code. The issue erupted several months ago when the owners received warning from the town that renting out the second home was illegal. The owners therefore asked for an exception to enable them to legally rent out the second home.

Tatone, while admitting he was a member of an investment group which previously owned the property, denies he intentionally misled the owners.

Tatone, visibly shaken by the ordeal, removed his jacket, stood up and demanded an apology for himself and his family from the Sun.

"I have just been through the toughest, ugliest week in my life. All my family has suffered because of an incorrect Stouffville Sun article," he said.

Tatone said he and his wife "have had a tough time walking through this town."

He said the Sun, who "didn't bother to call me" is being "dealt with," regarding the articles.

Tatone, who took the entire council chamber by surprise with the pronouncement, also stressed disappointment in the town for not backing him up and correcting the Sun statements.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury, who cautioned Tatone from speaking on a subject he declared a

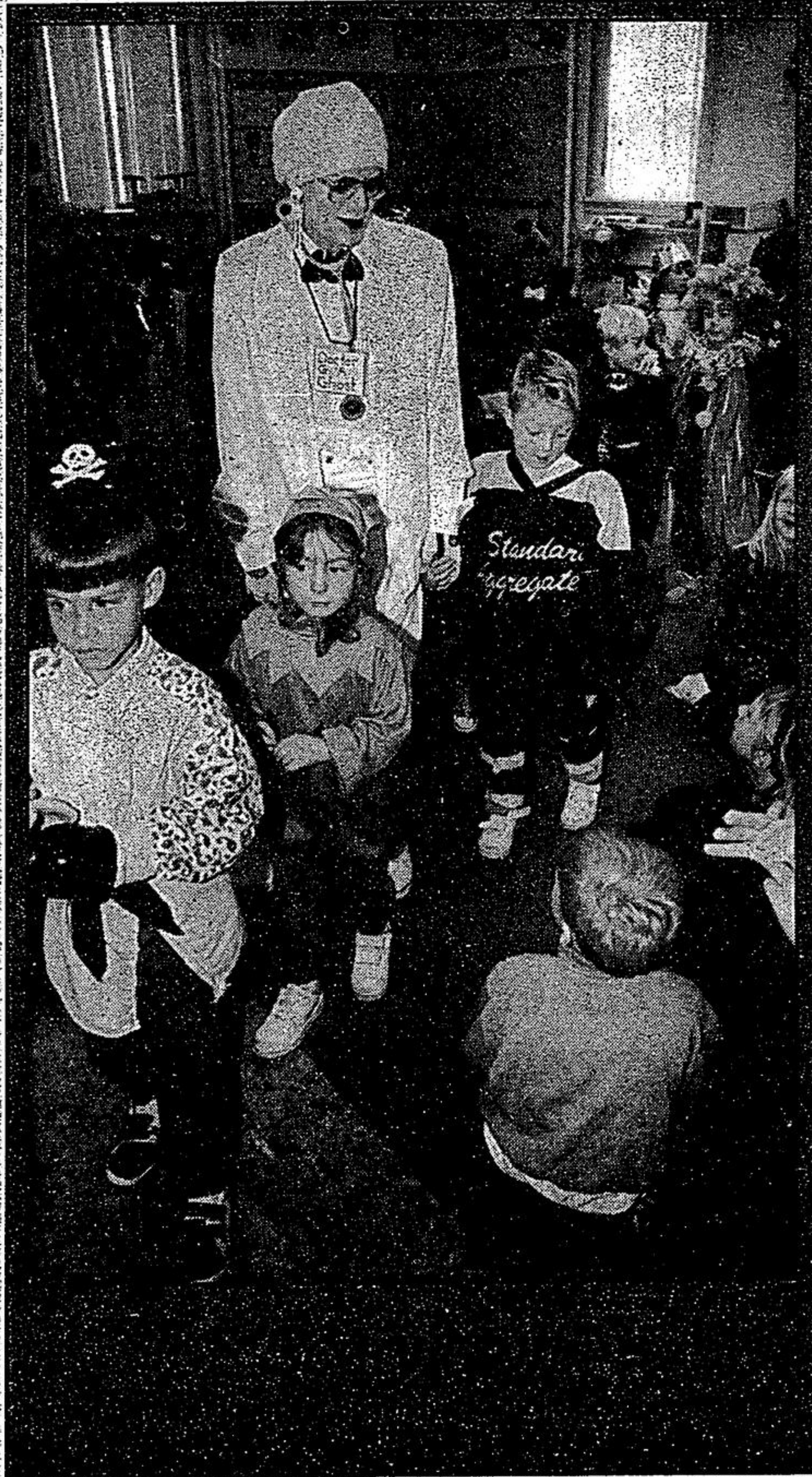
conflict on, admitted, "the Sun should have given you a chance to tell your side of the story." Tatone, trying hard to compose himself, submitted five legal documents into the public record which he said shoot

down every statement published on the topic in the Sun.

Town chief administrative officer Bob Panizza said the Sun reporter failed to "follow up or double check" the information, which was "chronologi-

cal and self evident" if the reporter had taken the time to properly view them.

The town has sent a letter to the Sun which lists the inaccuracies in the article, Panizza said.



Bowes will not seek new term

JULIE CASPERSEN
Staff Reporter

The York Region Board of Education chairman will run for another term only as "a last resort."

Harry Bowes, Whitchurch-Stouffville trustee and current chair of the 20-member school board, said he's trying to recruit other trustees he'd like to see head the board for the coming year.

"I think it's time for somebody else, but he's to be somebody who agrees with my philosophies," Bowes said in an interview Thursday.

But so far, Bowes' choices for a new chairperson have been "non-committal," he said. "There's a lot of apathy out there."

The board has become increasingly divided between the more experienced trustees and newer members out to change the traditions of the senior administration and the board of trustees. These reformers now number seven following a recruitment spree in the November 1991 municipal election.

Bowes does not want to see a reform trustee at the helm of the board, and if his recruitment effort fails to turn up a willing old guard trustee, he said he'll consider running for a record seventh term in the Dec. 7 election.

"I'd like to see (Vaughan trustee) Nancy Dunlop. She's a senior trustee and she's spent so much time on provincial issues," Bowes said.

Dunlop could not be reached for comment.

Town made 'grave errors' in Rennie Transport application

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

A group of Gormley businessmen chastised the town Tuesday night for presenting the public with what they called "misguided and misleading" information.

What started off as a calm public hearing ended with heated debates, vented anger and frustration between the mayor and several Stalwart Ind. Dr. landowners.

Ben Pitoni, agent for two neighboring industrial property owners, accused the town's planning staff of "totally mishandling" and making grave errors in a report which urges officials to support a Rennie Transport business expansion.

Carlos Mateus, who said the town failed to notify him of the proposal, said he was "disgusted" he had to find out from a neighboring

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Jeff Cowley remains critical

Jeff Cowley has been transferred to the neurological intensive care unit at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre 13 days after a car crash in Goodwood.

The 19-year-old Stouffville man remains in critical condition, hospital officials said yes-

terday. Cowley and 19-year-old Dan McNeil, who died in the crash, were returning home from a hockey game in Port Perry when their car slid on black ice and collided with an on-coming car. Dan was buried Oct. 21 in Stouffville.

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