

# York Region chairperson backs CAO

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and has not been proven wrong.

"Mike Garrett came to us with the highest reputation across the GTA in terms of ability and integrity," Mr. Fisch said.

"The last six months of his work here has shown those recommendations were correct and appropriate."

Mr. Fisch likened the testimony at the inquiry into the MFP deal to "finger pointing".

"I'll let (Mr. Garrett's) testimony deal with any issues that come out," Mr. Fisch said.

Mr. Garrett replaced long-time CAO Alan Wells, who retired in June after 27 years with the region.

*'Mike Garrett came to us with the highest reputation across the GTA in terms of ability and integrity.'*

He was recruited with the help of a corporate head hunter which recommended Mr. Garrett for his lengthy resume in municipal government and

public administration.

That experience includes having served as CAO in neighbouring Peel Region for eight years and, more recently, as top bureaucrat with the newly amalgamated City of Toronto.

But clashes with Mr. Lastman and other city politicians led to his departure in June of 2001.

The public inquiry unfolding in Toronto is probing the workings behind the deal the city struck with MFP in 1999 to supply computer equipment. Originally estimated to cost \$43 million, the contract ballooned to more than \$80 million.

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