

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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Sullivan enjoying hockey, life in Germany

Money, lifestyle draw Spirit alumni

BY MIKE HAYAKAWA
Staff Writer

Mike Sullivan is saying better late than never from the other side of the Atlantic.

In the case of the 23-year-old Stouffville resident and Stouffville Spirit graduate, it wasn't until late this summer when he opted for a major change of scenery in his professional hockey career.

After toiling last season in the East Coast Hockey League for the Boise Idaho Steelheads, Sullivan took his game to Europe this fall.

He is in Deggendorf, Germany, as a member of the Deggendorf Fire and hinting he may never return to North American hockey.

Sullivan also considered playing in Italy before inking the German deal.

"Every country has import rules and the elite leagues sign their foreign players almost right after the previous season," Sullivan said. "But I'm just glad there were still jobs available."

As one of four designated imports on the Deggendorf roster, Sullivan won't be a total stranger. One of his teammates is former Spirit teammate Mike Forgie, who is also making his debut with the team.

Sullivan said having Forgie around as a teammate and friend will ease his transition into a new league and surroundings.

Both are graduates of NCAA hockey south of the border,

See **SOME**, page 13.

BOARD SILLY



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Ziggy Talaska gets lots of air as he does a successful kickflip at the Over The Edge skatepark in Stouffville Memorial Park Monday. The park is used by boarders, BMX riders and inline skaters. For more information, including fall hours, call the town's leisure services department at 905-642-7529 or 905-640-1900.

Tender troubles with arena, fire hall

Low bidder didn't include GST, may not get \$23.7-million job

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS
AND JIM MASON
Staff Writer

Lowest bidder wins the prize? Maybe not in this case.

Bondfield Construction Company Ltd. was the lowest bidder on Stouffville's new fire hall and arena project, but it may not get the contract.

In its bid, Bondfield did not include the GST in its total price, something John Aquino, vice-president of the Vaughan company, said may cost it the job. Bondfield built the new Stouffville District Secondary School and Harry Bowes Public School in Stouffville as well as the Bill Crothers sports school in Unionville during the last two years.

"The other tenders included GST in their bid," said Mr. Aquino, who called The Sun-Tribune. "We interpreted the tender documents (as saying) we didn't need to put it in. Everybody knows what the GST is."

Mr. Aquino also said Bondfield made it "very clear" in its application that the GST was on top of the listed bid.

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville CAO Dave Cash said Bondfield did not follow the instructions listed for the tender.

"In this particular tender, we asked on the bid form that bids include all applicable taxes," he said. "In this case, this company's (Bondfield) bid did not include all taxes."

Bondfield's bid was \$22,575,000 plus GST for a total of \$23,703,750.

Norlon Builders from London, Ont., quoted \$24 million, all taxes included. They are the second lowest bid.

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