

# WELLINGTON ADVERTISER

## IPM Edition

WELCOME TO OUR

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Charge - The RCMP Musical Ride performed famous manoeuvres such as thread the needle, the dome, the wagon wheel and the charge, above, to two sold out crowds in Erin on Sept. 10. Audience members also got the chance to meet some of the riders, including Guelph native Constable Anne Howitt, and their horses after the show. The RCMP Musical Ride returns to Wellington County for three shows at the International Plowing Match in Minto next week. More Musical Ride photos on page 37. Photo by Olivia Rutt

## Mayor: Nestlé water taking a drop in the bucket compared to city's

By Mike Robinson

ABERFOYLE - When it comes to permits to take water, it is all a matter of perspective.

For all that has been reported in the media of late, Puslinch Mayor Dennis Lever considers Nestlé Waters Canada's water taking operation to be a drop in the bucket compared to the overall permits to take water in the township.

On Sept. 7, councillors here reviewed reports from Harden Environmental's senior hydrologist Stan Denhoed and also heard a presentation from Nestlé Waters' natural resource manager Andreanne Simard.

Both offered comments on Nestlé's application to renew its permit to take water in Aberfoyle.

As of the meeting, the permit renewal had not been posted on the Environmental Registry website.

The current permit allows for the drawing of 3.6 million litres of water per day.

Simard said she wanted to make a presentation based on recent concerns raised in the area.

She stated her information related to the Aberfoyle production well and its renewal permit application, as well as any possible impacts to Aberfoyle Creek.

She stated Nestlé has over 80 monitoring locations, both onsite and offsite, that are monitored manually every month and electronically every hour, she said.

Simard noted there are several points along Aberfoyle Creek, a tributary of Mill Creek that runs through Nestlé's Aberfoyle property, that are also monitored.

"Aberfoyle Creek is a priority for us, so we have collected a tremendous amount of data," she said.

Monitoring includes flow measurements, water temperatures and water elevations for the creek flowing onto and exiting the site.

Simard said flow patterns have been consistent over the past 15

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## Mapleton residents approached by wind power company WPD

By Patrick Raftis

MOOREFIELD - Mapleton residents are among those who have been approached about leasing their land for a potential wind turbine project in the area.

Bruce Rumph, who lives on Concession 6 near Moorefield, was one of two people who raised their hands when organizers of a Sept. 6 Concerned Citizens of Wallace and Mapleton (CCWM) information meeting asked if any township residents were approached this summer by a company attempting to secure options on behalf of international wind giant WPD.

"He was pretty pushy," said Rumph of the representative of Elexco, a land service company hired to assemble leases for a wind project bid planned by European-based WPD.

CCWM organizer Lee Anne Andriessen of North Perth said the organization believes no residents of former Wallace township, which

borders Mapleton to the west, have signed options to lease their land to WPD, although quite a few have been approached.

Rumph indicated he has no intention of signing the contract offered to him.

"I've already burned it," he told the *Advertiser*.

Rumph said he had many concerns about the document presented to him for consideration.

"Every page is not for you. It's all about them."

Rumph's interpretation matched information presented at the meeting by speaker Warren Howard, a retired banker and former North Perth councillor who is active with the lobby group Wind Concerns Ontario.

Howard cautioned landowners that signing the options being circulated by Elexco is an unbreakable commitment should WPD be successful in an upcoming round of the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) process, the Independent

Electricity System Operator's (IESO) competitive process for large renewable energy projects in the province.

"It commits you to sign the lease as well. So you might as well sign the lease while you're at it," said Howard.

Signing the option, Howard said, also commits a landowner to sign "any further document needed to execute the agreement."

"Some landowners are actually being presented with new leases. So the WPD thing is about 20 pages. They've got a 200-page lease. Oh by the way, they've got a new lease here and you have to sign it," he cautioned.

Howard said signing on with a turbine company can have an impact on a landowner's control of the land and also affect their ability to use it as collateral.

It also gives the company "the absolute, unfettered right to assign the agreement," he said, adding,

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## GRCA winding down tenancy program, evicting renters

By Olivia Rutt

WELLINGTON COUNTY - The Svenssons have lived on Conservation Road in Guelph-Eramosa for 34 years, but next summer may be their last after they received a letter from the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) notifying them of changes to the rental program.

The letter, dated July 26, indicated the GRCA board has approved a wind-down of the rental program, which is anticipated to take approximately 10 to 15 years to complete.

The GRCA currently has 45 residential properties, 34 of which are being rented.

Samantha Lawson, manager of

properties, sought approval of the wind-down of the rental program on July 22. In a report, she explained the program was forecasted to break even in 2016, but to be in a deficit position in 2017.

The report states 40 per cent of the properties rent for under \$1,000 a month and 25% rent under \$1,200.

Lawson explained the properties were analyzed and divided into four categories:

- category 1: the most imminent potential safety and financial liabilities;
- category 2: financial liabilities;
- category 3: do not have a promising financial forecast; and
- category 4: in good condition and not forecasted for financial loss.

Category 4 also includes recently renovated houses with no anticipated future costs.

"We were looking at the revenue versus expenses of the program and ... (it) isn't really part of our mandate," said Lawson in an interview with the *Advertiser*.

Some board members stated the termination of the tenancies should move more quickly than 10 to 15 years, but the board approved the recommendation.

After being contacted by the GRCA and told that he and his wife Irene are required to move out of the house within six months, John Svensson appealed and was granted until Sept. 30, 2017. He decided to bring his concerns to the board at

the Aug. 26 meeting.

Svensson said he did not want to challenge the board's decision but was hoping to appeal the criteria and timing of the process.

"As tenants for the past 34 years, I'm sure you can identify with the sheer shock, horror and dismay that we experienced when we were told that we were slated for a six-month termination notice," he said.

He added the 10- to 15-year timeframe was reasonable.

The house in which the Svenssons live is listed under category 2, and therefore considered a financial liability to the GRCA.

However, Svensson said in his presentation, "Over the years we have invested tens of thousands of

dollars in property maintenance, improvements and enhancements."

He suggested the house belongs in category 4.

"This is not an issue of disposing of buildings but of homes, and by extension, families," he said.

Lawson said the GRCA is only required to give 120 days notice.

"I think we recognized that some of our tenants have been with us for a significant amount of time, so we've also been entering into termination agreements with them," she said.

"We've been able to offer them considerably more time than what is required under the Landlord and Tenant Board."

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