

Fifty firefighters responded to extinguish massive fire

> From front page

The weather was hot and dry and there was a strong wind out of the northwest. The fire rapidly spread to four neighbouring barns and four neighbouring silos. A defensive fire attack was implemented that required the use of all available Caledon Fire resources. Due to the nature and intensity of

this fire and the commitment of Town of Caledon equipment, the Erin, Orangeville, New Tecumseth, King and Brampton fire departments provided apparatus and personnel to cover Caledon fire stations and provided emergency coverage to Caledon for several hours.

According to Gary Jarrett

of Brampton Fire and Emergency Services, the barns, used for hay storage, were fully engulfed when fire personnel arrived within minutes of the frantic 9-1-1 call. He estimated crews would be on scene for several days to ensure the fire was completely extinguished in all smoldering buildings.

The called the loss to the 100-acre, 1830 homestead as "devastating."

Some 50 firefighters were on scene to get the fire under control.

Three firefighters suffered from heat related illness. They were treated at the scene by Peel EMS and returned to duty later in the afternoon.

Heavy equipment remained on scene and assisted in the removal of debris to support fire operations and the fire investigation.

The cause is currently under investigation by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office. At this stage, it's considered accidental, according to Jarrett.

While the buildings lost are valued at approximately \$1,000,000, the house on the property was saved.



More than a dozen emergency vehicles lined Airport Road last week to contend with the farm fire.



Firefighters worked tirelessly getting the fire under control, which began in this barn on the property.



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Separate board reacts to funding with cautious optimism

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is reacting with cautious optimism to the announcement that the province is putting an additional \$309 million into education funding over the next two years. Dufferin-Peel's portion of these funds is reported to be up to \$7 million.

"This looks like a good news announcement for Dufferin-Peel students," said board chair Bruno Iannicca, "but until we see the details on how the funds are to be allocated, we are reacting

with a measure of cautious optimism."

"We have said for years that a significant funding shortfall has adversely affected us, as well as other school boards. The funds related to today's announcement, hopefully, will narrow this funding gap and allow us to better meet the needs of our students. I would acknowledge that the government appears to have heard the concerns of our community and has responded on behalf of our

kids."

Dufferin-Peel is one of the largest school boards in the province with 89,000 students in 141 schools located in Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon and Orangeville. With more than 10,000 faculty and staff, Dufferin-Peel is also one of the largest employers in the region. It is the goal of the board to provide quality education to students in a setting which fosters Catholic values and beliefs.

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Contract to fix cemetery

The contract to complete stone monument repairs at the Melville White Church Cemetery was recently awarded by Caledon council to 2139254 Ontario Ltd. for its price of \$54,360, excluding GST.

The cemetery has 160 stone monuments in varying states of repair.

Even though there were two other companies making lower bids, council agreed with Town staff's recommendation to hire 2139254 Ontario Ltd. because it has the greatest expertise and experience in historic monument restoration.



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