

Solmar says it's the victim of media campaign

By MARK PAVILONS
Editor

The head of a major developer says a negative media campaign aimed directly at them swayed councillors and the public to oppose any increased local development.

Caledon council last Tuesday night voted to maintain the status quo regarding population forecasts through 2031, amid a torrent of opposition to opening the door to development, particularly a multi-phase plan submitted by Solmar Development Corporation.

Solmar president Benny Marotta said it was a "complete media campaign initiated by the mayor for her own personal agenda."

Marotta has been negotiating with the Town for the past 18 months on his project and complained his phone calls to the mayor's office were never

returned. "If the Town had any intention to benefit the municipality, they would have had the courtesy to accept and return my phone calls," he said.

The whole issue became a campaign against Solmar and not about the real issue - the proper planning for the future of South Albion, Marotta contends.

He believes the council vote Nov. 6 "was a complete conspiracy against Solmar" and councillors (and the some members of the public) failed to understand the decision was not about Solmar's application at all, but strictly a plan for the

future of Caledon.

Prior to the Nov. 6 council debate, there was a huge media campaign against Solmar's proposed Humber Station Villages, a multi-year residential project for an entire community located southwest of Bolton. That included letters to newspapers, e-mails to the Town and petitions.

Marotta said statements were made in the local press that developers should not plan Caledon's future, but that the municipality should take control.

"I fully agree," Marotta said.

Solmar did not undertake

a public relations exercise because they expected council would make a decision in the best interests of the municipality and its residents.

Marotta said council's decision Nov. 6 was based on an estimated 340 pieces of correspondence from residents who opposed more development than the previously approved numbers. Marotta said that cannot be considered as an overwhelming majority of the opinion held by Caledon's 58,000 residents.

In any issue, he observed, you'll have a thousand different viewpoints and councillors are there to

make decisions based on the facts.

Mayor Marolyn Morrison said the issue had nothing to do with Solmar. "It had to do with who's going to plan the Town of Caledon," she stressed and Solmar's application had nothing to do with the debates. It was more a matter of timing, since Solmar's application was the only one on the table.

The mayor also pointed out she received many e-mails from Bolton residents who objected to further growth, indicating the people were in favour of council's approach.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what is happening in the community

THIS COLUMN IS PROVIDED AS A FREE PUBLIC SERVICE TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ANNOUNCE UPCOMING EVENTS. PLEASE CONTACT BETH EARLY-REA AT CALEDON COMMUNITY SERVICES AT 905-584-9460 IF YOU WISH TO HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLISHED. THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
MS Self Help Group meets 7-9 pm, at Christ Church Anglican (22 Nancy St, Bolton). Support group for those dealing with multiple sclerosis. Location is fully wheelchair accessible. Call Dorothy 905-880-0969.
"Help for Working Parents Workshop: Time In Versus Time Out, 7-9 pm. For parents of children 1-5 yrs. Child care not available. To register, call the Caledon Parent-Child Centre / Ontario Early Years Centre 905-857-0090.

Meeting of the Orangeville & District Horticultural Society, 7:30 pm, at the Orangeville Seniors Centre (26 Bythia St). Topic: "Heucheras, Heucharellas & Tiarellas". Annual General Meeting. Refreshments. Visitors welcome.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Tops (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Group meets in Bolton United Church Heritage Hall, weigh-in 7 pm; meeting 7:30-8:30 pm. This non-profit weight loss support group meets every Wednesday. Call Ruth 905-857-3237 or Beth 905-857-7452.

The Old Time Fiddlers meet 6:30-11 pm, in the Albion Bolton Community Centre. Everyone welcome to come out and enjoy the music. Admission \$2/person. Call Scotty 905-451-8057.

Red Cross Infant CPR and Digital Photography Workshop, both at the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness. To register, call 905-857-3313 or 1-800-621-1287.

Meeting of The Catholic Womens League, 8 pm, Holy Family Parish Church Hall (60 Allan Dr, Bolton). Speaker: Fr. Larry Leger on "The Communion of Saints". All women welcome. Social to follow.

Registration for the Caledon Santa Fund will be taken until November 30th. To register, call Caledon Community Services 905-951-2300 / 905-584-9460 ext 254.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
The Peel Referral Association Inc hosts a Mystery Dinner Fundraiser for Hospice Caledon-Bethel House, 7 pm, at Chef Talk bistro (334 Queen St S, Bolton). \$100/person (charitable receipt for \$50 available). For tickets, call Jon 905-846-8660.
Meeting of the Bolton & District Horticultural Society, 7:15 pm, at

the Caledon Centre for Recreation & Wellness, Bolton. Topic: "Caring for Tropical Plants". Members free; \$3/non-members or \$2/members of other horticultural societies. Call 905-857-1460.

West Humber Naturalists joint meeting with Richmond Hill Naturalists, 7:30 pm, at Wallace Hall, Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church (10066 Yonge St). Topic: "Inconvenient Truth: The Effect of Climate Change on Canada". Everyone welcome.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Caledon Meals on Wheels offers a Gentle Fitness Program for Seniors each Friday, 10:15-11 am, at St. James Church Senior's Drop-In, Caledon East. This program helps increase muscle strength, flexibility & mobility. Call 905-857-7651 or 905-584-2992.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Christ Church Bolton (22 Nancy St) Annual Bazaar, 9:30-1:30 pm. Features bake table, craft sale, door prizes, Christmas gift items, lunch & coffee room, Nearly New sale and raffle. Call 905 857-0433.

Christmas Bazaar, 10-1 pm, at Palgrave United Church (34 Pine Ave). Crafts, baking, silent auction, chilli or soup lunch, Candy Cane Lane (shopping area for children).

Credit Valley Partners hosts 22nd Annual Craft Show, 9:30-4 pm, at St Aloysius Gonzaga School (2800 Erin Centre Blvd, Mississauga). Proceeds to The Credit Valley Hospital.

Annual Christmas Bazaar at Trinity Malton Church (7113 Airport Rd), 10-2 pm. Everyone welcome.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Caledon Chamber Concert featuring the Georgetown Bach Chorale, 3 pm, at St James Anglican Church, Caledon East. Tickets \$25/person. For ticket info, call Gordon 905-880-2445.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Early Years of Recovery Family Support Group meets 7 pm, at 30 Eglinton Ave W, Ste 801, Mississauga. This is a support group for families in the early stages of learning how to deal with schizophrenia & other mental illnesses where psychosis is present. For more info and for new families attending for the first time to register, call 905-338-2112.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
"Hope and Grief" presented by Jake McArthur, Hospice Worker, Centre for Creation Spirituality, 7-9 pm, at Mayfield United Church (12496 Dixie Rd, Caledon). No cost. Everyone welcome.

Learn how to reach the hidden job market. Free Job Search/Networking Workshop by CCS Jobs Caledon, 1-3 pm, at 18 King St E, Bolton. To register, call 905-951-2300; 905-584-9460

or email jobs@caledoncommunityservices.org.

Monthly Dinner & Entertainment, 5 pm, at Caledon Seniors Centre (7 Rotarian Way, Bolton). Call 905-951-6114.

Fibromyalgia Support Group meets 7 pm, at Shoeless Joes (12612 Hwy 50, Bolton). Everyone welcome. For more info, call Hester 905-838-0123.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Free CCS Jobs Caledon Workshop, 10-11:30 am, at 18 King St E, Bolton. Features as guest speaker the Director of Human Resources for Town of Caledon on information regarding the Town of Caledon's hiring procedure. Reserve by calling 905-951-2300; 905-584-9460 or email jobs@caledoncommunityservices.org.

Mini-Fashion Show Fundraiser at the Belfountain Inn, 6:30 pm. Proceeds to support EWAG's Christmas food drive. For reservations, call the Inn 519-927-9219 or Betty 519-927-5020.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Free Resume Workshops held every Thursday, 9:30-3 pm, at CCS Jobs Caledon (18 King St E, Bolton). To register, call 905-951-2300; 905-584-9460 or email jobs@caledoncommunityservices.org.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Palgrave United Church hosts Reiki Sessions, 1-3 pm, at the church (34 Pine Ave). Reiki assists in healing, and the physical and spiritual well being. To sign up for a 20 minute session, call 905-880-0303 or 905-880-2460.

Grade 7 & 8 Dance, 6-10:30 pm, at the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness. Call 905-857-3313 or 1-800-621-1287.

Deadline for submission to Bereaved Families of Ontario Halton-Peel Branch for names to be added to its Annual Loving Memory Tree. Call 905-813-4337 or visit www.bereavedfamilies.ca.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Meeting of the Halton-Peel Branch Ontario Genealogical Society, 2 pm, at Chinguacousy Public Library, lower level (150 Central Park Dr, Brampton). Speaker: J. Brian Gilchrist, Peel Archives, on "Understanding the Basics of Vital Statistics vs Civil Registration". Visitors welcome. Call 905-846-0408.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Meeting of the Caledon F.A.M.E. Family Support Group, 7-9 pm, in the Albion Bolton Community Centre, Rm A (150 Queen St S, Bolton). This group provides support to those with family members with mental illness. No cost. For more info or to register, call Frank Logue 905-488-7716.

ASSOCIATED GOSPEL CHURCHES

ALBION HILLS BIBLE CHURCH
17243 The Gore Road, Palgrave
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9:45 am Bible study
11 am Worship
Member of the AGC
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www.albionhillsbiblechurch.org
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ANGLICAN

CHRIST CHURCH BOLTON
Rev. Canon Gregory Symmes
22 Nancy Street, 905-857-0433
Sunday worship, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Church school & nursery 10 a.m.

MONO PARISH
Rev. Barbara Hammond
St. John's, Mono Mills 10:30 a.m.
St. James, Hockley 9:00 a.m.

BAPTIST

CALEDON HILLS FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
16591 Airport Rd. in Caledon East
Meeting at our new building north of Caledon East across from the Caledon Inn
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Weekly: Home Bible Studies, Ladies' Coffee Hour, Youth Group (Gr. 9 & up)
Tuesday Nights: AWANA (kids program ages 3-11 6:45 p.m.-8:15 p.m.)
For more information please phone
Pastor Bill Henderson
905-584-9525
Website: www.chfbc.ca



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Bolton Alliance Church
Meeting at Rotary Place (Caledon Seniors Centre)
7 Rotarian Way, Bolton
Sunday Services at 10:30 AM
Sunday Morning Children's Program
Weekday Home Groups
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Nursery/Toddlers
Kid's Church
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7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
JC Adventure Club - Junior High
Youth - Adult Life Group

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Church Directory

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110 King St. W., Bolton
Rev. Jeremy Lowther
Church: 905-857-2419
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery
The Friendly Church with A Mission
www.caven-life.org

UNITED

BOLTON UNITED CHURCH
8 Nancy Street, Bolton
905-857-2615
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Fellowship time
Church School & Nursery
All Welcome!
www.boltonunitedchurch.com

ROMAN CATHOLIC

ST. CORNELIUS CHURCH
Kennedy Road (north of the Grange) Caledon
Mass: Sunday 8:30 a.m.
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH ALBION
16066 Gore Road (north of Old Church Road) Albion
Masses: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:15 a.m. 11:45 a.m.