



# GUELPH MERCURY

## Landfill sale raises alarms

But St. Thomas dump president says Guelph's contract will be honoured despite sale to Toronto

BY STEPHANIE MACLELLAN  
MERCURY STAFF

**GUELPH**

With the City of Toronto set to buy the London-area landfill where Guelph sends its garbage, some people are worried this city could get dumped in the process.

"It puts us in a precarious situation," Councillor Cathy Downer said yesterday. "I doubt we'll get a contract renewal now."

Guelph started shipping its waste to the Green Lane landfill near St. Thomas in 2003, after Guelph's Eastview Road landfill closed.

The current contract expires in 2008. After that, the city has the option to renew the contract for up to five successive one-year terms.

Toronto city council approved the purchase of the landfill Tuesday. Toronto is planning to ship its waste to Green Lane after 2010, when it will be forced to stop

trucking trash to Michigan.

Local environmentalist Evan Ferrari is concerned Toronto's waste would take precedence over Guelph's if landfill space at Green Lane was in question.

"We're sleeping with an elephant here," he said. "And if Toronto is in an absolute crisis

situation . . . I think that puts us in a very weak position on a long-term basis."

Green Lane's president, Bob McCaig, said Guelph has no reason to worry.

"Your waste, in the case of the City of Guelph, is guaranteed for the life of the contract," he said. "The City of Toronto

will be respecting and agreeing to all the terms."

This summer, the Ministry of the Environment approved a 20-hectare expansion to the Green Lane site that will add 10 million tonnes of capacity by 2018, when it's scheduled to close.

**SEE LANDFILL: PAGE A2**

## City artists defend disputed art exhibit

Trustee upset by violent content

BY GREG MERCER  
MERCURY STAFF

**GUELPH**

Guelph's artistic community rushed to defend the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre yesterday after an upcoming exhibit drew fire from a local school board trustee.

Upper Grand District School Board trustee Susan Moziar says a planned exhibit by Guelph illustrator and artist Ryan Price — or at least the one piece she saw of it — promotes violence to school children.

She took exception to a pencil drawing that depicts a man emerging from a larger cartoonish man's mouth and holding a western-style pistol. The word 'pop' is coming out of the gun.

Moziar said the exhibit is inappropriate in light of last week's Dawson College shootings in Montreal, and the school board's efforts to counter bullying and violence.

The art centre, which receives some of its funding from the school board, is a popular spot for class trips and school tours.

Moziar insists she's not trying to tell the art gallery what to do, and only wanted to express her "dismay" at Price's exhibit.

She attempted, unsuccessfully, to have a motion passed Tuesday telling the art gallery the school board did not approve of Price's exhibit.

**SEE EXHIBIT: PAGE A2**

## MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC AGAIN



Guelph piano tuner David Briant, left, hams it up while playing a historic Bell Organ and Piano Company piano yesterday for Brigid Dekker, activity co-ordinator at the Royal Retirement Residence on Gordon Street. Briant donated the 121-year-old Guelph piano to the retirement home after tracking it down in Picton.

DARREN CALABRESE, GUELPH MERCURY

# Historic piano brought back to life

Tuner donates 121-year-old Guelph-made instrument to city retirement home

BY THANA DHARMARAJAH  
MERCURY STAFF

**GUELPH**

For years, the piano's yellowing keys barely made a sound.

The 1885 Guelph-manufactured piano sat quietly in the family room of a Dartmouth, N.S., home, where three young children refused to play it. But its keys are finally coming alive now that piano tuner David Briant has returned it to the city of its creation.

"Poor piano, nobody wanted to play it," said Donna

**"I was happy to find out that it still worked. I was surprised, considering how old it was, that it was in playable condition."**

**DAVID BRIANT**  
ON 1885 BELL ORGAN COMPANY PIANO

MacLean, a resident of Kanata, Ont. Her granddaughter Erica, who lived in Dartmouth with her parents, received the piano as a gift at the age of 11 from her other grandmother.

It was Erica's first piano, but she ignored the musical instrument for years. Her two sisters, who were more sports-ori-

ented, also had no desire to make music on the piano.

"It was never tuned or anything," MacLean said. "I guess they kept it because it was a gift to Erica."

The piano will spend its remaining days at the Royal Retirement Residence on Gordon Street after Briant donated it to

the residents. The home will hold an open house today from 2 to 6 p.m. for the public to view the antique.

Briant found the piano, covered with scuff-marks and scratches, at Erica's great uncle's home in Picton, where it was shipped after the children didn't want to play it.

The Guelph piano tuner heard about the piano from a Belleville resident who'd originally been interested in the instrument. It's the oldest piano made by Guelph's Bell Organ and Piano Company that Briant has ever seen.

It sat in the Picton garage waiting for a home for nearly 18 months.

When Briant came knocking, Erica's great uncle, Bob Norton, was happy that the piano would see new life again. He donated it to Bryant.

"What does it matter if it's not perfect, as long as it makes music and people enjoy it," Norton, who is Donna MacLean's brother, said from his Picton home.

Bell began making organs in 1864, but didn't start producing pianos until mid-1885.

**SEE PIANO: PAGE A2**

**WEATHER**

**Tomorrow:**  
**Partly sunny**  
**High 20**  
Full details • A2

**INDEX**

Births-Deaths <b>B11</b>	Horoscope <b>B2</b>
Business <b>A9</b>	Local news <b>A3</b>
Canada <b>A4</b>	Lotteries <b>A2</b>
Classified <b>B7</b>	Opinions <b>A11</b>
Comics <b>B3</b>	Scoreboard <b>B4</b>
Cryptoquote	Sports <b>B5</b>
and Jumble <b>B9</b>	Sudoku <b>B7</b>
Editorials <b>A10</b>	World <b>A7</b>

[www.guelphmercury.com](http://www.guelphmercury.com)



**Over 30 models to choose! From 4 manufacturers!**

**Thank you for your nominations!**

**Choice Quality Expert Advice Great Prices**

8-485 Silvercreek Parkway N (corner of Silvercreek & Woodlawn) 519-341-SPAS(7727) www.worldofhotubs.com

Hot Tubs, Saunas, Decks, Gazebos, Accessories, Chemicals and so much more