



HIVE X ORGANIZER HOPES HIS BUSINESS WILL MOTIVATE AND LAUNCH YOUNG COMPANIES A21

THESPEC.COM

FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 21, 2011

# THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

THE VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1846



ANDREW DRESCHEL  
The Hamilton Spectator  
adreschel@thespec.com

## McMeekin vows to fight for Hamilton

There's a lovely symmetry in Ted McMeekin's return to the premier's inner circle, one he chuckles at but declines to comment on.

To take his place in Dalton McGuinty's new and leaner cabinet, McMeekin had to wing into Ontario on a red-eye flight in the wee hours of Thursday morning.

That's because the call from the premier found the MPP for Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale at his vacation home in Arizona where he'd gone to recuperate from the 100-day cough, which plagued him throughout his re-election campaign.

McMeekin had also been in the Arizona desert when McGuinty called last year to tell him he was being dumped from cabinet in order to bring in his younger Hamilton colleague Sophia Aggelonitis.

But Aggelonitis was defeated in the Oct. 6 election. The Liberals were reduced from 72 seats to a 53-seat minority government.

And McGuinty once again needs the seasoned vet by his side.

McMeekin is more than happy to answer the call as Ontario's new Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

"I'm excited about it and had a great conversation with the premier about why he thought it was a good fit, and was pleased on that basis to accept the assignment," McMeekin said after the official announcement.

We continue // A17

Shuffle: McGuinty's leaner cabinet A14

### MAPLE LEAF DEAL

## Secrecy key to success



JOHN RENNISON, THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

Rick Young, executive vice-president of Maple Leaf Foods, answers questions about the company's proposed Hamilton plant.

This deal could have gone south any time in the last 24 hours.

— BOB BRATINA  
MAYOR

### City staff didn't tell spouses, let alone councillors

EMMA REILLY  
The Hamilton Spectator  
ereilly@thespec.com

"Trust me."

That's what Tim McCabe, the city's general manager of economic development, told councillors when he asked them to approve a \$395-million deal with Maple Leaf that city staff had been secretly pursuing for months.

McCabe, a veteran city staffer who was the project lead and the chief negotiator, knew that council's approval was one of the most crucial steps of the

#### THREE PAGES OF COVERAGE

The key players A2  
Maple Leaf's recipe for survival A3  
What you need to know A4

process. He had taken risks without their knowledge or approval, including brokering a major real estate deal in the Red Hill Business Park South. Hamilton was on the cusp of a major economic breakthrough and the city's leaders were the last to know.

So how did McCabe approach council during their closed-door meeting Wednesday — the first time council

heard about the deal?

"I just said, 'Trust me.' I actually said, 'I'll put my job on the line.' I was so convinced that this was a win, that there were no issues whatsoever," said McCabe.

Details of Hamilton's Maple Leaf coup were made public Thursday at a news conference at City Hall, when McCabe, Mayor Bob Bratina, and Maple Leaf representatives revealed everything from the meat products the plant will produce to its high-tech environmental and health standards.

Process continues // A2



## WORLD

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR LIBYA?

Rebels face internal battles in wake of Moammar Gadhafi's demise A18



## BUSINESS

### WAXMAN ORDERED TO PAY EIGHT FIGURES

For fraud committed while making six figures, judge gives eight-year prison sentence A21

## The three Rs bring returns

DON CAMPBELL |  
THANA DHARMARAJAH

A tattered basketball shoe, a Donald Duck plastic toy, VHS tapes and a championship trophy sit scattered in a sorting room at Canada's largest waste recovery plant.

These are some of the more unusual items that sorters have pulled off the production lines of the Material Recovery Facility in Brampton, where Peel Region's residential blue box items arrive to be separated, sorted and bundled.

"If you stand around here long



A METROLAND SPECIAL REPORT

## TRASH TROUBLES

GRAPPLING WITH OUR GARBAGE

This is the last in a three-part series

enough you will see all sorts of things," said Peel waste supervisor Kevin Mehlenbacher.

Only about 45 per cent of recyclable items from households across Ontario ever make it to one of these plants. More than half of municipal garbage goes to landfills instead.

Peel sells much of the material that comes to this plant in Brampton to China and the United States, where it is reused in new products like aluminum cans or plastic bottles. The region's total take is roughly \$10 million a year.

Treasure continues // A11

### INSIDE TODAY

PER ISSUE: \$1.50 INCL. GST  
VENDING BOXES: \$2 INCL. GST



BRIDGE/CHESS G10  
BUSINESS A21  
COMICS G13  
CROSSWORD G13  
DEAR ABBY G2  
HOROSCOPES G2

LOCAL A2  
LOTTERIES A2  
MOVIES G6  
OPINION A16-A17  
SUDOKU G13  
WEATHER G2

### WEATHER

HIGH: 9  
LOW: 4 (evening)  
Some sun, mostly cloudy and breezy — with a shower or two. G2



### CAR CRASHES INTO STORE, HITTING BABY CARRIAGE

Mother runs to save child. For all the video go to multimedia zone at thespec.com

Experience it.

# Grand Opening This Weekend

losanihomes.com/ancaster

ANCASTER GLEN  
Singles and Towns from the 270's

ANCASTER SALES CENTRE

289.239.7629