

Claims filed against Mayor Thompson and Councillor McClure

By Bill Rea

It looks like some elected officials in Caledon are going to be brought into court on conflict of interest allegations.

The Toronto Star reported Monday that long-time Caledon resident Kelly Darnley has filed claims in Ontario Superior Court against Mayor Allan Thompson and Councillor Gord McClure.

The action against Thompson, according to the Star story, states he "actively pushed development to the west of the town where he or his family members have a direct or indirect interest in substantial land holdings, thereby increasing the value of the lands."

The story added the action alleges Thompson has voted on numerous motions when he had a conflict and did not declare them.

The Star also refers to a transaction in which Thompson sold land to a developer for a reported \$9.4 million.

Thompson addressed that matter earlier this month in an open letter that was published in the July 9 edition of the Citizen, in which he stated "the sale of the Thompson multi-family, three-generation farm this past April was a private and difficult family decision.

Our lands were not part of the Bolton Residential Expansion Study, the GTA West Corridor Study Area, Mayfield West phase 1, Mayfield West phase 2 or the lands in the Allox Land Owner Group."

"Any time I've had any conceivable question about a potential conflict, I have sought and received legal opinions," he added in his letter. "I can state with confidence that I was not, and I am not, in a conflict of interest."

"They're desperate for a story, I guess," Thompson told the Citizen Monday. "Pan Am Games are over."

He added the story was not much of a surprise, as he was called by the Star about a week and a half before.

"I have yet to be served, so for now, there's nothing here," he added.

"It sounds pretty wild," McClure told the Citizen, adding he's not yet been served either. "Apparently, I'm going to be."