

Muzzo to plead guilty in fatal accident

By Mark Pavilons

The fate of King's Marco Muzzo will be in the hands of a judge next month as he plans to plead guilty in the charges relating to the deaths of three children and their grandfather.

Brian Greenspan, Muzzo's lawyer, has asked to return to court Feb. 4 when Muzzo will plead guilty to some of the charges. At that time, a statement of facts will also be read.

Muzzo, 29, is facing 18 charges related to the fatal collision, including 12 counts of impaired driving and six counts of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle. The Sept. 27 crash resulted in the deaths Daniel, 9, Harry, 5 and Milly 2, Neville-Lake. Gary Neville, 65, a King resident, was also killed in the tragic accident that occurred in Vaughan.

Greenspan said his client will plead guilty to multiple charges, adding that some charges are redundant and mutually exclusive.

This is not a plea bargain, Greenspan contends. Both he and the Crown will submit their arguments at the sentencing hearing, which is scheduled for Feb. 23 and 24.

“This is not a plea deal. This is an acceptance of responsibility by Marco Muzzo,” Greenspan told reporters outside the courthouse, after submitting the request to the judge. “He wanted this matter to be closed as quickly as possible, and to move on with the plea and the acceptance of responsibility.”

The children's parents, Jennifer Neville-Lake and Edward Lake, have attended each of Muzzo's court appearances.

Muzzo's family owns a vast construction conglomerate with operations in Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary and southwestern Ontario.

Marel Contractors is estimated to be worth more than \$1 billion. They also own Pemberton Group, one of Toronto's largest development companies.