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Boycott. Anti-gay-marriage author's Superman issue pulled by publisher

Superhero-comic maker DC's decision to put a special issue of Superman by anti-gay author Orson Scott Card on ice has the owner of a Bank Street comic shop rejoicing after he helped lead a local campaign to boycott the book.

"I'm ecstatic the world has made a point to someone involved in the project," said Rob Spittall, owner of the Comic Book Shoppe, on hearing that artist Chris Sprouse had left the project Wednesday. "Something I did has turned into something bigger than I thought it could."

Opposition to the controversial author's involvement with the Adventures of Superman project blew up online in late February as gay-rights groups mounted campaigns to boycott the book. Spit-

Strength in numbers

16,636

An online petition to get DC to drop the author gamered 16,636 signatures by Wednesday aftermoon. "The end result is that DC has pushed this book back as they figure out who the new artist will be," said Rob Spittall.

tall said he would only offer the special issue at his store through special order and not on shelves after he discovered Card is "openly and strongly opposed to equal rights for LGBT people."

"He's on committees to abolish gay marriage," Spit-tall, said of Card at the time. "I can't stomach hate. I want to make a stand."

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

Quoted

"Something I did has turned into something bigger than I thought it could." Rob Spittall, owner of the Comic Book Shoppe, on hearing that artist Chris Sprouse had left the controversial Superman project Wednesday



Hire-ups of immigrant recruiting rewarded

Maya Chikaishi, director of customer and product support at Kivuto Solutions Inc., holds a certificate her company was awarded with Wednesday at the 2013 Employer Excellence Awards held by Hire Immigrants Ottawa. The Ottawa-based software-distribution firm and local coffee-shop chain Bridgehead were recognized for their work in recruiting and retaining skilled immigrants at a ceremony at the National Arts Centre. Chikaishi, who moved to Ottawa from Japan in 1999, said recruiting a diverse workforce is key to delivering support to Kivuto's customers in more than 190 countries. JOE LOPAROMETRO

Killed while on duty

Police constable to be honoured

A police funeral for Const. Steve Déry will be held Saturday at the Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica at 385 Sussex Dr. in Ottawa, the Ottawa Police Service and



Déry, 27, was hit with a fatal gunshot wound Saturday as he and another police officer responded to a domestic dispute in Kuujjuaq, in northern Quebec.

Déry grew up in Orleans. The ceremony will happen at 11 a.m. with visitations held at the Heritage Funeral Home, located at 2871 St Joseph Blvd. in Orleans, the day before, on Friday, from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and later Friday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Those who wish to express their condolences to the family and friends of Const. Dery can do so by email at condolences@krg. ca. METRO



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