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"ITER still alive" says Mutton

"ITER is not dead," said Mayor John Mutton at Monday's council meeting.

The Mayor was responding to an article by Toronto Star Science Reporter Peter Calamai, which appeared in Monday Star claiming: "The federal government is deliberately letting the clock run out on Ontario's bid to host a \$12 billion experiment nuclear reactor."

Dr. Murray Stewart, President of ITER Canada, and a member of Canada's negotiation team said last Friday that we - Canada had to get something on table for the round

of negotiations dealing cost sharing and detail construction which starts on the 5th of November in Beijing.

ITER is an international research and development project to develop fusion energy as the way to a clean and sustainable energy source.

ITER Canada had promoted Canada as a host country for the fusion reactor having selected property beside the Darlington Nuclear Power generation station as their preferred site for this international project. Without the financial backing of the Canadian government, the proposal was taken off the table at the end

of 2002 because it did not stack up well against the other host country bids - Japan, France and Spain.

This spring the Provincial government committed to paying half of the \$2.3 billion cost to host the project in Clarington if the Federal Government took responsibility for the other half. The provincial government then

took the next step and committed to pay half the cost to participate in the 30 year project, whether Canada was selected as the host country or not.

Deadlines for Canada to put a viable offer back on the ITER table have come and gone, with Canada still participating in negotiations as an ITER partner, not a potential host country.

"It's not over till it's over," said Durham M.P. Alex Shepherd in a phone call with Orono Times Monday. "The Prime Minister said he was aware of the importance of ITER, how important it was to Clarington and my riding," stated Shepherd

"The PM did indicate he had some concerns with cost over-runs, and he would take up that issue with Premier elect Dalton McGuinty," said Shepherd.

Unfortunately, some of the participating countries have changed their attitude about Canada being responsible for 5 per cent of the total cost, if they were selected as host country. "Japan and the European countries are saying Canada should be in for the full share of ten per cent of the cost," stated Shepherd, "This lends support to the concern the federal government has about spiraling costs."

At Tuesday morning's candidates meeting, Mayor Mutton said that a new era of cooperation between the federal Liberals and provincial Liberals will not happen if Chretien does not get on board
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"The PM did indicate he had some concerns with cost over-runs"

— Durham M.P. Alex Shepherd



Rachell Harris attended the Orono Horticultural Club meeting last week where she participated in rock painting activities.

What's Inside...



Bear-Making Ladies
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Farmers' parade seek permit

The Farmers' Christmas Parade of Lights is gearing up for their 5th annual presentation and are seeking a Road Occupancy Permit from the Municipality.

Farmer Bill Hasiuk of Enniskillen appeared before Clarington Council Monday stating, "We thought maybe it's time to get a permit."

This parade which traditionally takes place on the first Wednesday in December is attracting an increasingly larger audience. Mayor Mutton stated at Monday's meeting that at some point they will

have to look at the issue of crowd accommodation. "This is going to rival some of our other parades," stated the Mayor, "It's getting so popular."

The Farmers' Christmas Parade of Lights is a reach out by farmers to the non farming community. "The people see us all summer travelling slowly on the roads moving big farm machinery," said Hasiuk. "This gives them a chance to see us driving slowly in smaller vehicles," he said. "We tend to get less one finger waves from the locals," he stated.

Hasiuk explained that the parade begins north of
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Orono Public School students will be

Collecting for UNICEF All Hallow's Eve October 31st