

# Growth is inevitable, Danson says

AURORA — Continued growth in the fringes of sprawling metropolitan areas need not come too quickly or too harshly — but come it must. This was the reassuring message for a banquet full of local realtors from Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson

Editorial, P. A-4  
last week.  
"There is a real anti-growth feeling in many municipalities and I can understand that feeling," Danson, the York North MP, said in an address to

York Region Real Estate Board members.  
"But that's not the way it's going to be. We have to have growth."  
Municipal Aid  
To encourage municipalities to accept their share of it, Danson said, the

federal government is offering direct financial aid.  
"Often municipalities are reluctant to open new areas for residential construction because the cost of providing services can be greater than the revenue from property taxes.

"To ease that problem, we are now providing further financial help toward the capital costs of servicing land."  
\$1,000 Grants  
Danson said the government is also offering municipalities direct grants of \$1,000 for each unit of new housing produced, if it meets requirements of modest cost and medium density.

Danson said builders have come to realize most people are satisfied with basic houses of good quality "and don't insist on the finished 'rec' room, the stone fireplace, the extra bedroom and terraced patio."  
Innovative Housing  
"We hope to show that good, attractive and innovative housing in a pleasant environment can be produced within the means of most people."  
"Our current problems with urban sprawl, the desire to restore life to the urban core, rising costs of energy and transportation — all of these present a challenge to create new housing forms which respond to human needs while conserving the natural environment."

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## Tories stick with Roman

### Corcoran challenge enlivens convention

By William Lever

THORNHILL — Trust the Tories to do it with style.

There were squally brass bands, thousands of color-splashed cardboard signs, over-amplified deep-throat political oratory, teenage fanny-wiggling groupies marching in well-rehearsed spontaneous demonstrations

Roman - 306  
Corcoran - 226

THORNHILL — Tony Roman defeated Bill Corcoran 306-226 in last Thursday's nomination convention for York Centre provincial Progressive Conservatives.

Although the vote total was supposed to be a closely guarded secret, and the ballots were quickly destroyed, The Liberal obtained the figures from reliable sources within the party.

Roman, 40-year-old three-term mayor of Markham, has run for the Conservatives in the last two elections. Corcoran represents Ward 5 on Richmond Hill council.

and, the focus of it all, there were 600 nattily dressed devotees of democracy who filled the Thornhill community centre arena to standing room only, and not much of that.

There was even Darryl Sittler and his five-goal feat to entertain a TV audience of Tories spilling over into the arena pro shop. And for a while there the Leafs were getting more cheers than the politicians.

But the one big roar brought by chants of "Tony, Tony, Tony" followed even the most passionate hockey watchers back to their own home ice.

The ballots finally counted, Markham Mayor Tony Roman saw his persistence pay off and was given a third straight opportunity to seek election in York Centre provincial riding for the Progressive Conservative Party.

He got the traditional handshake and gracious words of support from the challenger, Richmond Hill Councillor Bill Corcoran, and went on to promise he'd do his damndest to win next time, finally.

For political junkies, it was all a first-class fix, with considerably more flair and flamboyance than you've got a right to expect at your typical local get-



Bill Corcoran (right) offers handshake to winner Tony Roman

together to nominate a candidate for a provincial election that might still be a year or two away.

Both candidates, and their nominators, gave creditable speeches.

Corcoran's was the more positive of the two, since, apparently, Roman and his backers figured they had a lot of explaining to do for his previous election failures.

"I don't consider myself to be an opportunist," Roman said, while his nominators praised him for "allowing his name to stand."

In a manner reminiscent of American presidential candidates determined to portray their primary losses as victories, Roman's speechmakers had no shortage of excuses for his defeats.

In 1971, the convention was told, it was because of "an enormously popular Liberal candidate" and then last year there was an all-round rebellion against Tories everywhere.

"But Tony Roman allowed his name to stand!"

Roman himself gave this pitch: "I know you were disappointed in not winning. How do you think I felt?"

Corcoran, a relative newcomer compared to Roman, was banking on an untried-but-untarnished image.

"I was really disappointed for all the people who worked so darn hard," Corcoran said after it was over. "At least we created a lot of interest and we had lots of support."

And he did prove — with 43.2 per cent of the vote — that quite a few Tories really wanted to give someone else a chance.

Which made for an interesting evening.



Part of a crowd of hundreds on the jam-packed convention floor

The 235,000 target is part of a long-term plan to achieve one million housing starts over the next four years.

"I think we will all agree that the need today is simply suitable housing at affordable prices."

Outlining the federal plan to provide interest-defraying loans to home buyers, Danson acknowledged the program has been criticized because of the seemingly low price ceilings for eligible houses.

Moderate Prices  
"But I have seen the new moderately priced housing put up by builders and I am impressed and encouraged."  
"Many of the builders told us they couldn't build good houses within our limits, but when they realized that was what the market was, they did produce the housing required within the maximum prices stipulated."



Barney Danson addresses local realtors

## Birth control clinics praised

RICHMOND HILL — Misconceptions about birth control and venereal disease are being eliminated to some extent through free clinics for youths here and in Newmarket.

Last year, more than 1,000 people attended the classes which were started in 1974.

Run by the York Regional health unit, the clinics are financed by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan and grants from the provincial health ministry.

Myrtle Kirstine, health unit director, said more than 75 per cent — mostly young women between 15 and 25 — want advice about contraception.

She said the clinics help destroy myths about birth control and give young people accurate information which could prevent unwanted pregnancy.

According to Janis North, a community health nurse at the Richmond Hill clinic, it's beyond the com-

prehension of some young girls that they could never get pregnant.

Birth control information classes in area high schools are good because they help develop more responsibility toward sex, she said.

However, there were still many misconceptions about it all. For example, some girls shook up carbonated soda or ginger ale and used it as an after douche, Mrs. North said.

"What they don't realize is that they could be doing themselves real harm," she said. "Besides, it doesn't work, anyway."

The clinics are held every Wednesday and Thursday at 10350 Yonge Street in Richmond Hill, and Tuesday and Wednesday at 22 Prospect Street in Newmarket.

Each case is treated confidentially. For more information call 895-4511, 887-5843, or 832-1296.

## Provincial report

### Our region identity: farming, recreation

TORONTO — The Region of York is not going to become one vast extension of Toronto — not just yet, anyway.

According to a Toronto-Centred Region Program Statement, the

province sees the area basically as one which must supply the agricultural and recreational needs of Ontario's vast population of city dwellers.

"Growth pressures and servicing costs along the Yonge Street corridor in the regional municipality of York indicate that the population allocations for this area must be reviewed," the TCR Statement said.

Originally under the TCR plan, a population of 350,000 was predicted for York by the year 2000. However, this has since been upped to 550,000.

The TCR Statement said developmental pressures on rural municipalities should be reduced, with less farmland being turned into residential lots through severance and rural estate subdivision.

The provincial plan was to keep various second-tier communities in agricultural production so long as possible.

The region's population would be divided along specific communities "within the limits set by provincial policies on the preservation of prime agricultural land, recreational land and other open space resources," according to the region's official plan, now underway.

At the same time the region was expected to sustain a high growth rate to justify the expense of the York-Durham Servicing Scheme, or Big Pipe, which is designed to service 8,400 industrial acres for low-intensity industrial uses.

The scheme will serve some 450,000 people, while an additional 100,000 will be accommodated with rural programs.

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"We need more factual data before we allow staff to go ahead," he said. Agreeing with him was Trustee Chris McMonagle of Markham, who said she would be "most dismayed" if they went beyond the 190 figure, at the same time as they were trying to raise the pupil-teacher ratio.

Another Markham Trustee, Donald Sim, said he would not vote for a complement of 202, or staffing of 193. They had asked the teachers for increased productivity of 3.5 per cent; if they asked staff for the same amount, they would have a total of 183.

John Stephens, also of Markham, chairman of Structure '75, said he felt 202 was a "bit much," and 190 was better.

In defending his report, Director Chapman said that, while it was true they had approved the figure of 190, they had also "been working under their complement (by 2 per cent) for years."

He said he was "still uneasy" about the Chapman report. While the actual staff complement was 195, the board had brought it down to 190 in budget discussions. That, then, was the authorized figure.

Staff must be thrown a challenge, "or they won't face up to the fact there are better ways to do the job," Cameron said.

They had clerks for all their various co-ordinators and insisted they needed them. But if they divided the staff by the number of people in the system, they came up with 3.3 people per school, he said.

Cameron was later scolded by Trustee Quirk for putting the number of schools in the system at 58, when the number was actually 90.

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going first," before they did any hiring. He recommended that the suggested total of 202 be amended to 190 "as an interim figure."

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## Staff level debated

### Austerity limits board hiring

By Jim Irving  
AURORA — Despite its elaborate new surroundings in a new building, York County Board of Education felt the austerity pinch at its meeting Monday night here.

In a session that ran well past midnight, trustees voted to allow the board a couple of new people for its administration staff, but at the same time left it in the position of cutting several members of its clerical staff.

In what amounted to an almost pitch-and-toss session, board and staff waded through 14 pages of charts, figures and recommendations on how to set the staff complement for 1976, taking into consideration earlier budget recommendations, a report of the Structure '75 committee, and a concluding report from Education Director Sam Chapman.

195 at present  
In the latter, Chapman said that to fully implement the Structure '75 report, they could deploy 202 people. Present staff number is 195.

He asked that the 202 complement be approved, but that the positions shown vacant in the accompanying charts be filled only on board approval. In the meantime, they would re-deploy staff, so that the number would total 193.

Also, the 202 figure would not exclude hiring of temporary clerical staff for up to three months.

Another of the director's recommendations called for a "search committee, consisting of three trustees and three staff members... be established to identify and recommend a person to fill the position of evaluation officer" (inspector).

In a subsequent recommendation, the evaluation officer was to be dropped in favor of a superintendent of special education and student services.

An additional recommendation called for the hiring of a superintendent of human resources (personnel manager) to be acquired in the same way.

The report produced long and often bitter debate, with Trustee Norm Weller of Aurora at one point throwing up his hands and saying the board should give the staff a certain number of dollars and tell them to run the system within those limits.

If staff couldn't do it, "then fire them," he said.

Markham's Doreen Quirk felt the hiring of a superintendent of human resources should be postponed.

"Where can we find money for this position?" she asked.

Chapman said an amount of \$11,489 shown unspent in the available budget for 1976 could go toward the latter. He said he wasn't opposed to hiring a superintendent as soon as possible, but thought they would get "more mileage" out of an evaluation officer in the future.

200 more teachers  
"We have 200 more teachers now than in 1968 and only half as many consultants," he said.

Trustee Cameron wondered "how much evaluating" they needed. They had principals and department heads to do that.

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## Inside The Liberal

### Hospital Day coming

It'll soon be Hospital Day at York Central in Richmond Hill (May 12) so it's an appropriate time to look at some of the special services and benefits the hospital offers local residents. One program, called rooming-in, is a recent innovation which has proved a big success with new parents and a supportive staff. Page A-3.

The water's fine, and so are the awards for top performances, as Richmond Hill Aquatic Club dives into a new season. Better training is achieving better results. Sports Page B-1.

This week's index of news and advertising features is:

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## Airport protesters call 'urgent meeting'

BUTTONVILLE — A.I.R. (Association of Involved Residents) is holding what it terms a "very urgent meeting", to gain "people power."

An A.I.R. statement issued this week says although Markham council has postponed final reading of a zoning bylaw, construction has begun on a 1,200-foot runway extension at Buttonville Airport.

"I don't know how they (Toronto Airways) can do this without zoning change approval," an A.I.R. committee spokesman told The Liberal.

In recent weeks, A.I.R. has intensified its fight against runway extension, and has been seeking support throughout York region.

The A.I.R. statement says the organization has the backing of Markham and Richmond Hill councils, Urban Affairs minister Barney Danson, and York Centre MPP Alf Stong.

Another supporter is former Markham councillor Ron Moran.

Among A.I.R. concerns are that runway extension would increase traffic volume and noise levels at the airport, and result in property depreciation and possible expropriation.

The meeting begins at 8 p.m. in the Women's Institute Hall, Buttonville.

The hall is situated north of Markham municipal offices on Woodbine Avenue, one mile north of Highway 7.



Thomas Joyce follows Laframboise