

Councillors slow to tell election plans

RICHMOND HILL— Voters here will have to wait a while yet before finding out who'll be running in the coming civic election.

Election day — Dec. 6 — is just 2½ months away, but at this point even most of the incumbent town councillors don't want to commit themselves.

As for possible opposition, there are lots of rumors but nothing's definite. Mayor David Schiller last week announced he will be seeking a second

term. He was the first member of council to declare his intentions.

Most other councillors were rather vague about the subject when contacted by The Liberal.

Definite "yeses" came only from Regional Councillor Lois Hancey, Ward 2 Councillor Al Duffy and Ward 4 Councillor Marylo Graham.

"Probably" was the response from Andy Chateauvert of Ward 1 and Bill

Corcoran of Ward 5.

The others, who say they haven't decided yet whether to seek re-election, are Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe, Ward 3's John Birchall and Ward 6's Mike Burnie.

Official Plan paramount

Mrs. Hancey, now in her 13th year on town council and her second term on York region council, said she wants to

continue with the work she has been involved with.

In particular, the Official Plans of both the town and the region are "of paramount importance," she commented.

Mrs. Graham, first-term councillor and chairman of the planning committee, said she was "anxious to complete some of the programs that have been initiated" and is especially

concerned with the Official Plan's completion. (Target date is by the end of 1977.)

Duffy, also in his first term of office, said he has enjoyed the experience and is pleased with the "way things have gone."

"But there are certainly more things to be done," Duffy said. "Pressures for development are likely to increase and it will be a continuing challenge to guide the town's growth in the best manner."

Chateauvert commented: "I will probably run but I haven't made a firm decision yet."

He's now in his third term and won in the 1974 election by acclamation.

Corcoran: "I haven't really decided yet. I think I will run again but I want to give it some more thought before making a commitment."

Rowe, who's been on region council

since its inception in 1971, also said he isn't ready yet to make a definite decision.

Challenge to Schiller?

Asked if he might be considering running "for another office," Rowe said he doesn't expect to "but you never know."

(Both Rowe and Corcoran — who tend to view development proposals more favorably than the majority on council — have been mentioned as possible opponents of Schiller in the mayoralty election.)

Birchall and Burnie, both in their first term of office, said they haven't made up their minds whether to run again but will give it serious consideration in the weeks ahead.

Deadline for filing nomination papers is Nov. 15. Enumeration of voters, conducted by the province, is now under way.

Richmond Hill Edition

The Liberal

"In Essentials Unity, in Non-Essentials Liberty, in all things Charity"

Established 1878

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1976

46 pages Price 26 cents



The mud pies were yummy

It wasn't the best day for soccer but it was great for making mud pies Saturday at the annual Richmond Hill Centennial soccer tournament. Shown mixing up a batch of "pies"

for himself is an unidentified Beaconsfield goalie (1). Looking and figuring to get his finger in there too is a Richmond Hill Gamma Foundry warrior. See Sports, B-4.

Big population rise?

Town hesitates to endorse plan

RICHMOND HILL — Richmond Hill, according to a recent York Region study, is destined to be the region's major centre, with a population of 95,000 in the next 25 years.

But Richmond Hill council isn't convinced yet. First it wants a study of the study.

Or, as town planning director William Power explains it: "Because of the complex nature of regional economics and employment opportunities, it would appear that we should obtain some consultant expertise on the practicality of the region's consultants' proposals."

"It would appear that \$4,000 to \$5,000 would be sufficient to gain some in-depth analysis of whether or not these

proposals are in Richmond Hill's interests."

The deadline for local municipalities to respond to the region plan is Oct. 15.

In a report to council Monday, Power said there is not enough time for the town staff to prepare its own study. He recommended outside consultants be hired "and because the issue is critical to the future of Richmond Hill, the money would be well spent."

Study southeast area

A majority of council agreed, voting Monday to hire William Smith and Associates "to study the implications of the region's strategy for Richmond Hill."

At the same time, the firm will be asked to study the southeastern section of town (Highway 7-Bayview area) to determine its capability for industrial use.

The region's proposal, called A Recommended Strategy for Urban Development in South Central York, was released in early August. It recommends Richmond Hill as the major commercial-office-employment centre in the region, to "rival the North York and Scarborough centres."

The town's population, currently about 34,000, would come close to tripling by the end of the century.

Commenting on the plans, the town planning staff stated: "The proposal strongly suggests a high density role for Richmond Hill. That is a far-reaching decision to apply to an established community when it appears most residents would be affected."

Not enough information
"Development strategies in the absence of over-all policies are hard to accept. There is insufficient information on which to make proper judgments."

The town staff also suggested that council not agree to the proposals "until they can be analyzed as to their over-all impact."

The urban area for the town has been recommended by the region report "without considering the details. It is a decision which has been taken without any discussion with the town on local desires."

Among specific questions to be studied, the town planners want to investigate:

— Impact of heavy growth on the financial well-being of the town.

— Disruptive effect of a rapid growth rate on a reasonably small urban core.

— Impact of the plan to establish a special service centre in the town.

— Financial impact on the town regarding the York-Durham sewerage scheme.

Hill's parkway brief caught in legal snag

RICHMOND HILL — Frustrated by a recent court ruling, Richmond Hill council won't be able to make its pitch for inclusion of Langstaff Jail Farm in the Parkway Belt West.

Not officially, anyway. But, when council presents its brief to the parkway belt hearings in Thornhill Thursday, it will still try to slip in some reference to its long-standing position on the jail farm site.

Council, like the Langstaff Community Association, believes the jail farm should be included in the proposed green space-utility corridor and that the homes and businesses in Langstaff be saved from destruction.

But a ruling of the division court has determined that the hearings may deal only with land already designated part of the parkway belt. That rules out any consideration of the jail farm or other alternate sites.

At its Monday meeting, council voted to delete from its brief any specific reference to the jail farm, but to include "words that will convey the wishes of council."

"I don't think we should back off from our position," said Mayor David Schiller. "The onus is on the hearing officers to say whether our comments are acceptable or out of order."

"Offering part of order"
Planning director William Power suggested the brief could "allude to council's position" without making a specific recommendation that would likely be ruled out of order.

The town could also "give a parting shot" at the conclusion of its presentation, Power said.

Councillor Marylo Graham, chairman of the planning committee, took a stronger line: "We shouldn't back down. We should make the recommendation we believe in, even if the

brief is ruled out of order."

Apart from its views on the jail farm site, council will also suggest in its brief that:

— The concept of the parkway belt, as a green space demarcation area between Metro Toronto and Richmond Hill, is a laudable proposal.

— Hydro transmission lines should not be included in the parkway belt, but if they are, they should be constructed as underground cables.

— The government's method of acquiring land, and the freeze on private property, are unfair without proper compensation to the owners.

The Parkway Belt West will run from Dundas, near Hamilton, to Highway 48 in Markham, covering more than 90 square miles.

Hearings on the proposal are being held at Thornhill community centre and will continue through Oct. 6.

Distribution of trustees will remain the same

AURORA — Voters going to the polls Dec. 6 in York Region will find the number and distribution of public school trustees will remain the same.

The school board was informed of the standing in a letter from York Region Clerk Robert Vernon.

With voters apportioned among municipalities in terms of equalized public residential and farm assessment, Richmond Hill with 15.01 per cent of total assessment, will again have three representatives, while Markham with 30.99 per cent will keep its five.

King, Vaughan and Georgina will each elect two trustees, while Aurora,

East Gwillimbury, Newmarket and Whitechurch-Stouffville will all have one apiece as before.

Separate school supporters will again have two representatives on the public board, one for Markham and Richmond Hill, which have 48.16 per cent of assessment.

The seven remaining municipalities, which have 51.84 per cent of separate residential and farm assessment, will have the other representative.

Total public residential and farm assessment is \$1,603,024,270. Total assessment for separate school voters is \$197,506,864.

Markham says parkway severely limits growth

THORNHILL — The draft plan for the Parkway Belt West will not only severely restrict urban and industrial growth in Markham, but will upset much of the planning already completed, according to the town's brief to the parkway belt hearings.

The parkway belt in Markham extends for almost nine miles across the town, covering 5,120 acres of land.

In addition to the lands proposed for inclusion in the parkway belt, provincial actions and programs have frozen almost two-thirds of the town's 50,460 acres.

Other property in reserve includes land for the proposed Pickering airport, North Pickering community and the provincial zoning order for lands affected by the airport.

"The town has no choice except to request the province to release lands suitable for development from the

various provincial plans and to request that the boundaries of the belt be adjusted to provide viable communities and areas of development," planning director Tom Januszewski told the three-member hearing panel last week.

Specifically, the town asked that the Langstaff community, Phase IV area of Thornhill and Brown's Corners industrial area be exempt from the parkway belt.

Markham's opposition to the provincial draft plan, contained in a 19-page report, recommended that persons be offered compensation for lands lost to the parkway belt and that the compensation be calculated on the basis of interest and land value based on the town's Official Plan.

Since lands designated for the parkway belt will be subject to a reduced assessment value, Markham also recommended that the loss of tax

revenue to the town be calculated and the amount be reimbursed by the province, in the form of an unconditional grant.

The Parkway belt hearings continue at Thornhill community centre until Oct. 6.

Rotary Club will present travel movies

RICHMOND HILL — Scotland with its "Kilts and Castles" and "The Kingdom of Tonga" may seem far off for some, but Richmond Hill Rotary Club plans to remedy all that.

This year, as in the past, the club will be presenting its Travel and Adventure series, six travel movies in color, with those who made the films on hand to tell about them.

They are: Eastern Caribbean — Paradise Found, Oct. 21, with J. and C. Craigie; Scotland, Nov. 18, with Gary Peterson; The People of Spain, Dec. 2, with Howard Pollard; The Kingdom of Tonga, Feb. 3, with Clint Denn; Romantic Austria, March 10, with Bob Ditta; Adventure in Columbia, April 14, with Romain Wilhelmson.

The movies will be shown at Bayview High School auditorium at 8 p.m. Cost of the series is \$8 for adults and \$3 for students, with single admissions available at the door for \$2.

Money raised is to be used for charitable projects in Richmond Hill and elsewhere.

People wishing tickets may contact the following: Bill Cook, 884-2918, evenings, and 465-2454, days; Joe Horvat, 884-6902 and 884-4641; Bev Cook, 223-3243; Harry Simpson, 884-1651; Bill Harris, 884-5964 and 889-0330.



Community Centre open

Hannah Springer (left), her sister Christie Springer and mother Janet Springer, a member of the Richvale Community Centre social planning council, display two rag dolls at the opening of

Richvale community and day care centre Friday. The centre is located at Avenue Road and Castlerock Drive in Richmond Hill.

Inside The Liberal

Back at the cottage

A York Region family's trials and tribulations with a Lake Simcoe summer cottage are the subject of a new column by Sharon Brain, starting this week on Page A5.

Langstaff Secondary School Principal William Armstrong explains the controversial student survey recently cancelled by the public school board. See Letters to the Editor on Page A4.

This week's index of news and advertising features:

Editorials	A4	Sports	B1-4	Real estate	B6-8
Letters	A4	Classified	B9-11	Church directory	C3
Vital statistics	B11	King-Oak Ridges	C1	In the Hill	C2
Canadian Tire	CT1-4	Entertainment	C13	Scheduled events	C2
Travel section	Tr1-8	Gardening	A6	Yesterdays	A5