

# School tax set

By Jim Irving

AURORA — York County board of education gave final approval to its 1977 budget Monday night, and not a moment too soon.

The \$74.1 million estimates were to be delivered to the ministry of education, Tuesday, Mar. 15, the deadline set by the ministry.

The budget lists \$38,500,000 for elementary school purposes and \$35,600,000 for secondary, up \$6 million from last year's \$68 million outlay.

At the same time, the board approved the 1977 requisition for the nine area municipalities. This comes to \$18,854,522 for elementary school purposes and \$17,796,289 for secondary school programs.

A board report showed the combined county rate up 9.4 per cent over last year's.

However, it was also pointed out the rates were only estimates as the individual area municipalities were

responsible for establishing the actual mill rates.

A breakdown of the rate estimates shows Richmond Hill with an estimated mill rate of 19.232, up 9.5 per cent over 1976.

Average for the region is 9.4 per cent. Other area rates: Vaughan, 17.697, up 9.6; Markham, 18.192, up 8.4; King, 21.374, up 9.6; Whitchurch-Stouffville, 19.609, up 9.6.

Individual requisitions for elementary schools show Richmond Hill's \$2,863,279 to be third highest behind Markham and Vaughan.

Markham has a requisition of \$5,838,218, while Vaughan's is \$3,180,883.

In the secondary school category, Richmond Hill's requisition is \$2,728,133.

Markham is assessed \$5,508,529. Vaughan's total is \$3,055,168.

Both the budget and requisitions were approved without comment.



## Handicap rights

Asking for schools constructed so the handicapped can attend was a delegation last week to the public board. Part of the delegation included, left to right: Ken Lanaway, George Jenner and Alison Adair, with Lynda France in the wheelchair.

## Facilities inadequate at schools

AURORA — More facilities for the handicapped was the theme of briefs to York County board of education last week from several groups.

The groups, which included Vaughan Association for the Physically Handicapped, would like to see such things as elevators installed, and wheelchair access to the buildings and washroom facilities.

Spokesman Michael Bailey of Thornhill said schools in York Region would not be able to accommodate the number of handicapped children who would be of high school age in September.

Taking children by bus proved tiring, he said. Cost of installing elevators at Langstaff Secondary School and Don Head Vocational School, would cost \$70,000.

Wheelchair access to buildings and facilities would cost \$29,000. The board has asked for a feasibility study on the requests.

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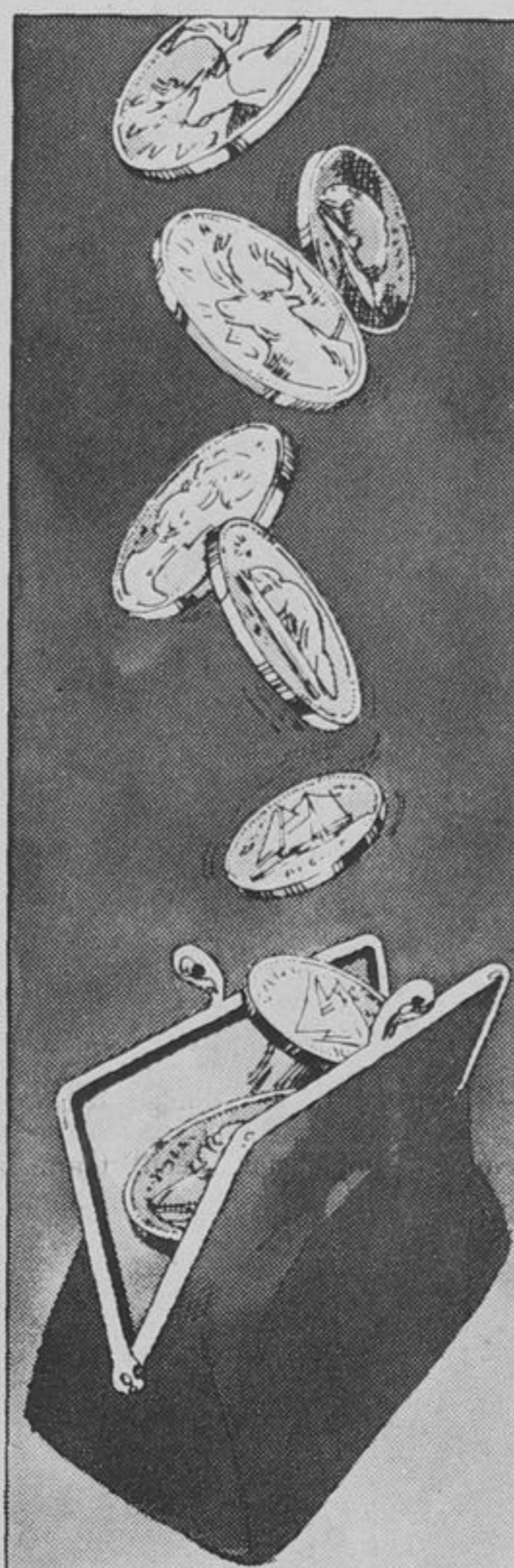
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## INFORMATION



TOWN OF

## MARKHAM TRANSIT

Effective Monday March 21st, 1977 the Town of Markham Transit buses will discontinue using the property at the Thornhill Community Centre - Bayview Avenue and John Street - for passenger Boarding and Transferring purposes. Riders are being requested to utilize the bus shelters that have been provided on the two streets.

**EFFECTIVE MONDAY**

**APRIL THE 4th, 1977**

Passengers using the Transit service on Residential streets will be required to use the nearest intersection for Boarding and Disembarking purposes.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**APRIL 8th, 1977**

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Harvey Cox  
Traffic & Transit Co-ordinator  
Town of Markham

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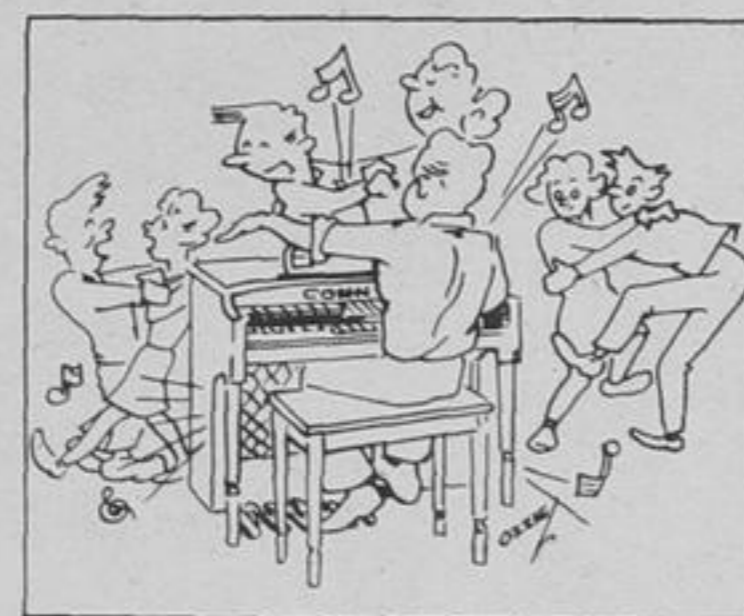
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## If you are employed and going to have a baby, you're entitled to pregnancy leave.



## This is what Ontario is doing to make certain you receive it.

We have a law in Ontario which permits any pregnant woman, married or not, to take a 17-week unpaid leave of absence from work to have her baby. This law covers part-time as well as full-time employees, provided that they have been working for the same employer for at least 63 weeks before the expected date of birth.

When she returns to work, the new mother is guaranteed the right to her former position or to a comparable position with no loss of seniority or benefits at the same salary.

Naturally, pregnancy does not prevent an employee from being dismissed for valid reasons not connected with pregnancy, but pregnancy alone cannot be the cause of dismissal where an employee is eligible for leave.

An expectant mother is required to give two weeks' notice in writing of the day she intends to leave. She is entitled to begin her leave any time within 11 weeks before the baby's birth but she must take at least six weeks of her leave afterwards. If the employer wishes the employee to begin her leave before she wants to do so, the employer must prove that she is unable to perform her normal duties adequately.

The employee is eligible for Unemployment Insurance

benefits during her pregnancy leave (even if she does not intend to resume work when her leave expires) if she had at least 20 weeks of insured employment during the year before the birth. At least ten of the 20 weeks should have fallen between the 30th and the 50th weeks before the birth.

If you would like more information about pregnancy leave or other labour legislation of interest to working women, write to:

Employment Standards Branch  
Ministry of Labour  
400 University Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1T7

and we will send you a brochure.

Bette Stephenson, M.D.,  
Minister of Labour



William Davis,  
Premier

Province of Ontario