



Doctors cancel Stong meeting

Alf Stong, MLA for York Centre, was all set to meet with representatives of the doctors in York Region last week, but at the last minute the doctors cancelled the meeting.

Dr. Bernard Granton, President of the York Central Medical Association, said in an interview that the doctors did not cancel the meeting because they had anything to fear... far from it.

They do want to sit down with Mr. Stong and discuss the problems being faced by doctors in York Region and what they feel the constituents should be aware of, but some subjects in the legislature recently have made the doctors hold back.

The Ontario Medical Association executive has mentioned the fact that opted out doctors must be required by law to tell their patients that they have opted out and the executive thinks this should apply to doctors working in emergency departments at hospitals.

The OMA council, which includes representatives of doctors from all areas of the province, will meet at the end of April, and one topic under discussion will be this issue.

Doctors are waiting to see if the council draws up guidelines for them, which will tell them how they are to handle telling different patients in different situations about

how much the bill will be and so on. Mr. Stong mentioned in a recent newspaper column that about 40 per cent of doctors in York Region have opted out of OHIP for various reasons.

The main reasons the doctors give for leaving the so-called protection of OHIP include a dislike for constant government interference and too much control by government.

Dr. Granton doesn't feel that too many doctors from this area will choose to leave the country because of the recent problems in the legislature, but he says some doctors in other areas may well choose to do so.

In the past 18 months, 12 doctors have opted out

of the country in favor of less restricted environment in the United States.

Some doctors are finding that even though they have received increases in the past few years from OHIP, they are taking home less money than in 1973, and they are angry.

It may take awhile for all these problems to be settled to everyone's satisfaction, but York Region doctors are willing to talk to Mr. Stong and they are willing to let him know how they feel.

The next meeting with Mr. Stong and the doctors will take place after the OMA council meets on April 30 and May 1, and maybe by then some solutions to some of the problems will have been found.

April is Cancer month across Canada and recently the flag pole at the Town offices began to fly a new flag in honor of the massive campaign to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society. Doing the Honors are Dr. Dennis Stainer,

President of the Richmond Hill Chapter of the Canadian Cancer Society; Llowyn Martin, President of the Thornhill Chapter and Richmond Hill firefighter David Sephton. (Liberal Photo by Bruce Hogg).

Surf sailing soon on Lake Wilcox, committee decides

It might not be as exotic as surfboard sailing in Hawaii but it'll be a lot closer and a lot cheaper. That's surfboard sailing on Lake Wilcox this summer.

Members of the Richmond Hill Parks and Recreation Committee approved last Thursday night a proposal to permit surf sailing instruction and rental of the craft on Lake Wilcox at Sunset Beach Park.

The company, Surf Sailing Canada Limited of Toronto, would pay a rental fee to the Town of \$750 with local residents using the facilities receiving a \$3 discount off the registration fee.

The project would be held on a one-year trial basis with possibilities of extending it to five years if it proves to be successful.

The firm also indicated a willingness to operate instructional classes for youth and special groups such as participants in local leadership training courses.

It would co-operate on a non-profit basis with any profits compensated for by providing free lessons to worthy groups.

Only foreseeable problem would be parking brought about by people converging on the park to take surf sailing lessons, sailing on the lake, picnicking or swimming.

Parks and Recreation Director Dave Hamilton said "we're aware of possible parking problems but there are 120 spaces in the area which should be adequate plus more on the grass at Sunset Beach."

Almost in the same breath the committee noted a small group of people living in the region had discussed the possibility of a sailing club on the lake for 1980.

Small craft sailing would be promoted on the lake this summer to discover the amount of interest it draws. It was pointed out the lake was suitable for wind sailing, dinghy, mirror or other

All is quiet at Reynolds strike scene

Striking workers at Reynolds Extrusion Company Limited on Edward Street in Richmond Hill are still solid on the picket line — but still no word from the company.

Dennis Smith, president of Local 8412 of the United Steelworkers of America, said all was quiet at the plant and there have been no attempts by trucks to cross the picket line since March 30 when a court order was obtained by the company to have a truck pass.

small centreboard sailcraft.

Provincial and federal authorities have already banned seaplanes on the lake and have restricted speed limits on power boats to six miles an hour. A 250-foot swimming area has also been marked off at Sunset Beach.

It's all designed to frustrate owners of power boats from using the lake for water skiing and power racing and encourage small size sailing craft and windsurfers.

Regulation signs will be installed on the lake and in Sunset Beach Park and will be enforced by the York Regional Police.

Parks and Recreation Chairman Mike Burnie said it for everyone:

"It sounds like exciting proposals all way round and will provide a sailing mecca for people right in the town."

Final approval on the committee recommendations will have to be made by town council.

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