

New area boundaries favored by Stouffville council

Loss of identity 'disturbing' — Reeve

STOUFFVILLE — The Village of Stouffville has been placed in an area of regional government, the boundaries of which are satisfactory to all members of council.

This was the indication, Thursday, the evening following the announcement by Hon. Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The Area, to be known as Whitchurch unless otherwise changed by a vote of the people, will contain a population of 11,000.

Reeve Ken Laushway said the boundary lines were very similar to what Stouffville council had originally recommended. He also expressed favor with the Roberts' Plan that puts the community in a band of agricultural park and open space land.

With reference to Stouffville's loss of identity, he said this decision by the Minister had proved disturbing to a cross-section of residents — and understandably so. "This issue is still open to further discussion," he said. "From a legal standpoint," he continued, "the Village of Stouffville will be non-existent after Jan. 1. But it could still be Whitchurch or Stouffville or even something entirely new." He pointed to the position of Mayor as an important one but verified an earlier statement that he would not be a candidate.

Councillor Ethel Mole stressed the need of looking at the whole Area issue objectively. "We can't think only of ourselves," she said, "we must retain an open mind."

"The system will work if everyone endeavors to make it work," agreed the reeve.

Deputy-reeve Jim McKellar said some change in the top tier of government was badly needed. "It had to come," he said, "the County was not playing its part."

A meeting between the councils of Stouffville and Whitchurch has been arranged for May 14 in Stouffville with a representative from the Dept. of Municipal Affairs to attend.

'Century City'

Does not conform

STOUFFVILLE — What of 'Century City'? Where does it fit into Premier Roberts' Design for Development' scheme or Darcy McKeough's Regional Government plan.

This question was asked of Mr. McKeough by Tribune Editor, Jim Thomas at a press conference in Bayview Secondary School, May 6.

The Minister replied that while it was premature to give a definite answer, the proposal does not conform until the regional development concept. He indicated that he was aware of the site location east of Stouffville and past discussions that had gone on concerning it.

Mr. McKeough's statement is borne out in Zone 2 of the government's regional development area, where land is set aside for agriculture, park and open space use.

Reeve Bob Nesbitt of Uxbridge Township suggested that a portion of the 'Century City' site might possibly be acquired by the Province for park and recreation purposes.

It was Reeve Nesbitt who, from the nomination platform last November, spoke in favor of just such a scheme.

Whitchurch area

One representative on regional council

WHITCHURCH TWP. — The new Whitchurch Area, that comes into effect, Jan. 1, 1971 and includes the Village of Stouffville, will include a Mayor and eight councillors or aldermen, although this number is subject to change.

Since the population is 11,000, the Area will have only one representative on the upper regional council. This will be the Mayor. The offices of reeve and deputy-reeve have been excluded.

A breakdown of representation in the nine regions follows: Vaughan—2 for 18,000 population; Markham—3

Election date Oct. 5

STOUFFVILLE — It was quite evident in the announcement by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on the new regional government alignment that no time was to be lost in putting the new plan into operation.

The first municipal election will be held Oct. 5 of this year with the new council to take office on Jan. 1, 1971. The council will be comprised of eight councillors and a mayor. The new municipality will be divided into Wards. The actual division of wards will be done by Minister's order on the advice of the municipalities involved.

Regional Council From the nine new councils will come the new Regional Council, consisting of sixteen members and a chairman. As in the case of Metro Toronto, the chairman will be appointed by the provincial government during the first two terms.

Each of the nine mayors will be a member of the Regional Council and those municipalities entitled to more members will make their own selection from members of their own local council.

All councils will be elected for a term of two years and the total cost of the initial election will be borne by the provincial government.

This year's election for members of the York County Board of Education will also be held on Oct. 5.

York region could expand

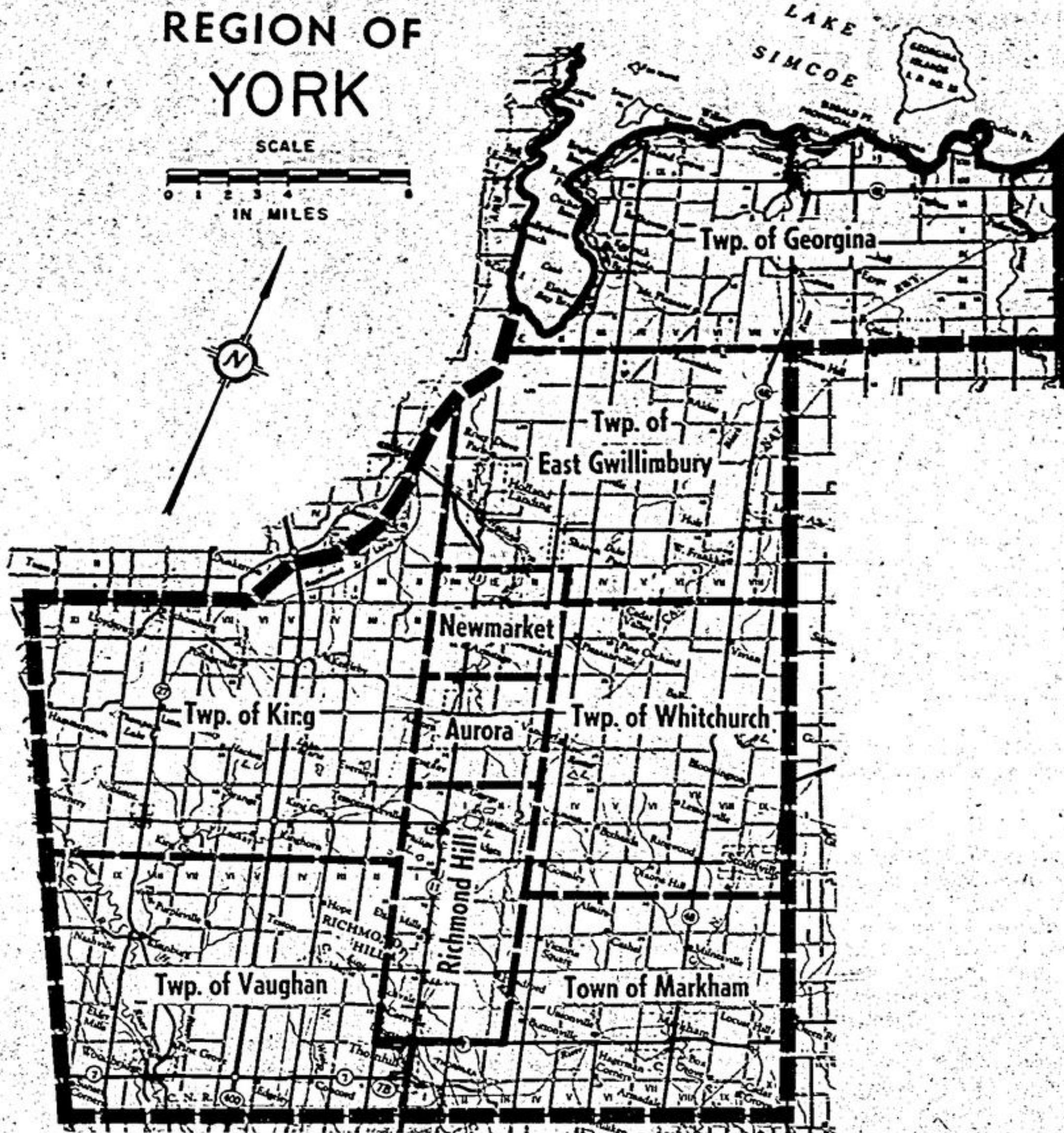
YORK CTY. — The new Region of York that officially comes into being Jan. 1, 1971, could expand its present boundaries on both the north, east and west.

This was suggested by Hon. Darcy McKeough in his address, May 6, at Bayview Secondary School, Richmond Hill.

"While I do not wish to alarm the Counties of Peel, Simcoe and Ontario, I should emphasize that the remaining boundaries of the County of York are not viewed as fixed for an indefinite period of time," said the Minister, "however, the new regional government will be established on a two-tiered basis for the existing area of York."

for 31,000; Richmond Hill—3 for 27,000; King—1 for 12,000; Aurora—1 for 13,000; Whitchurch—1 for 11,000; Newmarket—2 for 16,000; East Gwillimbury—1 for 10,000 and Georgina—2 for 13,000.

The extra representative in Georgina is in recognition of the large influx of cottage residents to the Area in the summer.



The new Region of York as unveiled May 6 by Hon. Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs. The nine Areas are indicated with Stouffville forming a part of Whitchurch. Legislation is effective, Jan. 1, 1971.

Markham Twp. 'chewed up'

MARKHAM TWP. — Although he is happy that the Province has finally made a statement with regards to Regional Government for the County of York, Markham Township Reeve Stewart Rumble is not pleased with the boundaries proposed for Markham.

but not Markham and Vaughan as the councils had recommended. He was further irked



Reeve Stewart Rumble

"It is unwarranted," he said, "that so much of the municipality has been lost to others." There is no reason why the northern section should have become part of Whitchurch, he said; nor should Richmond Hill take such a large chunk out of the west.

Mr. Rumble was upset over the fact that the Department of Municipal Affairs had seen fit to amalgamate Sutton, North Gwillimbury and Georgina

over the announced possibility of northern expansion by metro.

The area in question can be developed — and will be — whether it is controlled by metro or not, he said. Political influence will

make no difference. One point — the consolidation of the local police forces into a regional unit — did meet with Mr. Rumble's favor. It's a good and solid concept, he said.

Population 11,000

STOUFFVILLE — The extent of the new municipality of Whitchurch including Stouffville reaches approximately 14 miles from east to west and ten miles from north to south. Included in this area will be a population of 11,000, divided approximately a thousand in the Markham portion, four thousand in the Stouffville urban area and six thousand in the Whitchurch rural area.

quarter north of Vivian will be the line.

Dissolve T. & Y. roads commission

YORK CTY. — The Toronto and York Roads Commission will no longer exist after Jan. 1, 1971.

The chief engineer is Mr. A.J. Rettle with headquarters on Don Mills Road.

In his announcement, May 6, Darcy McKeough noted that roads previously under the jurisdiction of the T. & Y., will come under the regional system.

Mr. McKeough said also that compensation, now coming from Metro Toronto, will be terminated.

Expanded fire protection

STOUFFVILLE — One of main points of jurisdiction left to the new local council will be that of fire protection. The suggestion of a week ago that the Stouffville facilities only recently built, might have to be enlarged becomes more clear in the light of plans outlined for the new regional government.

Fire protection service must be provided from the Dickson's Hill sideroad on the south north to the Davis Drive which is a mile and a quarter north of Vivian. West, the service will reach a point midway between the Don Mills Road and the third concession. While the present Stouffville brigade does provide protection over much of this area, a more intensive service will no doubt be wanted for the rural area.

Plans also call for a regional fire co-ordinator for the entire county.

Garbage Collection A co-ordinated garbage collection service will come under the

Reeve Stewart Burnett 'What we expected'



Reeve Stewart Burnett

WHITCHURCH TWP. — The new Regional Government boundaries are "very close to what I had expected," said Whitchurch Reeve Stewart Burnett.

The township's proposal had originally included East Gwillimbury, but, Mr. Burnett said, the area would then have been a little too large. Now, he said, most of the local units have similar populations, and this is important.

It's a good plan, and a lot of work has gone into it, he said. It's good that it came when it did — putting it off would possibly mean the loss of the southern municipalities to Metro, especially with an election next year.

Mr. Burnett's personal position is affected by the boundary change though.

According to the new plan, his farm is located within the Town of Aurora. He told the Tribune that he has not given any thought to running in the October 5 election. If he does, he added, it will have to be for the Aurora council.

The eight member council as proposed, he said, might be too large for

efficient government. Small committees get further ahead than large ones, he added.

The centre of the new municipality, he said, should possibly be rural, at least for the sake of services and, especially, road maintenance. There are 140 miles of roads in the township, he said, and, if the department was located in one corner, such as Stouffville, it would make work more difficult.

Police villages — no more

YORK CTY. — The legal status of Police Villages, limited though it was, will be no more with the introduction of Regional Government to York County, Jan. 1, 1971.

This will affect such communities as Unionville and Thornhill.

In a press conference, following his address at Bayview Secondary School, May 6, Hon. Darcy McKeough noted, however, that the identity of these areas will be

retained — for years to come.

"At the time of the re-organization of local municipalities in the region, all existing police villages will be dissolved," Mr. McKeough said, "the new local councils will be provided with authority to levy special rates in particular areas of the municipality to supply necessary urban services in these communities."

Likely candidate

MARKHAM TWP. — Anthony Roman, deputy-reeve of Markham Twp., is a likely candidate for Mayor of Markham Town, Oct. 5. Mayor Alma Walker has already indicated her intention to stand.

New town of Markham

Too big — too impersonal too costly — Mayor Walker

MARKHAM TOWN — When Regional Government becomes official, Jan. 1, 1971, expanded boundaries to the north and west will give the Town of Markham a population of 31,000 people.

How does the governing of so large an area fit into the future plans of Mayor Alma Walker?

"In all probability I will run," Mrs. Walker told The Tribune. However, she wasted no words in criticizing both the regional system as a whole and the Area in particular.



Mayor Alma Walker

"Mr. McKeough has created a 'ghost' that will haunt him the rest of his life." "And I'll be disappointed if it doesn't."

Mrs. Walker said she had, through the years, attempted to keep in close touch with the people she was elected to represent. She pointed out however, that the trend today was in the very opposite direction — away from the people. "Tell me," she asked, "what has the Town of Markham in common with the residents of Thornhill?"

As for electioneering, she noted that candidates' costs could be tremendous. "I can knock on doors here," she said, "but I'll never make it up and down Yonge Street."

The election date is Oct. 5.



The creator of Regional Government for York, Hon. Darcy McKeough. Following his announcement, May 6, he held a conference with press representatives at Bayview Secondary School. —Peter Harris

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