

Don Deacon

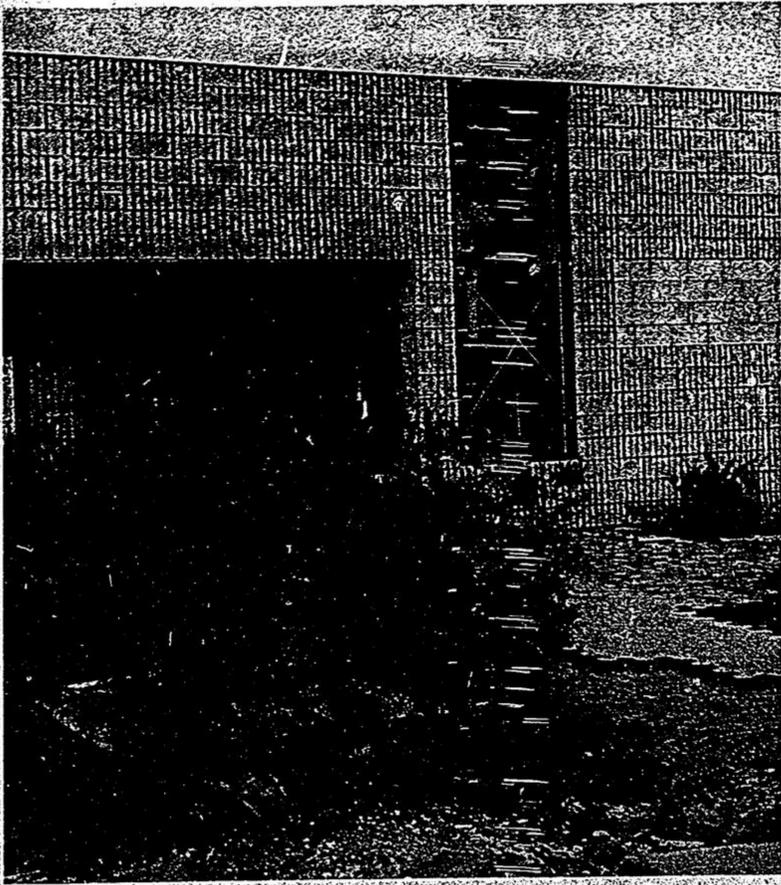
Major effort to recycle garbage

Two recent, Queen's Park announcements will have a major effect on the people of Vaughan, Richmond Hill and Markham. One is good and one is bad, and both involve our environment.

The good one is the decision to proceed with a major effort to recycle garbage. Although the first stage is merely a \$17 million shredding and sorting programme in 7 communities, that in itself will substantially reduce objectionable features of garbage — namely, smell, rodents and bulk. The long range plan is to assume responsibility across the Province for garbage disposal and to undertake a construction programme over the next several years of up to \$400 million to construct plants to utilize waste through reclamation and conversion. Thus we may

finally see an end to this Ministry's past obsession with Garbage Dumps.

The bad announcement is the decision to proceed with the \$200 million York Durham water and sewer scheme. The need for improved water and sewer services in this area is unquestioned, but the proposed big collector trunk sewer is an engineers' and contractors' dream and a taxpayers' nightmare. All those concerned about the future sources of food also have cause for bad dreams for the big pipe entails destruction of thousands of acres of our richest soil. This alone will cost us much more than \$200 million. The solution I have urged to our housing crisis in this part of Ontario is threefold. The prime need is for major transportation and other service improvement projects combined with a programme to locate Government Ministries away from the Golden Horseshoe. The second is to substantially increase the capacity of existing treatment plants in York and to equip the latter with modern additional facilities which will utilize the nutrients which now pollute our receiving streams.



Completion of the inside work has delayed the opening of the new post office. The building, originally slated for opening the end of October is now not scheduled for use until the end of November. The outside work, including landscaping and a patio, have been completed and when this picture was taken the interior was being painted.

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Humane Society posts huge rate increase

STOUFFVILLE. The Ontario Humane Society has informed Watchdog-Stouffville Council that if they wish to retain the same service from the society in 1975 as was provided in 1974 the cost per capita will jump from 80c to \$1.25.

"That's a considerable jump, almost a 50 per cent hike," commented Councillor June Button.

"I don't think we have any alternative but to deal with the Humane Society," said Councillor Art Starr. Council had considered hiring their own personnel for canine control but decided the cost would be prohibitive.

Councillor Cathy Joyce was chosen to represent council at a joint meeting between the Humane Society and the other municipalities using the society's services. The meeting is being held to negotiate a

common fee for the three municipalities. Mrs. Joyce will report back to council.

T. S. I. Hughes, Executive Vice-President of the Ontario Humane Society, sent a letter informing them of the rate increases.

Mr. Hughes wrote, "If we are to extend the service in 1975 to allow for one warden to be in each of the municipalities for at least eight hours per day the cost to the municipalities will be \$1.60 per capita."

Mr. Hughes also informed council that if they wished to hire their own wardens and use the society's pound facilities this could be arranged at a charge of 50 cents per capita per annum.

"In preparing the budget for 1975 we have used a 12 per cent inflation factor although this may well be, in fact, too little," Mr. Hughes wrote.

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Health and Social Services

Administrative staff established by region

YORK REGION. — York Regional Council has approved the hiring of three additional staff members in the Social Services branch at an annual cost of approximately \$40,000.

According to an Administrative Committee report, "The representatives of the Ministry of Community and Social Services have

indicated that the Ministry would look favourably upon the establishment of an administrative position to assist the Commissioner (Dr. Owen Slingerland) in the development and coordination of all branches of the department and of a special research position to assess and monitor the need for and

effectiveness of present and future programmes."

The new positions to be created will qualify for a 50 per cent subsidy from the provincial government.

An Administrative Committee report explains the need for this additional staff. "The complete lack of an administrative staff responsible for Social Services has hindered and will continue to hinder his (the Commissioner's) ability to perform these responsibilities."

A Director Administration will be hired at a maximum salary of \$21,500 per year; a Special Projects Officer at \$13,500 who will be responsible for assessing and monitoring existing programs and to develop recommendations for long range programs, and at a maximum \$6,600 a clerk-stenographer will be required to carry out duties in support of the Director Administration and his staff.

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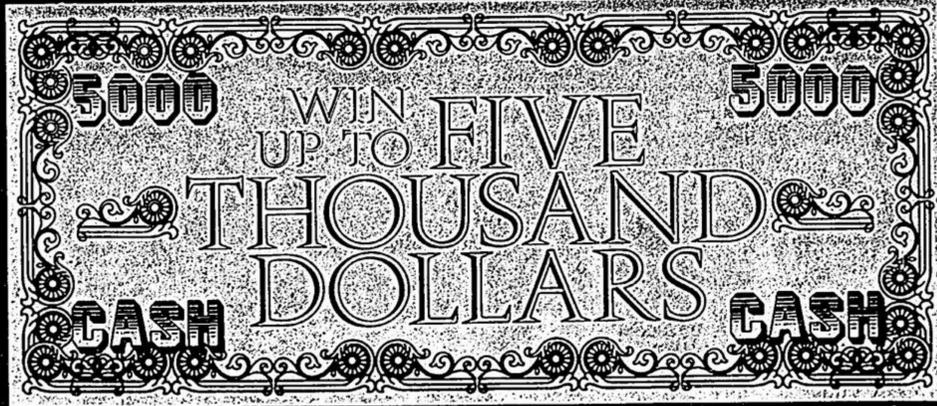
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