

# Markham hosts upcoming home show

By LYNN KELLY  
Markham will host what promises to be one of the largest home shows in Ontario at the Fairgrounds, McCowan Road, Oct. 21, 22 and 23.

At a press conference July 14, Councillor Fred Cox, President of Markham Home Show '83, said he wants to attract a variety of high-quality exhibitors to participate in a representative sampling of community business and industry.

"I think it's an idea that's been long overdue for the Markham area," said Mr. Cox. "My conception of this whole home show is to somehow bring the people and

businesses of Markham together."

Noting that Markham has the highest per capita income in Canada, Mr. Cox said area residents are "very home conscious and oriented to shopping locally," so that initial response to the two-month old venture has been overwhelming.

As well, he said homeowners from the Woodbridge, Barrie, and Oshawa areas who don't want to travel to the CNE with its parking and space limitations, will welcome Markham's convenient location. He expects a total of 50,000 people to attend the three-day event, and the buildings will be heated for their comfort.

The Fairgrounds Coliseum, with a seating capacity of 1,200, will feature a comprehensive range of consumer-oriented seminars and demonstrations from such well-known authorities as Mark Cullen of Weall and Cullen and Brent Thrall of Chef's Showcase.

As well, home improvement exhibits, such as stucco and roofing instruction, will take place in the Centre Ring demonstration area.

Fashion shows are scheduled, and live entertainment is planned for Friday, and Saturday nights.

Crafts and antiques will be sold in the Fairgrounds barn, and Labatt Breweries will be sponsoring an "Oktoberfest" tent.

Special attractions will include daily draws for a trip for two and the use of a car for a year. So far, Markham Dodge Chrysler and Unionville Motors have agreed to provide a car and Markham Travel is arranging the trips.

To date, about 25 per cent of the available 250 exhibitors' booths have been booked, said the home show's general manager, Jane Simard.

Some exhibitors have rented multiple booth space for model room displays. (Inquiries for booth rentals should be directed to Ms. Simard at 477-2677). Colored canopies will join buildings and

exhibits to tie everything together in a natural flow.

"Markham has character and a local color that people may find more attractive than the building setting of downtown," said Ms. Simard.

An advisory board of prominent local citizens including Don Cousens; Lotta Dempsey; Michael Larkin; Peter Mason and Tony Roman has been established to provide guidance in the show's development and Panex Show Services will assist in the production.

Said Mr. Cox: "We're trying to run a first-class operation and we're very excited about it."

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