

Low budget may benefit taxpayers

BY FRANCIS KING YORK REGION
 For the second year in a row, it appears likely the York Regional Police Department will underspend its multi-million dollar budget.

The Force's 1983 operational estimate called for expenditures of \$16,892,200. However, Chief Bruce Crawford, in his year-end report to York's Police Commission, said he's anticipating a surplus of approximately \$185,000. This could mean a slight savings for the Region's taxpayers.

"That's not unusual," explained Markham Mayor

Tony Roman, a member of the Commission. "There's always hope the police department won't spend everything allocated to it."

Last year, the Force underspent its 1982 budget of more than \$15 million by about \$76,000.

CONVERT TO PROPANE

Deputy Police Chief Jack Taylor couldn't give specific reasons for the surplus but noted, "I know we saved a lot of money on fuel. We converted many of our cars to propane."

He added that gasoline price wars helped cut back on costs.

Another possible reason for the continuing savings could be the per capita cost for police enforcement, which stands at \$60.73 for residents of York Region. That compares to Metro Toronto's \$132.78 and Durham Region's \$71.13 per resident.

But York Region also has fewer policemen than neighboring areas on a per capita basis. According to the report, there is one police officer for every 795 residents of York Region. (Since 1982, this has translated into a Force of 350 officers.) That ratio is considerably higher than in Metro Toronto, which has one officer for 404 people. Durham Region's ratio stands at 1:74.

Chairman resigns

YORK REGION — Calling it one of the "toughest decisions I've ever had to make," Bob Forhan resigned as Regional Chairman Thursday to become York Region's new Chief Administrative Officer.

Mr. Forhan, who, in addition to his duties as Regional Chairman, has been acting CAO since the June departure of Jack Rette, was offered the full-time position in December. He was given a month to think over the proposition and finally made his decision known Jan. 12.

"It was an extremely hard decision to make," said Forhan. "I must have changed my mind at least 20 times and didn't finally make my decision until noon today."

Mr. Forhan's resignation is effective Jan. 26 at which time he will commence his new duties. At the same time, Regional Council will meet to elect a successor.

"The CAO's position will be a real challenge," Forhan said. "It will be a chance to look at things from a much different perspective. I'll still be a part of what is going on, I'll just be playing a different position on the team."

Forhan said he had mixed feelings on accepting the offer, especially in view of the wide-spread criticism that has followed him around for the last month. Despite accusations of political patronage, Forhan stated there is "no moral problem."

"It's just a matter of cold facts," said the new CAO. "Council offered me the position and told me to make a decision. That's exactly what I've done."

Regional Council members had little to say following Mr. Forhan's announcement. Mayor Dick Illingworth of Aurora, a staunch opponent of the method used for the selection of the new CAO, said he accepted Forhan's resignation "with regret."

"I plan to give you the same support as CAO as I have as Regional Chairman," said Mayor Illingworth. To which Regional Clerk Robert Vernon quipped: "Boy, is he in trouble."

The motion to accept the resignation and install Forhan as the new CAO was made by Markham Mayor Tony Roman and seconded by Richmond Hill Mayor Al Duffy.

Following the meeting, Mr. Roman said he had a feeling Mr. Forhan would accept the CAO's position due to previous discussions with the Regional Chairman.

"Yes, we discussed the matter," said Roman. "Bob and I have been friends a long time. But, final decisions are always made by ourselves as individuals and I wasn't totally sure until he made his announcement."

"Mr. Forhan has been an excellent chairman," Mayor Roman continued. "That's why I support his move to CAO. He has both the political and practical knowledge to handle the job. I'm pleased he chose to accept. We've gained a fine person to act as CAO for the Region of York."

Employee's fitness plan shaping up

By Charlotte Cave

An ounce of prevention is worth a bottle of medicine.

This, coming from a company that makes its money on medicines, may seem like a contradiction. But McNeil Pharmaceutical says not.

McNeil sees its business as health care; and better health care starts with fitness. To set an example, the company is encouraging its employees to get into the fitness routine.

McNeil has hired Stouffville Fitness Instructor Gayle Davis to do just that. Gail conducts a series of workouts twice weekly to accommodate the needs of McNeil office, plant and shift employees.

President Les Gagnon, himself a fitness buff, claims he feels better, looks better and works better since he's started a routine. McNeil management believes that by making fitness part of employees' lives, the company will reap productive gains too.

Gayle encourages employees to do at least one other activity each week. The company plans to recognize regular employee participation in the program.

McNeil is also encouraging fitness in the community by supporting the proposed Whitchurch-Stouffville fitness complex. Mr. Gagnon is a volunteer corporate canvasser in the bid for local donations.

Museum collects articles

VANDORF — The little one-room schoolhouse—do you remember?

How could you forget?

In an effort to recall that era, the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, in co-operation with the Public Library and Latham Gallery, is planning a display of pictures, books, trustee records, maps, desks and other items related to that period.

Mary Hopkins, Museum curator, said the materials can be either loaned or donated. She mentioned specifically the School Sections of Lemonville, Bogarttown, Pine Orchard, Bethesda, Bloomington, Vandorf, Ringwood, Gormley, White Rose, Vivian as well as Stouffville. The exhibit will be set up in Latham Gallery.

"Everything will be carefully handled and registered immediately as to loaner and donor," the curator said.

"We need everything as soon as possible."

Persons unable to deliver items to the Museum are asked to call Mary Hopkins at 727-8954 or Chief Librarian George Schlukbier at 640-2395.

While the program hasn't been completely finalized, it's possible lessons will be taught from old books at old desks to former students, children and grandchildren, the curator said.

The display is being arranged in connection with Ontario's Bicentennial.

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Who in the world is Hyundai?

Fortune magazine's 1983 ranking according to sales, placed the Hyundai Corporation as the 41st largest business concern in the world outside the U.S. It is the largest company in Korea. Hyundai is an integrated car maker. It does everything from pouring the

steel to shipping the car to Canada's shores. Among Hyundai's other activities are construction and general contracting of major projects such as hydroelectric installations, hotels and refineries. They build ships of all sizes, rail cars and a

complete range of buses and trucks. For more information, send for "The Hyundai Story." Send to Hyundai Auto Canada Inc., 96 Steelcase Road West, Markham, Ontario L3R 2R8. **HYUNDAI**

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