



## Fire chief will retire next year

Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Chief Walter Smith isn't counting the days or even the weeks, but he's certainly counting the months.

Chief Smith's due for retirement next October.

He'll be 65. Walt Smith joined the Stouffville Fire Department as a volunteer in September 1946, thirty-nine years ago. He was promoted to volunteer chief in 1958 and became Whitchurch-Stouffville's first full-time chief in 1980.

Ed Lundman, the Town's Chief Administrative Officer, has recommended an assistant for Chief Smith be hired in February, and eventually take over the position next fall.



Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Chief Walt Smith will retire next year. — Jim Thomas

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## FIRE DRILL ESCAPE PROGRAM

## Stouffville area joins fire drill plan

### Complex 'safe'

"If a fire should start, it would likely be confined to one room," he said.

"Fire-wise, Parkview Village will be a very safe place," Chief Smith continued. He praised the staff at the present Parkview Home, describing them as "very fire conscious."

He also commended them on their willingness to co-operate. "They do anything I ask them to do," he concluded.

Whitchurch-Stouffville families are taking part in Canada's First National Fire Drill, sponsored by McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd., at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9.

The family evacuation plan is included as part of Fire Prevention Week that extends from Oct. 6 to 12.

Each household is encouraged to participate.

A "Family Escape Plan", provided by McDonald's, has been delivered by Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Chief Walter Smith to Summitview, Orchard Park, St. Mark's and Ballantrae Schools.

Whitchurch-Highlands School

comes under the jurisdiction of Aurora and Dickson's Hill, under Markham.

A draw will be made to select a "Fire Chief For A Day". Selection of the coupon will be done at McDonald's, Markham. The deadline for submissions is 6 p.m., Oct. 12.

The act of evacuation will be left up to the individual family, Chief Smith said. The siren will NOT sound in Stouffville for fear of creating confusion among people unaware of the evacuation plan.

Home-owners without children and people living alone are also encouraged to map out a home evacuation route and practise their escape Oct. 9 at 6 p.m.

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### MARKHAM

Chief Ken Beckett of the Markham Fire Department

urges everyone to think

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together! YOU can play a big role in reducing the danger of fires by being aware of the safety procedures. Carelessness is a major cause in fires and take extra care. Find out what you can do at home... and on the road.

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WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT