

Weekender

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Plan hydro 'face-lift'

Stouffville's Main Street, from the Ninth Line to the Tenth, is due for a hydro 'face-lift' this year.

The total cost is estimated at \$90,000, chairman Herb Peach told a Hydro-Electric Commission meeting, Thursday.

New cedar poles will be installed complete with high-pressure sodium vapor lights. The poles, Mr Peach said, will be farther apart than at present thus lessening the number required. In the downtown core, (Albert Street to Church Street), there are 38, Mayor Fran Sainsbury said. This figure will be reduced to 33.

"It will be a decided improvement," Chairman Peach reported. Hydro plans to work hand-in-hand with Bell Telephone on the project.

Jim Thomas, asked to attend the meeting by the B.I.A. (Business Improvement Area) board, wanted to know why the cedar poles couldn't be replaced by uprights made of steel or concrete similar to what had been installed

in Unionville and some other downtown improvement areas.

Chairman Peach said these couldn't be scaled by linemen. He explained too that in some other municipalities, Commissions are better equipped with respect to maintenance.

As to burying the wires, the cost, (estimated at between one-half and three-quarter million dollars), is prohibitive, the chairman said. The expense, he claimed, would be even greater to relocate the lines at the rear of properties. Easements would be required, he said, and underground lines would have to be extended to each of the businesses.

New lighting will be installed on one side of Main Street only. "This will be more than adequate," Chairman Peach stated.

As to covering the cost, he said the Commission had budgeted funds for this purpose over the past four years. "It will not pose a burden on the people," he concluded.

Suspect knew details of murder: musician

Guy Paul Morin knew details of Christine Jessop's death before they were made public, a Whitchurch-Stouffville Concert Band member has testified.

Mandy Paterson, 19, told an Ontario Supreme Court jury Thursday that she spoke with Morin after an evening band practice one week before he was charged with killing the Queensville schoolgirl.

The 26-year-old bachelor has pleaded not guilty to a charge of first-degree murder.

Ms. Paterson testified that Morin, who played clarinet next to her in the band, talked about Christine's murder "like it was something that happened every day."

The suspect revealed a surprising degree of knowledge about the slaying, she told the court.

When Ms. Paterson asked Morin if the girl had been sexually assaulted, he replied that the body was too badly decomposed to tell.

Morin also appeared to know a lot about how long the victim had been held captive and about how she had been killed, the woman testified.

Under cross-examination by defence lawyer Clayton Ruby, Ms. Paterson said she felt the suspect's apparent lack of concern about the murder definitely suggested something peculiar.

Two fellow inmates have already told the seven-man, five-woman jury that Morin admitted while in a Whitby jail cell back in July that he killed a little girl.

The brutal details of the girl's alleged sex slaying were linked in the trial's early stages to Morin's interest in the 1980 horror film *The Shining*.

Christine Jessop disappeared from her family home on Oct. 3, 1984. The nine-year-old girl's decomposed body was found nearly three months later, on New Year's Eve, in a wooded area near the Brock Township hamlet of Sonya.



Still active at 90

Unionville's Mildred Temple hasn't let age slow her down. The community activist, who celebrates her 90th birthday tomorrow, still drives a car and is still involved in many volun-

teer programs in the community. For a story on what keeps her going, see Page 7.

— Sjoerd Witteveen

WHAT'S INSIDE



Birdwatchers
The Peggs among Canada's best/20

Directory

- Drug costs..... P-3
- Comment..... P-4
- Entertainment..... P-10 to P-12
- Children's Page..... P-16
- Sports..... P-18 to P-19
- Classifieds..... P-34 to P-39

Witty move
Markham's Dave Whitt drives for the hoop/18

