

## Education hike similar to 1985

By GREG COATES  
Staff Reporter  
YORK REGION — Markham public school supporters can expect similar increases to last year in education taxes, predict school board officials working on this year's budget.

Last year, Markham residents faced a mill rate increase of 5.7 per cent, the second lowest in the region. The York Region Board of Education's (YRBOE) total budget for 1985 was \$179 million. Jack Webber, superintendent of business for the YRBOE, noted it's too early to tell what this year's budget will bring, but said he doesn't expect it to be too much different from last year.

"We've just finished reviewing submissions for expenditures and considering our growth they don't look too bad. They're up less than 11 per cent," said Mr. Webber. "If we get a break with our grants, we

shouldn't be in too bad a shape." He added this year's government grants were announced Friday, but were just picked up Monday by the school board.

Markham Trustee Charles Cooper, chairman of the board's finance committee, said has no reason to believe the board will be "hanging anything abnormal on the taxpayer."

"My feeling so far is that we'll follow the same pattern as last year," he said. "We're aiming for a reasonable increase, and there will be an increase, considering we're a growing board. I don't see anything outlandish one way or another."

The next budget meeting is scheduled for April 2. A draft of the 1986 budget will be brought before the board's finance committee on April 21 and will go to the full board for approval on April 28.



Stouffville pipe manufacturer receives fifth safety star

Employees of Whitchurch-Stouffville's Standard Pressure Pipe Company were recently awarded a fifth safety star by the Industrial Accident Prevention Association (IAPA). Receiving the honor were Willie Petri (centre left), supervisor and safety co-ordinator of the Whitchurch-Stouffville plant, and Ivan Kovalaou, a member of

Standard's safety committee. IAPA representative Leonard Sasso (left) and Ken Redrup, corporate safety co-ordinator for Standard Industries, were also involved in the presentation.

—Erkki Pohjolainen

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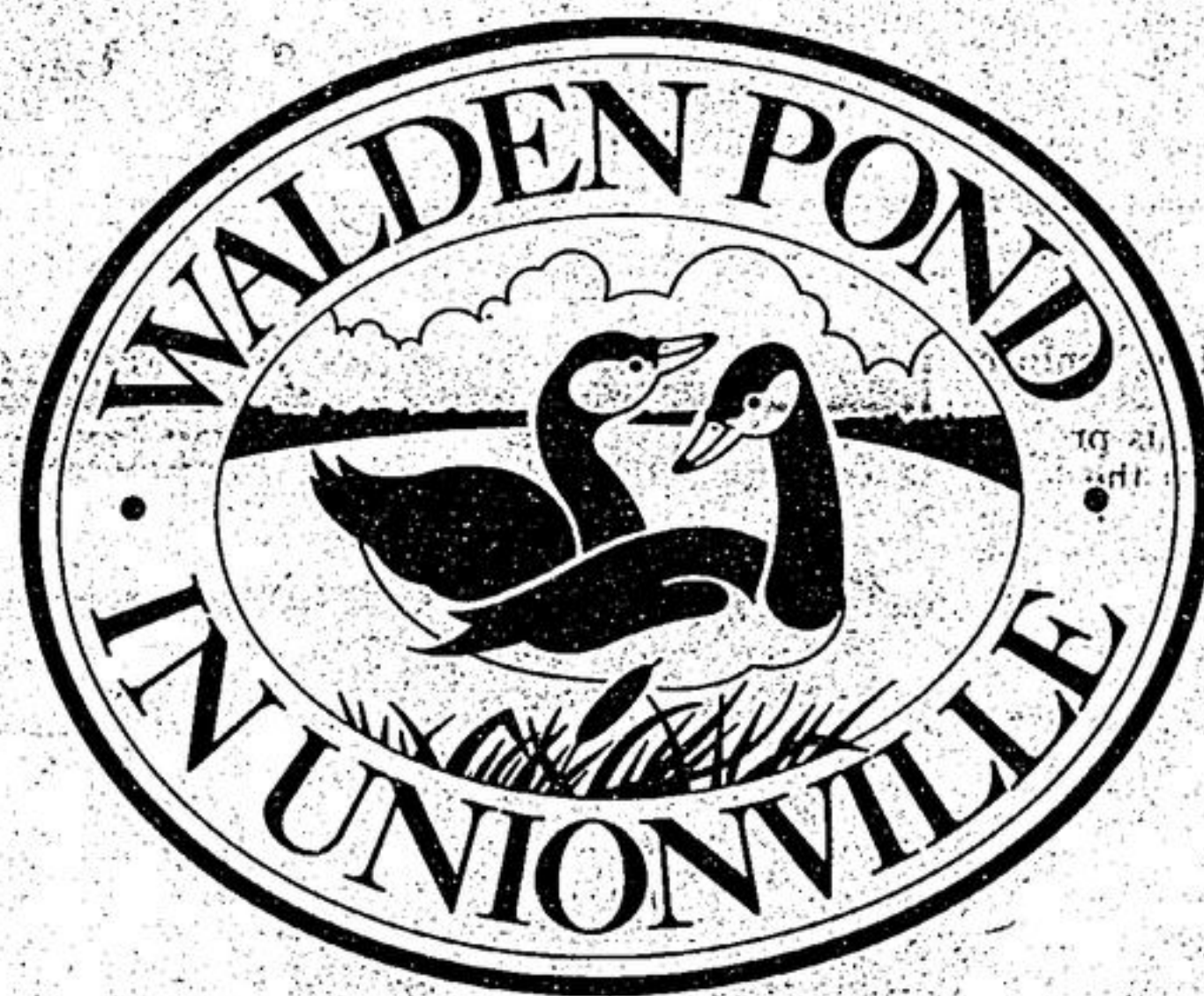
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