

Plight of elderly prompts PC report

By ROBERT DONNELLY
The Provincial Progressive Conservative Party released a discussion paper Monday calling for an extensive revamping of the present health care system for the elderly.

"What is happening in Markham is indicative of the situation in the whole province," said local MPP for York Centre Don Cousens. As the party's critic for Community and Social Services, he was appointed Chairman of the Task Force addressing the issue.

The study suggests there be a reallocation of funding towards alternative support programs for the elderly and greater support for volunteer services. The current Liberal minority government spends \$85 million on these services.

According to Mr. Cousens, "Markham has a large shortage

of nursing homes and chronic health care facilities," adding that "the new Markham Stouffville Hospital doesn't even begin to cover it."

One area of concern the study raises is with elderly patients who are inappropriately placed in the wrong health care facilities thereby costing taxpayers more than \$885 million annually.

The document also indicated that a review of the Ontario Drug Benefit Program revealed that "...many of our seniors are overdrugged" and concluded that between 10 to 15 per cent admitted into hospitals are for drug-related problems.

"We want to see people continue to live on their own, in their own homes, with their own self respect, and in their own environment as much as possible," said Mr. Cousens.



Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury (left) congratulates John Whytall, president of Country Tyme Realty Ltd., as he launches a pre-approval service in conjunction with the Bank of Montreal. Also on hand to introduce the program are: Mike

Wollenberg, mortgage development officer for York Region and his supervisor, Heather Grand of the Bank of Montreal, plus Bob Dart, Country Tyme's manager/associate broker.

— Chris Shanahan

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New mortgage plan is offered by Country Tyme

Stouffville's Country Tyme Realty Ltd. has entered an exclusive mortgage pre-approval program in association with the Bank of Montreal.

Country Tyme president John Whytall described it as an "innovative and progressive" venture designed to approve potential buyers for their mortgage financing needs before entering an Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

He said this eliminates the need for lengthy financing conditions that may or may not be fulfilled while tying up the vendor's property from potential buyers.

"Those who take advantage of the Country Tyme pre-approved mortgage plan simply do not have to think about looking for a home until they have been approved and have the written commitment in hand," Mr. Whytall explained

in a press release. "Once they know their limitations they simply inspect properties with one of the sales people from Country Tyme and when the right home comes along, they are able to make an offer without financing conditions. And they eliminate the hassle and anxiety associated with meeting conditions related to financing."

The realtor claims the offer is exciting for vendors as well.

"The prospect of having pre-approved buyers looking at your home eliminates many showings and invariably will result in faster sales to firm purchasers," according to the release. "It virtually eliminates showing a property to a client only to find out later that it was never in their capacities to (a) Purchase or (b) Maintain in the first place.

The program also offers com-

petitive interest rates that will be guaranteed for up to 75 days, with several flexible repayment options including monthly, weekly, bi-weekly or accelerated.

And it features benefits such as 10 plus 10, life insurance, interest rate protection, portability and the largest selection of terms available.

The cost to clients is minimal as there are no application fees, no standby charges and no commitment fees of any kind. In fact, the only associated cost is a flat rate of \$125 (anywhere in York Region) to have property appraised as a verification of value once a suitable home is selected by the purchaser.

Mr. Whytall said the pre-approved mortgage program will "provide peace of mind to purchasers and vendors alike."

Unionville High students score well in math contest

Unionville High School students figured it all out and placed first in York Region in two national math contests recently.

Sponsored by the Faculty of Mathematics at Waterloo University, the competition saw over 52,000 students participate from more than 1,650 schools across the nation.

In the Grade 9 Pacal Contest, 50 UHS students participated, with 40 achieving a mark higher than the Canadian average of 22,000 participants.

Gannon Jones, Heidi Bernard and Leon Tom placed first out of York Region's 18 schools and were ranked 46th out of 561 participating schools in Ontario. Gannon Jones, named to the Ontario Honor Roll, placed 194th out of 9,545 students.

Fourteen Grade 9 UHS students succeeded in being named to York Region's Honor Roll: Joing Gannon, Heidi Bernard, Leon Tom, Nikki Barrett, Danielle Gaudet, Yvette Liem, Becky Lindley, Eric Tursman, Vanessa Szeto, Hitesh Lad, Terry Woo, Debbie Lerner, Charmain Chong and Tony

Searle.

In the Grade 10 Cayley Contest, 26 UHS students participated. Unionville's team of Karen Neugebauer, Tom Sfetkopoulos and Ronok Sarker topped York Region's 18 schools and were 27th in Ontario's 538 participating schools. Karen ranked 158th of 16,618 Canadian participants and her score placed her in 80th position of 7,967 Ontario students.

Joining her on the Ontario Honor Roll is Tom who was 107th.

In the Grade 11 Fermat Contest, three UHS students took part. Kurosh Hormozian, David Liew and Mike Vlachopoulos placed seventh in York Region and each of the three achieved a score higher than the Canadian average for 13,000 students. All three were named to the York Region Honor Roll.

Diabetes group holds \$25,000 sweepstake

The Canadian Diabetes Association is holding an Ontario-wide sweepstakes draw July 12, with a first prize of \$25,000 going to the holder of the winning ticket.

Tickets for the draw are \$1 and proceeds will go towards research, children's camps, educational programs and services for seniors.

A second prize of \$5,000 and three prizes of \$1,000 will also be awarded.

The York Region branch of the

association hopes to meet last year's total of 2,838 tickets sold says sweepstakes chairman Gitta Gamm.

"We are at about one-third of that now," she said adding that the provincial goal is to improve 20 per cent from last year.

Mrs. Gamm says last year's draw raised \$221,733 for the association.

Tickets are available from members of the association or by calling 640-6471.