



More than 2,100 cast ballots in Markham-Stouffville Hospital elections Thursday. Above left, Dermont and Kate Gilderdale of Stouffville cast their ballots with youngsters Clare (left) and Malcolm. Above, Anne Cormack protests the proposal to raise annual membership fees to \$40. — Sjoerd Witteveen photos

Clean sweep in hospital voting

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Butcher said this year extra effort was made to draw out voters against the special interest group.

Peter Huijzena, president of the York South Right to Life Association said he wasn't surprised by the outcome.

"Judging by what happened earlier (approval of the \$40 annual membership) it was clear where the people were coming from.

"The hospital (board) had a very aggressive campaign. It's difficult to go against them," he said explaining that his group doesn't have access to the membership lists of the hospital association.

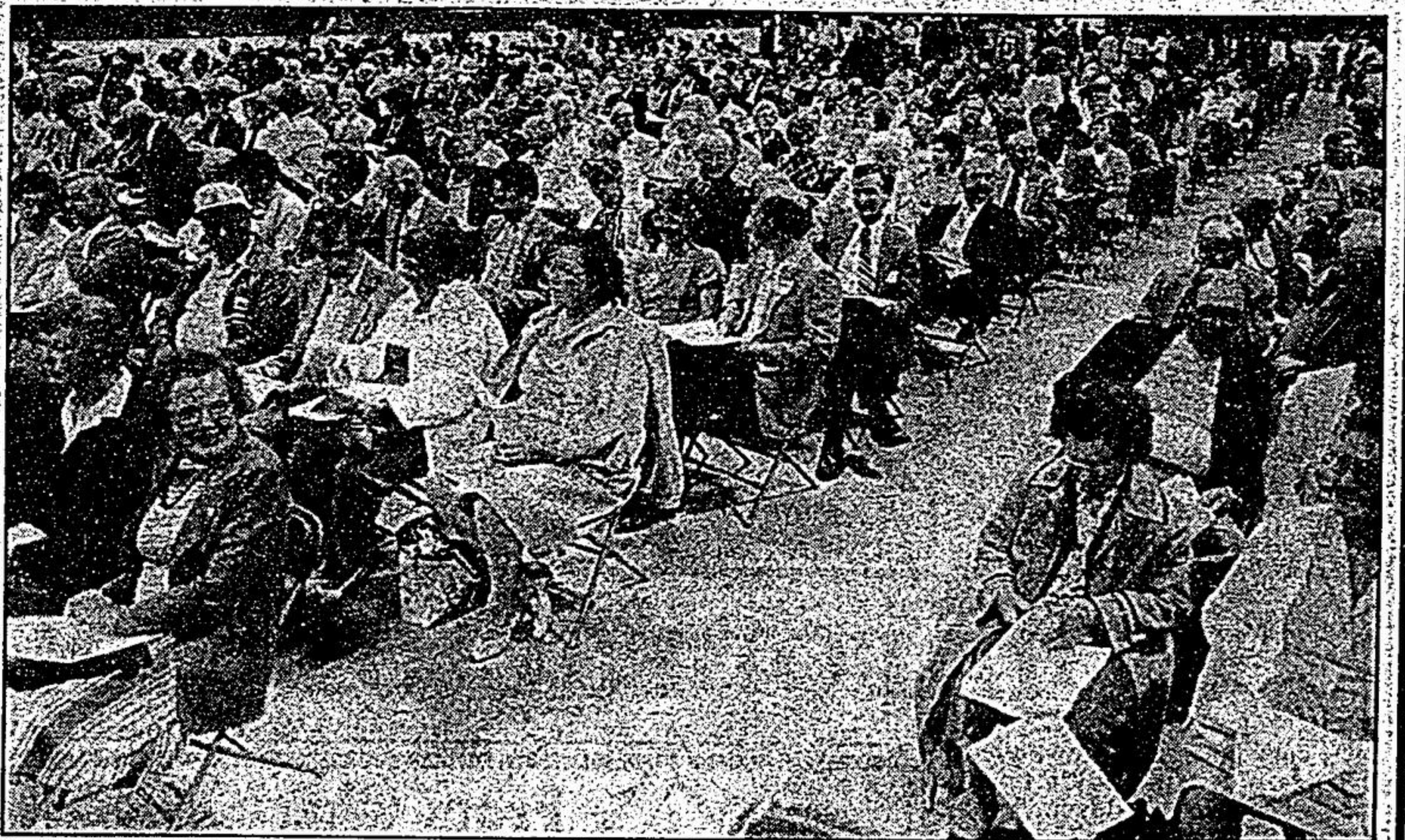
The trustees voted to the

board for a three-year term include: Lachlan Cattanach, Richard Cohen, William Hood, Dorothy Jenner, Rod McLeod, Don Petrie, James Scott, John White and Beth Whitlock.

Earl Rowe and Peter Vanderberk were voted to complete three-year terms left open by trustees who could only serve one year.

Defeated on the pro-life slate were: Lawrence Burkholder, Bart Cull, Barbara Holding, Denise Kennedy, Al Rayner, Sandy Robertson, John Stephens and Paul Tomory.

Others defeated include: Walter Grieve, Doug Meharg and Derek Shilletto.



Slain cop's widow wins case

By GREG COATES
Staff Reporter

Susan Grant, the widow of slain York Region Police officer William Grant, has won her case against the police commission.

Despite having launched a civil suit against another party in the matter, Ms. Grant of Unionville will receive full compensation from the force.

Constable Grant was killed in October, 1984 when his police cruiser was rammed by another car. His wife has been receiving compensation equivalent to her

husband's annual salary.

But, the York Region Police Commission had attempted to stop payment because, according to secretary Brian Ward, it felt Ms. Grant was not entitled to both the compensation and an award in the suit.

The York Regional Police Association disagreed and requested that the matter go to arbitration. Last week, arbitrator Pamela Picher ruled in favor of the association.

According to the working agreement reached following a

work-to-rule campaign by police officers in 1985, widows are entitled to compensation equivalent to their spouses' salaries, minus any other benefits they receive from Workers' Compensation, Canada Pension Plan or Ontario Municipal Employee Retirement Savings (OMERS).

The dispute started over the interpretation of a section of the working agreement called the Widow's Pecuniary Aid.

The police commission felt because Ms. Grant had launched a civil suit, she gave up the right to receive Workers' Compensation payments, approximately \$860 per month.

"The board has been paying Ms. Grant what it felt was required under the contract all along," said Mr. Ward. "It's the board's position that because she's suing, she took herself out of any entitlement to that money (Workers' Compensation)."

Frank Laskoski, president of the police association, said he doesn't know how the board came up with that interpretation.

"The section on pecuniary aid is quite clear and explicit," he said. "There's nothing in the agreement that says you can't sue anybody. As far as I'm concerned they (the commissioners) are a bunch of welschers."

"It's all a matter of dollars and cents," added Mr. Laskoski.

"They tried to get out of paying a widow."

In ruling with the association, the arbitrator noted that article 24 on pecuniary aid clearly states that a qualifying widow receive a minimum payment equal to the salary that was being paid to the member at the time of death.

"If no payments are in fact being made to a widow by the Workers' Compensation Board because she has elected under section 8 of the Workers' Com-

pensation Act to file a civil action instead, then no deduction may be made in respect of the Workers' Compensation benefit she might otherwise have received."

At a meeting of the police commission Wednesday, Newmarket Mayor Ray Twinney said the board received a proper hearing and should live by the ruling.

In addition, the board discussed the possibility of re-wording article 24.

Hearing on fatal crash

By KEVIN HANN, Special to the Weekender

A 28-year-old man charged with six offenses in connection with the January death of four Markham and Unionville area people, appeared at a preliminary hearing in Ajax Pickering Court Wednesday morning.

The grinding crash Jan 18 killed Markham resident Renata Grunert and her 16-year-old daughter Rena, and Unionville resident Tom Gerrard and his 15-year-old daughter Sheri-Lynn. They were returning home after a swim meet in Pickering.

The accident occurred at the corner of Finch Ave. and Brock Rd. in Pickering when the mini-

van was hit broadside by a Mack truck.

Court placed a ban on publication of testimony given during the preliminary hearing of Richard John McMerty. He's charged with four counts of dangerous driving causing death, one count of dangerous driving causing bodily harm and one count of refusing to provide a breath sample to determine the amount of alcohol in his blood.

McMerty was released on \$10,000 bail, after a previous court appearance. A pretrial date for McMerty has been scheduled for Aug. 20 in District Court, Whitby. He will face trial by judge and jury.



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