

**Council briefs**

# Municipalities to push for home mail delivery

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) will meet this spring with Michel Cote, the federal minister responsible for Canada Post, to push for home mail delivery.

The organization says that because Canada Post is supported through taxation and stamp purchases — revenues generated by Canadians — it should provide equal levels of service.

"In urban areas, to offer one level of service to one part of the community and another level of service to another part of the community makes little sense," wrote FCM President Richard Gilbert.

Markham received the FCM's intentions in response to a letter from Town Council pertaining to Canada Post's Community Mail Box program in new residential areas.

# Construction figures grow

Markham kicked off the new year at a record-breaking pace in January, issuing building permits that represent \$64.5 million in new construction.

Regional Councillor Ron Moran said the figures indicate a new re-

cord for the town in January building permits issued.

January, 1986 figures showed a total of \$17.2 million in new construction while month-end January tallies in 1985 represented \$14.7 million.

# Town declares film guidelines

Markham council put its foot down Tuesday and said movie crews filming in town must first have municipal approval.

The decision came in response to a local berry farmer's complaints of being barred from entering his property while a crew filmed a segment last fall.

David Whittamore, who operates a 220-acre pick-your-own

farm, questioned the legality of hired duty policemen and film crews who wouldn't allow his wife to get to her house.

Members voted to have York Regional Police notify the town if hired for supervisory duty during filming and said film companies must have town approval before shooting.

# Book publisher hopes to avert OMB hearing

A Markham book publisher planning to move to Whitchurch-Stouffville, hopes to avoid an Ontario Municipal Board hearing by meeting with ratepayers opposed to the move.

Fitzhenry & Whiteside Limited of Allstate Pkwy. wants to relocate its operation to a 55-acre property at the southwest corner of Woodbine Ave. and Bloomington Rd.

Town Planner Michael Saunders said the firm is willing to discuss environmental concerns with area residents and the municipality, but all parties have not yet been able to set a convenient time for a meeting.

Mr. Saunders is aware of seven ratepayers who've objected to present property owner Zamboon

Investments Limited's re-zoning proposal.

The Town has forwarded to the province a proposed amendment changing the property designation from rural to allow light industrial uses.

Residents' concerns focus on the environmental impact a book publishing operation would have on a creek running through the property, the planner said. A portion of the parcel is designated environmentally sensitive.

At least three area ratepayers have forwarded letters of opposition to the OMB.

Mr. Saunders added it's likely a larger opposition group will surface when a meeting is eventually held.

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