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To review smoking policy

STOUFFVILLE — The no-smoking policy on high school properties, enacted by York Region Board of Education earlier this year, will be reviewed at a committee meeting Jan. 18.

The decision followed a lengthy discussion Monday. Public participants included Percy and Dorothy Schell, Edward Street, Stouffville.

Mr. Schell said since it was the Board that enacted the legislation it was now up to the Board to alter it. He recommended the no-smoking responsibility be turned back to the principals.

At Stouffville Dist. Secondary

School, a smoking area had been established to the north of the cafeteria. Since the beginning of September, no smoking has been allowed anywhere on school property.

This has forced habitual smokers to congregate on Edward Street with the group sometimes spilling over onto the boulevard and private driveways.

Mr. Schell estimated their numbers at between ten and one hundred.

"I'm not blaming the students," he stated, "you can't all of a sudden rule out smoking and expect it to stop."

Mr. Schell made it plain he wasn't being critical of students' conduct. He suggested sooner or later someone would be hit and injured. He noted too that litter left by the young people tended to make the area unsightly.

"It makes for poor neighbors," he said.

Councillor Wayne Emmerson, seated in the audience, requested "immediate action". He said he planned to raise the issue at a Town meeting Tuesday.

While some had suggested laying charges, Emmerson advised against this, saying he didn't wish anyone assessed criminal records.

Written submissions will be welcomed Jan. 18, trustees said. The policy will be reconsidered by the Board Feb. 24, the delegation was promised.

Free skate

A pre-Christmas Teen Skate is planned for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Rec. Centre, Sat., Dec. 17.

The event begins at 8:30 p.m. and concludes at ten.

Admission is free.

Hot chocolate and popcorn will be provided. Appropriate Christmas music will be played.

Recreation programmer Peter Arnott is urging guys to invite their favorite girls (or visa-versa), and join in this Christmas celebration.

Eldred King acclaimed Chairman urges united purpose

YORK REGION — Eldred King, Chairman of the Region of York, has challenged municipal representatives to look beyond their borders and consider the needs of others.

"There are no regional boundaries within York," Chairman King said following his acclamation Thursday.

Mr. King emphasized the diversification that exists between communities.

"I challenge all of you to visit the extreme diagonal corners of this Region and make your own comparisons."

"I accept these differences," he continued, "each with its own mood, its own quality and its own resources."

Mr. King stressed the importance of providing services to not only those residents with common requirements but those with special needs.

King described York Region as "a great area of Canada and Ontario — the centre of action, a booming economy and opportunities unlimited."

The chairman said all requests, no matter how seemingly important to the individual, will not be approved.

"I sincerely ask that you give priority to those items that will best serve all our residents," he concluded.

Mr. King's nomination was put forward by Ron Moran of Markham and seconded by Ray Twinney of Newmarket.

Councillor Moran spoke in glowing terms of Mr. King's accomplishments. "We have here, the chairman we need," he said. "He has made our Region a better place to live, to work and to grow."

Mr. King introduced all representatives individually, also members of his family — wife Beulah; sons Jeff, Jan and Rod.

A reception followed at Aurora Highlands Golf and Country Club.

Hearing concludes

STOUFFVILLE — Final witnesses were heard Monday, at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing in Latham Hall, dealing with a proposed estate development at Conc. 9, Whitchurch-Stouffville, south of the Vivian Road.

The O.M.B. began listening to testimony Dec. 5. Concluding arguments were expected Wednesday.

The hearing relates to an application by O.T. Baggio to build 17 estate homes on a 25-acre property at Lot 30, Conc. 9.

The Board accepted evidence from two planners, a road engineer, a hydrologist, an agronomist and an arborist.

One afternoon was set aside to hear the views of residents opposed to the project.

Resident Pudge Hartshorne said she was pleased homeowners were given an opportunity to state their case.

"It's what's happening in our own neighborhood," she said. "You can tell someone else, but they're not living here. It gave us a chance to have our say."

No immediate decision is anticipated.



Mayor Fran Sainsbury (left) displays one of the 1000 copies of the new Whitchurch-Stouffville Council logo. Councillor Wayne Emmerson (right) displays one of the 1000 copies of the new Whitchurch-Stouffville Council logo. Mrs. Bodkin is also present.

Premises flooded

STOUFFVILLE — A sudden cold snap that saw weekend temperatures drop almost 30 degrees in six hours, caused sprinkler systems to break at two Stouffville locations Monday.

The first occurred at the Canadian Tire Store, Main Street West, and the second at Eldercare Manor, Main Street and O'Brien Avenue.

Severe flooding resulted.

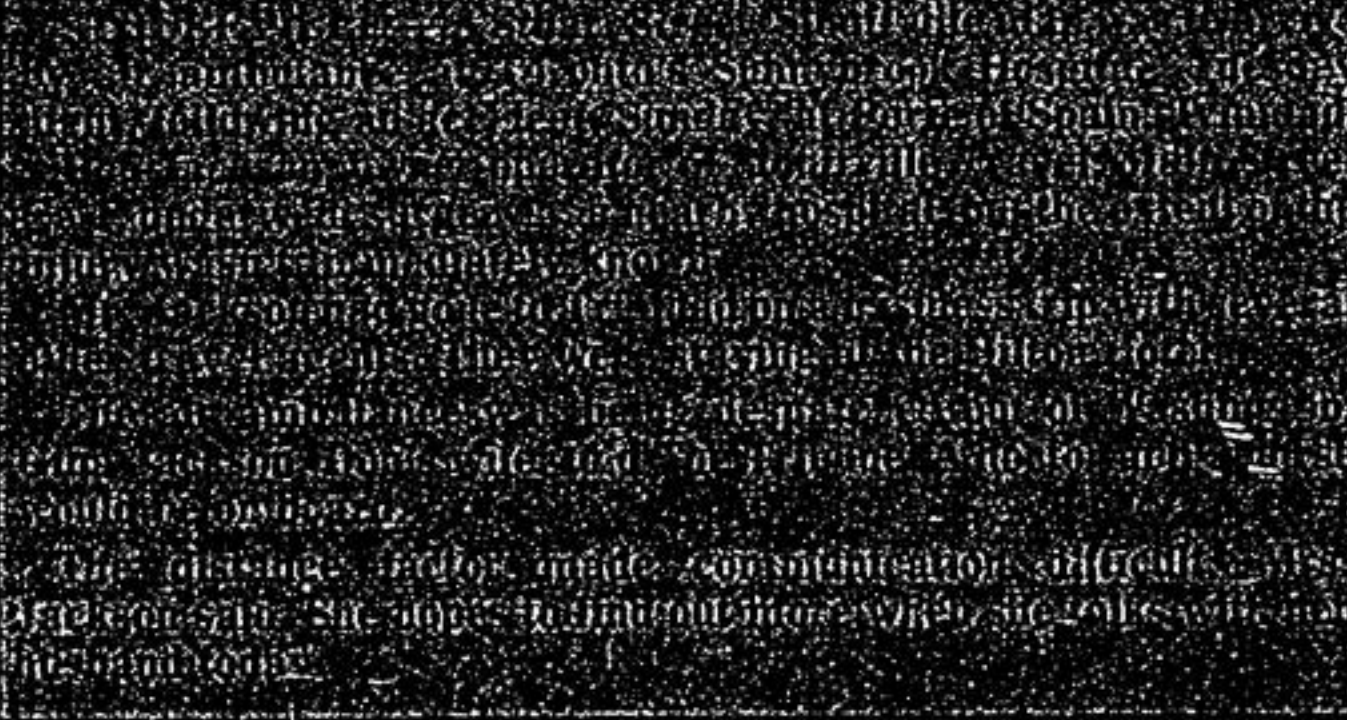
The Canadian Tire Store was closed almost three hours until mop-up operations were complete. At the height of the 'flood', water covered the floor to a depth of six inches.

The entrance, that manager Grant Larmer described as the store's 'show place', was decimated.

"We lost all our trees, but no merchandise was damaged," he said.

Mr. Larmer praised the quick response of firefighters. "They were tremendous," he said.

At Eldercare Manor, a pipe burst in the basement ceiling, "sending water everywhere," deputy fire chief Murray Emmerson said.



Arms severed

STOUFFVILLE — A Stouffville area man had both arms severed, Tuesday, in a tragic accident at the Lee Sand & Gravel Limited pit, R.R. 2, Stouffville.

Ernest Kennedy, Tenth Line South, was caught up in a conveyor.

He was released by fellow employees, assisted by ambulance officials and firefighters.

The victim was taken first to Uxbridge Cottage Hospital, then transferred to Toronto General.

The severed limbs, wrapped in plastic, were rushed by Deputy Fire Chief Murray Emmerson to Uxbridge, then to Toronto. At press time, there was no report if surgery had been successful or attempted.

"In an effort to speed up admittance, the air ambulance was summoned from Buttonville. However, due to bad weather, it couldn't be despatched."

Principal admits to stress

STOUFFVILLE — St. Mark's Catholic School is 82 students short of the criteria for a half-time vice-principal.

At present, enrollment stands at 419. To warrant a part-time v-p, attendance must exceed 500, Principal Barbara Bodkin told The Tribune, Friday.

This ruling is part of the collective agreement, she said.

Mrs. Bodkin said the assistance of a vice-principal "would be wonderful." She noted, however, the board must have guidelines in this regard.

With respect to a comment by Metro separate school trustee Harold Adams that some principals are so overworked they're ending up in hospital, Mrs. Bodkin admitted "it's a stressful job." "But I love it," she added quickly.

Trustee Adams claims more vice-principals are needed. At the secondary level, some high schools have two or three, he said.

He says heart conditions and ulcers are not uncommon among principals in Scarborough.

Said Adams: "Special consideration should be given in which a vice-principal is assigned to help a principal even though his or her school doesn't have the magic number of 500."

Mrs. Bodkin said she hadn't heard of medical problems among principals, related to work overload but agreed there is considerable stress. She noted age could also be a factor with respect to some principals in Metro Catholic schools.

Inaugural overflow

STOUFFVILLE — A standing room-only audience attended the inaugural meeting of Whitchurch-Stouffville Council, Dec. 6, with guests overflowing the chambers into the hall.

The oath of office was administered by Town solicitor Paul Mingay. The prayer of dedication was delivered by Rev. Bryan Coker of Bloomington Christian Gospel Church.

The Council for 1989-91 comprises — Mayor Fran Sainsbury; Margot Marshall, (Ward 1); Ron Robb, (Ward 2); Nick Tatone, (Ward 3); Wayne Emmerson, (Ward 4); Doug Alles, (Ward 5) and Jim Sanders, (Ward 6).

Mayor Sainsbury said the absence of both Will Morley and Jim Rae would be missed. Describing Council as "a team of professionals", Mrs. Sainsbury urged co-operation in solving some of the Town's most pressing problems — water, sewage, traffic and youth concerns. She suggested solutions could best be obtained through negotiation rather than confrontation.

Jr. K is supported

STOUFFVILLE — Despite severe overcrowding at Stouffville's St. Mark's Catholic School, parents are unwilling to forego the benefits of Jr. Kindergarten.

This is the feeling of area trustee Lucille Linton. And she supports this stand.

It was the Board's decision to provide Jr. K. at all Catholic elementary schools in York Region and the provision is written into the Education Act, she said.

However, no parent is obliged to enroll a child until age six.

Some Jr. Kindergarten children are under four.

"Personally, I couldn't consider not offering it," Mrs. Linton said.

She described it as "a social as well as an educational experience."

Mrs. Linton said that while conditions have changed since the Board decision of ten years ago, "it's difficult to remove something once it's offered."

She explained that when Jr. Kindergarten was introduced, accommodation was not the problem it is today.

Regardless, she considers it too beneficial to be withdrawn.



Jovous concert