

Help in finding careers

By KATE GILDERDALE
Students from all grade levels at Stouffville District Secondary School gained some valuable insights into career choices during last Wednesday's Career Day.

Thirty-seven presenters covered a wide range of fields, including the armed forces, hotel management, psychology and telecommunications. Students were given the opportunity to attend three presentations of their choice, each lasting approximately 40 minutes.

Dr. Andrew Patterson of the Stouffville Medical Centre, gave an overview of the necessary qualifications and opportunities open to those interested in a medical career.

Dr. Patterson, who has been in general practice for 14 years, four of them in Stouffville, told students that he found his job "personally rewarding."

To get into medical school, he said, requires an undergraduate medical degree; he obtained his at McGill University in Montreal.

"In Quebec it takes four years, in Ontario it's three," he said. "Then you apply to medical school."

At the end of the four-year program you write your national licensing examination. "After medical school you have to do internships of one to three years in length," he explained.

Those who go on to specialize then have to spend up to five years as a resident in hospital before they're fully qualified.

Although he acknowledged that it was "a long haul", the experience has been well worth the effort.

"College and university were among the better times in my life. There was a lot of fun and comradeship; I don't regret any of those years."

One of the advantages of his job is the fact that he works with people. "I like meeting them and having the ability to help them."

"Usually it's fairly directly rewarding," he said. "If you make the right diagnosis and give the correct treatment, the patient gets better and they're grateful. You get a lot of satisfaction."

In general practice, he pointed out, you treat people from infancy to old age, watching your patients grow up and mature.

It's vital to keep abreast of current developments in medicine, he stressed, "it involves a fair amount of time every week just to keep up."

Even since his own graduation in 1975, he's seen many changes in treatments, thanks to rapidly advancing technology.

"I've seen tests and dangerous operations that have been replaced by newer techniques," he noted. "There are better medications with fewer side effects. You're not doing the same thing over and over again. There's very little routine to it (the job)."

For those hoping to specialize, there are many fields to consider, as well as increasing opportunities for specialization in different areas of surgery, he said.

Students more interested in technology and engineering and less concerned with patient contact could consider radiology, suggested Dr. Patterson.

Jobs in administrative areas and in industry and insurance companies were becoming more common, he pointed out. Graduates who leaned towards academic work could also specialize in research.

"Someone has to teach doctors," he said. "A lot of doctors take on the work of instructing at medical schools in major centres."

Remuneration has been "typically quite good in medicine," but he cautioned that figures quoted in the media could be misleading, because they don't take into account overheads and the cost of hiring staff.

He estimated that the average fulltime doctor in Ontario could expect to earn around \$95,000 to \$100,000 a year.

"Doctors tend to work long hours; it's known that they have a hard time getting away from their offices."

With nights and weekends on call, attendance at births and late evenings in the office, he reckoned that a typical working week would be around 60 hours.

Because of the overwhelming responsibility, more doctors are practising in groups to allow them some time off; nevertheless the profession can have a disruptive influence on social life, he stated. He also pointed out that the stressful nature of the job could have adverse affects for some doctors.

Health care in Canada, he said, was "very good, but in trouble. The government is having a hard time keeping up with the costs."

He foresees increased government intervention, "either the Medical Association will come up with a scheme or the government will do something. I try to be optimistic, but I don't think it will

be quite the same system."

As a result, there will probably be more government run clinics, paramedics, nurse practitioners and midwives in future, said Dr. Patterson.

The number of female doctors is increasing rapidly, he noted. "In my class we had 160 students, 28 were women. Right now it's 50/50 across Canada."

By the year 2000, he estimates

that an equal number of women will be in medical practice. "I think the ultimate balance will be about 60/40 in favor of women. I don't know what I think of that, but it's a fact we should all recognize."

With many patients favoring women doctors, and applications for admission to medical school dropping, he noted that the profession offers a lot of opportunities to women.

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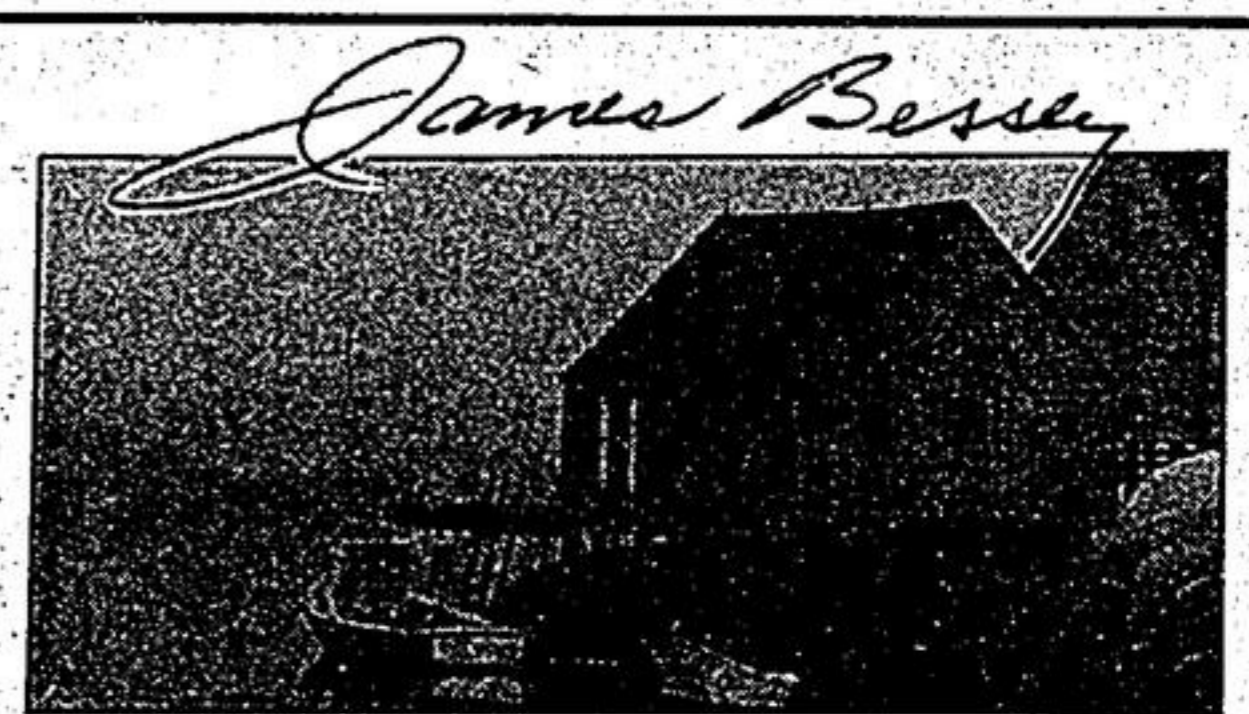
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TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT DWELLINGS ABOVE COMMERCIAL USES GC AND LC ZONES FILE NO. ZB88.017

NOTICE OF MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, May 16th, 1989, at 8:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario to make available adequate information to the public regarding, and to consider, a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment to be passed pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act.

SUBJECT PROPERTY

The proposed Amendment would apply to all lands which are: 1. Zoned General Commercial (GC) or Local Commercial (LC) in General Zoning By-law No. 8734, and 2. Not serviced with municipal water and sanitary sewers, or serviced with municipal water only.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed Amendment would change the General Commercial (GC) and Local Commercial (LC) Zone requirements by reducing the number of dwelling units permitted above commercial uses to one (1) dwelling unit for each commercial store/unit.

This restriction to one (1) dwelling unit per commercial store/unit will not apply to lands which are serviced with both municipal water and sanitary sewers.

General zoning By-law No. 8734 presently permits two (2) dwelling units per commercial store/unit in any General Commercial (GC) or Local Commercial (LC) Zone regardless of the method of servicing.

REPRESENTATION

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. If you are unable to attend, written submissions will be received up to the time of the meeting. Written submissions should include a request for further notification, if so desired.

INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION relating to the proposed Amendment is available for inspection at this office during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Department at this office.

DATED at the TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE this 12th day of APRIL, 1989.

Patricia G. Oakes, Clerk,
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
19 Civic Avenue, Box 418
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 7Z8
Telephone: 640-1900 or 665-2423

SPECIAL NOTE: PLEASE DISREGARD THE NOTICE PUBLISHED ON AND DATED APRIL 5TH, 1989. THE MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO MAY 16TH, 1989.