

Civic office needed downtown

Dear Editor:
We are writing in response to the decision of Council to purchase land fronting on Hwy. 48 which they want to use in future to build new municipal offices.
We are certain we speak for many individuals who feel as strongly as we do that our municipal offices should remain within the core of our town. Our feelings are based purely on sentimentality although we can fully appreciate and understand the concerns of the business community.
We absolutely love this town and in moving here three years ago, we immediately felt like we had come "home."
Our involvement in our daughters' school, our church and in Music Mania has afforded us many new friendships and we quickly felt a part of a warm

community full of pride and spirit.
Small towns with town halls, town clocks and lovely squares filled with flowers, or a fountain, or both, are still to be readily found as one drives through this province and this country, but they are less easily discovered in this area we live in.
Stouffville is a unique town set amidst a growing number of cities which seem to be expanding in size before our very eyes. We remember how Markham, Unionville, Thornhill, Richmond Hill and Aurora used to be before they became swallowed up by the Metropolitan sprawl.
In our opinion, they have lost their small-town flavor forever and as we drive through them, we're never sure where one community ends and another begins. How fortunate we have been to

be able to walk to our town square and sing carols beneath the clock tower; get together for Canada Day celebrations and to have our municipal offices easily accessible to all.
We're not against growth, but we do feel there must be room for the public's feelings in these important decisions.
We urge you to listen to people like us. You were elected to serve the needs of the people, so it behooves you to make very sure this is something all the people want and need.
We would like to see a local plebiscite on this matter because to move the heart of our town to an outlying location would be, in our opinion, detrimental to our town and its spirit. It would never be the same again.
Carolyn and David Duggan
Stouffville

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