

Bell spends for Stouffville services

Bell Canada invested more than \$516,000 last year to help improve telephone service for 6,358 customers in the Stouffville area, according to a release from the company.

The money went towards the installation of new fibre optic phone lines, a digital carrier and analogue transmission equipment in the Stouffville switching centre.

As well, Bell paid \$279,968 in municipal taxes to Whitechurch-Stouffville township last year.

This included \$12,998 in real estate tax, \$3,548 in business tax and \$263,395 in gross receipts tax.

The gross receipts tax is set at 5 per cent of all telecommunications revenue from Bell operations in Ontario in the preceding year. The amount given each exchange is based on the number of Bell telephones in use. In 1988, this was \$30.41 per telephone.

Bell Canada spent a total of \$2.2 billion on capital improvements in 1988. Of this amount, \$1.408 billion was spent in Ontario. The

forecast for 1989 is \$2.3 billion, with \$1.387 billion to be spent in Ontario.

Local plans for 1989 include \$1,295,000 to be spent on:

- Extending the base rate area boundaries
- Providing fibre optic repeater equipment for the Aurora and Oshawa link
- Installing fibre optic

transmission equipment in the Stouffville switching centre.

This investment helps to maintain affordable, high quality local telephone service for the people of Stouffville, says Bell local manager Denise Gray. "It's part of Bell's overall construction program that represents an investment of more than \$300 per customer per year."

Family picnic held

Mrs. Martha Wideman of Toronto, spent a couple of days at her daughter's cottage north of Peterborough.

Mrs. and Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. Neal Sider at Boynton have not moved to Newmarket yet, as reported in last week's column, but Mrs. Walter Hill and her cousin, Mrs. Evelyn Munroe will be moving on Aug. 25.

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PROCLAMATION

The Council of the Town of Markham hereby proclaims August 14th to 21, 1989, as "Epilepsy Awareness Week" in the Town of Markham.

Mayor A. Roman

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