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## Gormley Industrial Park scaled down in bid for approval

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Whitchurch-Stouffville Council should accept a proposal for a miniature Gormley Industrial Park, town officials were told Tuesday.

Stouffville Gateway 404 Business Park, originally slated to include more than 1,300 acres of industrial development, could be a reality in a smaller version as proposed at planning committee this week.

Previously, York Region and the Ontario government nixed the 1,300-acre proposal, citing inadequate sewage capacity and environmental concerns.

However, developers Ambro Enterprises Inc. and Buttcon Ltd., which own 243 acres at Stouffville Road and Woodbine Avenue, proposed the smaller version to the region recently, stating their land is the "choicest" for such industrial development.

Paul Johnston said this proposal is "the first window we've seen" to building an industrial base in the municipality, should be taken as a good sign from outside authorities, and perhaps could be developed on a larger scale in the future.

Submitting an amendment to Official Plan 60 - amendment A10 - the Ambro/Buttcon proposal includes 160 acres of land for the development.

Mr. Johnston told officials these lands have the best location, excellent traffic visibility and accessibility to Hwy. 404.

"It would make eminent sense for the town to deal with these lands," Mr. Johnston said.

However, the proposal brought forth this week angered other landowners in the area, who argue they too should be included in any development projects.

Robert Johnston, representing four independent landowners covering 310 acres, said he felt no need to "pump up why our lands are better (than Ambro's). "I think our lands are pretty choice too," Mr. Johnston said.

Meanwhile, Donald Hindson, representing Sloane Estates Inc., (which owns 22 acres at Stouffville Road and Hwy. 404) and Nick Gallo, Don Mills Steel (owner of 50 acres to the west of the site), said the town should "push to get individual applications to the Ontario Municipal Board" before accepting the proposal.

He called the scaled-down version premature and said the OMB should decide on an individual basis which application should proceed and which should not.

Mr. Hindson also said it would be "unwise for a municipality to depend upon one developer" for its industry.

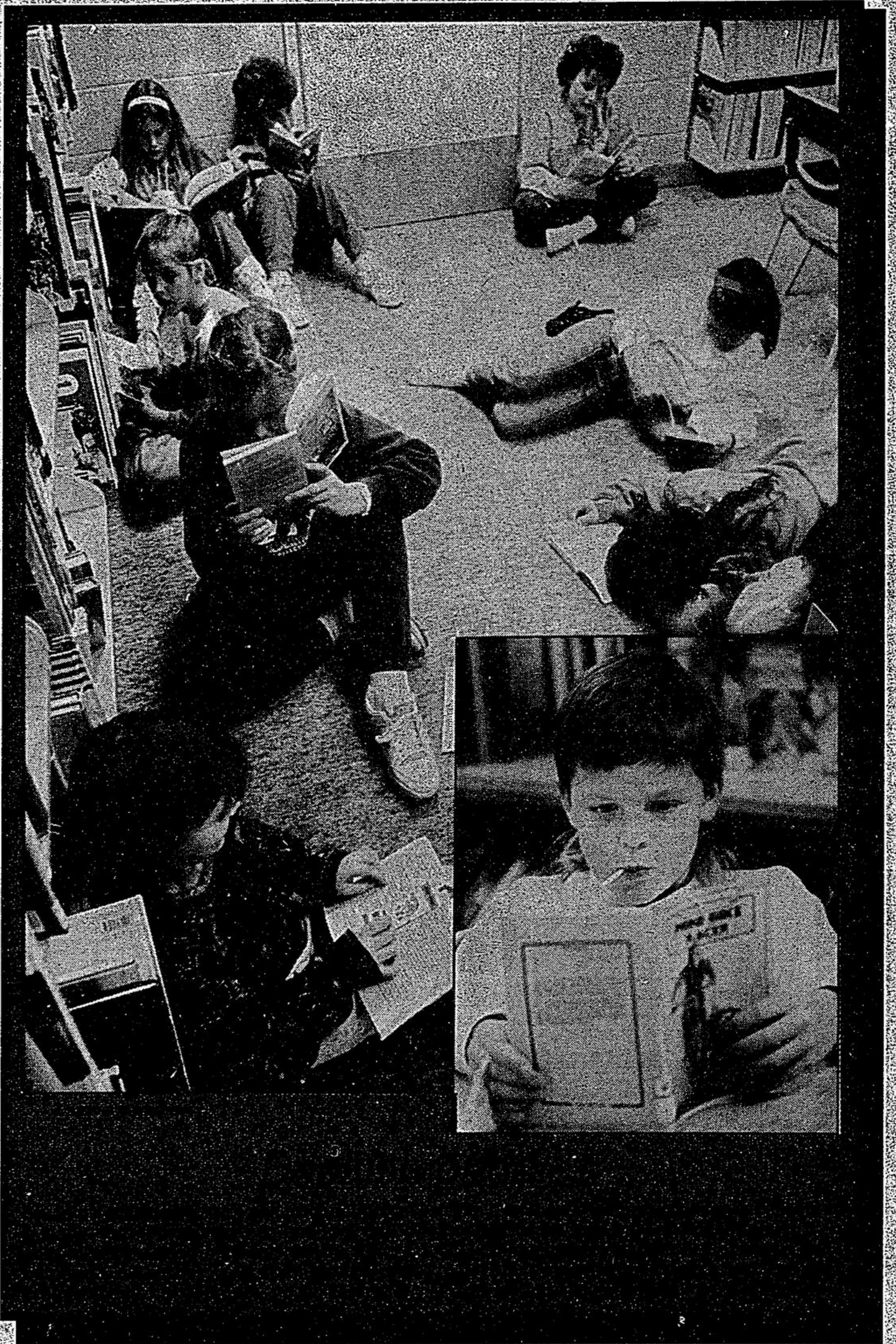
And Alan Paton, solicitor for Gormley Industrial Park Ltd., said it is "inappropriate for (Ambro/Buttcon) to be given all the land."

Meanwhile, Peter Smith, representing landowners with 50 acres at the site, said supporting the region's position to accept the Ambro/Buttcon proposal will "invite referrals to the OMB."

"To let the Ambro application go to the region really invites a disservice," he said.

But Ambro/Buttcon's Mr. Johnston urged officials not to send a "confused message to the region and the the Minister of Municipal Affairs," by not supporting the miniature version.

Council received all comments and will discuss what stand to take at an upcoming council in committee meeting.



## Info on dump sites to be released

York Region will release a public report Monday pinpointing which lands were being considered for a temporary landfill site.

The Solid Waste Interim Steering Committee (SWISC), a group made up of regions in the Greater Toronto Area, were obligated under SWISC provisions to choose a temporary site since Keele Valley will reach capacity in 1993.

However, since Environment Minister Ruth Grier announced in November that a three-part strategy to address waste diversion and management in the GTA would replace the Interim Landfill Site Search plan, the report was kept from the public.

A motion was passed to release information Thursday, but some councillors insisted they see the information before the press.

Several officials claimed they wouldn't be pre-

pared to answer questions if they had not previously reviewed the report.

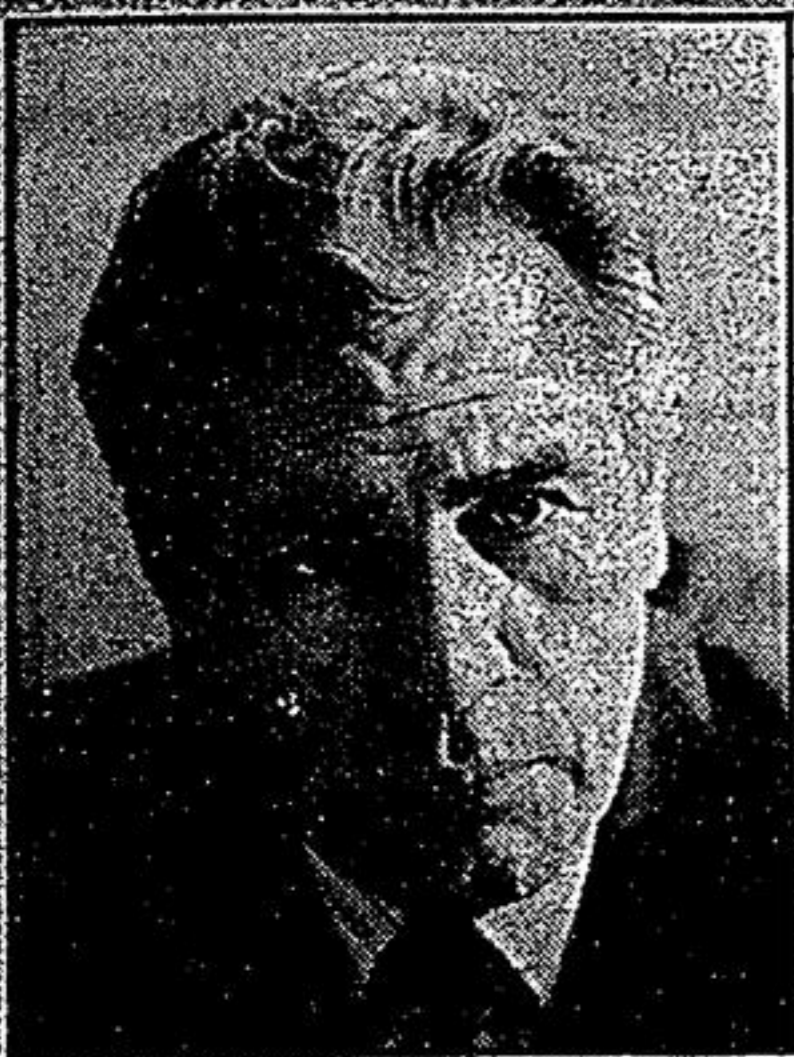
York Region had hired a consultant's group last year to select lands within the region that could hold York's garbage until a permanent solution was found.

But Mrs. Grier has since changed the SWISC role to act as an advisory board to the NDP's provincial ministry.

She has implemented instead a program to emphasize methods of reduction, re-use and recycling to achieve waste diversion targets.

And since the SWISC report would not be implemented as planned, the information was kept from the public.

However, Council voted to release the information next week.



BRIAN COX stars in new thriller. See page 14.

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