

Transit study ready

ROGER BELGRAVE
Staff Reporter

York Region's transit study is on its way to Stouffville for the perusal by local officials and residents. At last week's regular meeting, regional council voted to send the document to local municipalities.

The region's transit study has already indicated the need for a regional transit authority. According to findings the current transportation system in the region's nine municipalities do not compare favorably to similar size regions. There is a recommendation to incorporate, integrate and expand existing systems being provided by the local municipalities and Go Transit. Local, major arterial and rural/suburban services would be provided.

A gross cost to implement a Regional Transit Service is estimated at \$10,113,000. It is expected the Ministry of Transportation would subsidize 75 per cent of the cost.

In the regional transit plan Stouffville would be the recipient of a Markham-Stouffville route. It would travel up Hwy 48 from Markham and into town. According to Mayor Fran Sainsbury, the route would cost about \$50,000 per year.

"Basically it's a one route run," she indicated. "Eventually they may also have one that goes up Hwy 48 and down the Ninth Line. That run would go through Stouffville to the Markham/Stouffville Hospital."

Sainsbury noted the Lions Club once sponsored a bus route from Muselman Lake into town. "But there were so few people on the bus, it was not totally successful," she said. The report should be available to the public soon.

Schedule for a Regional Transportation System

ACTIVITY	TIMING
1. Given approval to proceed	Fall 1991 - April 1992
2. Build the working team	April 1992 - Sept. 1992
3. Plan for the regional system	Sept. 1992 - Nov. 1992
4. Build regional special services	Nov. 1992 - April 1993
5. Build rural services	Nov. 1992 - April 1993
6. Build conventional services	April 1993 - Oct. 1993
7. Fine tuning	Nov. 1993 and beyond



Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Cash from bash

Last week, Jon Bouwmeester and Dave Grunsky of the band Hard Rein presented Just Say No summer bash organizer Chris Potter with the band's prize money from the Battle of the

Bands competition. The \$500 prize money won by the band will be donated to the Addiction Research Foundation. The teen dance took place last month.

Terry Fox Run draws 206 Sunday

Despite hot and hazy weather conditions, participation in the local Terry Fox Run was overwhelming.

Some 206 people turned out Sunday afternoon to run, walk, cycle and skate their way to raising \$13,500 for cancer research.

Last year, about 125 participants managed to raise \$10,000.

This year, organizers saw about 100 first-time participants.

The annual event also experienced a renewed interest at the high school level.

Funding deadline Sept. 27

Farmers have until Sept. 27 to submit proposals for funding to take fragile land out of production.

As part of a \$9 million, three-year program, Agriculture Canada is offering up to \$10,000 to encourage farmers to plant fragile lands in grass or trees. Eligible projects can include buffer strips with permanent grass or grass and trees, enhanced buffers or block planting of trees on highly erodible land and flood plains. Central to the program is an agreement the land will stay under permanent cover for five, 10 or 15 years. Farmers submit sealed bids to their local Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) Committee which decides whether or not to accept the bid. The bid system lets the farmer decide on the appropriate level of compensation for taking fragile land out of production. Interested farmers can obtain bid forms or further information about the program or the bidding process from their local OSCIA.

Board to discuss school year

The York Region Board of Education has called a public meeting for Oct. 23 at Orchard Park Public School in Stouffville to further the consultation with the residents of the area on the idea of the modified school year calendar. The meeting takes place at the school at 7:30 p.m. All residents will have an opportunity to discuss the matter and if needed more meetings may be called in the future. Meetings have been scheduled across the region.



Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

MP comes to town

Markham Whitchurch-Stouffville MP Bill Attewell opened a constituency office in town at the Farmer Jack's Plaza last Thursday. Here, from left, plaza owner Jack Burrows, Mayor Fran Sainsbury, Sandy Attewell, Bill Attewell, and Regional Chairman Eldred King snip the ribbon to officially open the new office.

Alles declines incumbency bid

(From page 1)

Alles took most of the summer conferring with family to make a decision about his political future.

"It's a difficult decision because I feel in some respects I'm letting some people down. But you have to do what's right," he added.

While some moments have been very rewarding, Alles mentioned there have been more complaints than thanks.

Alles was a newcomer to the political scene when he ran in the Ward 5 election three years ago. He had moved to Stouffville in 1979 and saw a council seat as a way to accomplish some things.

His tenure was definitely not without some successes, he emphasized.

A school crossing and helping to improve communication between constituents and council are two such successes. Alles also played a pertinent role in the local recycling program.

As chairman of the town planning committee, Alles believes he has helped make the planning process fairer.

But he admits there is still a lot to be accomplished in Ward 5. "You're never quite satisfied; there is always more you can do," he said.

Improving area roads is an drastically needed, Alles noted.

Relieving the local tax burden and water problems in the Ballantrae/Muselman Lake area are paramount, he said.

Chamber calls Oct. meeting

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce is hosting a breakfast meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22 from 7 to 9 a.m.

The event will feature speakers Fran Sainsbury and Wayne Emerson discussing their election platforms. Tickets are \$10 and are available by calling 640-5993. The event takes place at Angie's Eatery.

Alles is not ruling out a return to politics later. For now he wants to spend more time with his family and plan retirement.

However, he intends to remain an active part of the community. "It's not my nature to stay out of things," he concluded.

Centre board responds

Editor's Note: The following is a response to the article The Tribune published regarding the resignation of the Ballantrae Community Centre Board.

Dear Editor,

In reference to the article 'Centre board resigns' Wed. Aug. 28 Tribune. It is unfortunate that our mayor tries to minimize the reasons for the members of the Whitchurch Centennial Centre (Ballantrae) Board's resignation. Reference to Christmas parties and non-smoking facilities (all board members are non-smokers) are trivial reasons which the mayor identifies in an attempt to belabor and smooth over our ultimate decision.

Poor communication and, in particular, personal interference from the mayor on several occasions are the reasons.

Specifically, the board's routine decision to charge a renter of the hall for extra cleaning costs resulted in six meetings and many of our "volunteered" hours to finally ratify our original decision which was supported by the majority of council.

These meetings and the subsequent frustration with this issue would not have transpired had the mayor not intervened in our decision.

Volunteers, acting as a board, make democratic decisions and deserve the support of the council and mayor. If volunteers are indeed "the backbone of the community" as the Mayor has quoted on many occasions, we feel she should practice what she preaches.

Helen Clark, Louise Taber, Ronald Robb, Carl Insley, Susan England, Dolores Whytall
Centennial Centre Board members.

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