

The Dump

Citizen groups want short list delayed three months

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Labor Day. It ends a frustrating summer and could mark the beginning of a new chapter in the dump fight with Ontario.

Whitchurch-Stouffville will either breathe a clean sigh of relief, or prepare for further dump battles with the Interim Waste Authority (IWA).

September is the target month - the month the province's dump search

team will eliminate 13 of 19 potential dump sites selected throughout York Region. Mayor Fran Sainsbury said Monday she wants the IWA to "stick to their time frame" and release its short list in September as planned.

"We need to see that short list. There is nothing more the (citizen) groups can find out," Sainsbury said.

She added the announcement would allow many residents to get on with their lives, and will fire up and help those communities directly affected to proceed full force with their battles.

But local citizen groups told Environment Minister Ruth Grier two weeks ago during a private meeting, that they want more time to prepare their cases.

Environment Not Economics (ENE), a non-political group which claims to represent the entire 1.5 million Greater Toronto Area population, is asking the short list announcement be delayed.

These critics say it's crucial to present all facts or evidence for each of the 57 sites before the short list is announced. ENE wants the short list announcement held off until December.

Musselman Lake resident Ken Jobe, ENE's communications liaison, told *The Tribune* that groups need more time to prepare briefs.

He added the IWA has an unfair advantage because they've had a lot longer to prepare their arguments. "The playing field is tipped in the IWA's favor," Jobe said.

However, the IWA confirmed this week it is on target with its study process of each site and will announce the short list in September as earlier stated.



Photo: SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Weed workers

Carl Ruffole, 10, leans over to get weeds out of Viscomi, 7, and his dad Sam Viscomi. Many residents helped out in the weed collection.

Grier appoints new chairman for IWA dump search team

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Staff Reporter

A new chairman for Ontario's dump search team said Thursday that finding new landfill sites is an "obvious need."

Walter Pitman was appointed Interim Waste Authority (IWA) chairman by Environment Minister Ruth Grier this week.

Grier announced Pitman's post has come at a "crucial time" in the process to search for much-needed landfills in the GTA.

Pitman's two-year term is a part-time position, Grier said.

Pitman, former director of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and former president of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, replaces former IWA chairman Jan Rush.

Rush, a civil servant, stepped down to vice-chair last week.

She told *The Tribune* that her temporary post as chairman was to lapse once an "outside, non-political chair" was hired, as outlined in the province's waste management act, Bill 143.

Pitman began his career as a teacher in North York.

He has also been a member of the provincial legislature representing Peterborough, and has served as president of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association from 1980 to 1984. Since 1986 he has been chairman of the board of Energy Probe and Probe International.

"I look forward to the challenge of working with the IWA in their efforts to locate these three landfill sites. This fair and open process involves the public at every stage," Pitman said.

"The siting of landfills is a difficult but essential task and must be coupled with efforts to reduce the amount of waste we all produce. I recognize the public's concern over the management of solid waste, and I see our task as the need to balance these legitimate concerns with the obvious need to find new landfill space," Pitman said.

IWA centre will remain open

LISA WHITE
Correspondent

Stouffville's Interim Waste Authority (IWA) information centre averages 11 visitors an hour. That is a total of 55 people every Thursday night. And last week 246 people registered after the anti-dump rally.

Huge truck rally planned

What would 600 truckloads of garbage look like as they puff and choke their way along Whitchurch-Stouffville roads?

The Mayor's Task Force Friends of the Eco-System (FOES) is going to show the community and the Interim Waste Authority just that. Mayor Fran Sainsbury said Thursday.

She is calling for drivers of all trucks, vans, cube vans, farm vehicles and 18-wheelers to help the town fight a dump in Whitchurch-Stouffville by joining FOES for a green ribbon truck rally through Main Street, Stouffville.

The rally will start at 6:00 p.m. Thurs. July 30 at the south side of Aurora Srd. The truckers will then head east down Durham Road 30 on the west side to Hwy 47 at the Bloomington lights, past the flea market, along Main St. to Ringwood, along Stouffville Rd. down McCowan Rd. and Bethesda.

Because of continued public interest, the IWA announced this week that all the information centres will remain open until September.

According to IWA communications officer John Steele the centres are being run on the assumption that they will remain open only as long as there is a demand.

On the same day that Stouffville registered 246 visitors, the Sutton centre registered 75 people and King City registered three.

The Stouffville office is the busiest of eight offices in York, Durham and Peel regions, said

Steele. This is because the sites in Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham impact the largest number of people, he said.

The centres are all open one night a week. They provide

York Region council hires new solicitor

York Region council officially hired a new solicitor last week during a meeting in Newmarket.

Craig MacFarlane, who began his duties July 20, has taken over the post from former solicitor Ted Oakes, who had been with the region for more than 20 years.

information on the site selection procedure and organize seminars on social impacts, surface water, land use planning, biology and other related subjects.

MacFarlane was awarded the position over 45 other applicants, each interviewed by a committee during the past month.

The new solicitor comes to York from the City of Toronto, where his primary role was to represent Metro's interests at hearings before the Ontario

Municipal Board (OMB). MacFarlane had joined the city staff in 1990. MacFarlane was born and raised in Ottawa and received both his bachelor's and law degrees from Queen's University in Kingston.

His publication, *Land Use Planning in Ontario*, is now in its second edition.

York population will double

What is the growth outlook for York Region? Ray Simpson, partner of the Hemson Consulting Ltd., consultant group, presented the following facts and figures to the region's Community Services Council recently.

York Region's growth has slowed down since 1986, when its population figures registered at 351,000, an 8.3 per cent average annual growth rate.

The Hemson group projects the regional population to reach 840,000 by 2011, a two per cent annual growth rate.

Population	Average annual growth rate
1981 - 252,000	7.8 per cent
1986 - 351,000	8.3 per cent
1991 - 497,000	4.0 per cent
2001 - 685,000	2.9 per cent
2006 - 765,000	2.3 per cent
2011 - 840,000	2.0 per cent

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