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## It's here Town's new fire truck arrives

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

The town's brand-new, state-of-the-art firetruck has finally arrived, and it's so impressive other departments will likely want to copy some of its "amazing features," officials said this week.

Fire chief Bill Brown was all smiles Tuesday and looked like an excited new father as he explained to the press the truck's many advantage points and safety features.

Officials were given the grand tour of the \$513,000 rig just before council convened for its first meeting of 1994, and found the new investment to be an impressive piece of machinery, one which Stouffvillites should be proud of, officials said.

Several politicians lauded the chief for his work in the design and feature capabilities.



The town's controversial new fire truck is now in the downtown station. Here, chief Bill Brown adjusts the hat of firefighter wanna-be Jeff

McVicar, 6, in the driver's seat. Capt. Paul Stover is at right, and firefighter Eric Blundon rides atop the new truck.

Photo: JOERD WITTEVEN

ties of the aerial truck, which arrived last Sunday from Red Deer, Alberta.

"I have to commend chief Brown for his designing capabilities. Some of the features

on that truck are amazing and other (departments) may copy them," said Ward 3 councillor Nick Tatone.

"We can only hope (other departments) don't offer you a

job," Tatone chided the chief.

The truck will be subject to about eight more weeks of tune-ups and checks before it will be ready to serve the public, Brown said.

## Stouffville bids adieu to Wagg

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Volunteer Fire Department and the town honored three longstanding employees this week, including the retirement of Ken Wagg.

Wagg, who received well wishes from fire chief Bill Brown, Mayor Fran Sainsbury, and council at Tuesday night's meeting, was flanked by his entire family as he said his final goodbyes after 37 years on the local brigade.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to be a part of this department and an honor to serve for 37 years. I know when the fire siren goes off I'll

I know when the fire siren goes off I'll miss going to the truck  
-Ken Wagg

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### GO Transit

## Full speed ahead for train station in Vandorf

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

GO Transit is moving full speed ahead with its plans to construct a \$60-million train station in Vandorf by 1997, and is giving the public one final chance to voice concerns.

For the past two years, GO Transit has been working on a proposal to add four new train stations and three extra runs on its 31-km commuter train line on the Richmond Hill corridor to Union Station.

The company's proposal will cost about \$238 million to build four new stations, extending the Oriole Junction line to Vandorf.

While it has undertaken a project-wide Environment Assessment (EA) study, residents from several communities have requested individual EAs for each area dealing with noise, vibration, potential impacts on the Oak Ridges

Moraine and public safety related to the transportation of dangerous goods in the same rail corridor as commuter trains.

In light of these concerns, the Environment and Energy Ministry has asked the EA Advisory Committee for advice on the requests and to report back by March.

The four new stations, which will result in about 34 commuter trains in the corridor on a daily basis, are proposed for John Street, 19th Ave, Stouffville Road (Gormley in Richmond Hill) and Bloomington Sideroad in Vandorf.

GO has said the improved service will mean 600 Vandorf area residents can benefit from the new Bloomington Sideroad/Hwy 404 station by 1996. Officials forecast 1,000 Vandorf commuters will ditch their cars and hop the passenger trains into the city by the year 2011.

GO officials told Stouffville politicians in a September 1992 meetings that

about 5,200 riders currently use the system into Union Station each day.

That figure is expected to double by 1996 and nearly triple by the year 2022.

The all-day service is expected to nearly double from four trains during rush hour peaks to seven trains running southbound from Vandorf to Union Station.

The off-peak trains will continue to

run every 90 minutes along the 31-km line. The committee is asking for submissions on whether or not an individual EA is necessary through two meetings scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 18 at North York Memorial Community Hall in the North York Community Centre and Wednesday, Jan. 19 at the Royal Canadian Legion on Ohio Road in Richmond Hill. Both begin at 7 p.m.

## Forum to discuss infill housing

Interested Stouffville homeowners are invited to attend a public information meeting on the issue of infill housing within the community.

The meeting, instigated by Ward 5 councillor Bob Ancherl and Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice, will be held at Latcham Hall on Thursday, Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Several town staff members are expected to be in attendance as well as a provincial housing ministry representative to discuss Ontario's stance on the matter.

The issue of the town's bylaw to restrict infill housing is also expected to be on topic.

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