

Editor's Mail

Neutral third party may be answer to town/SOS impasse

Dear Editor,
During the summer landfill 'fight' council taught Stouffville residents how to demonstrate their displeasure with government. Specifically, with the NDP government and their agency, the Interim Waste Authority, (IWA).

up for ourselves. We were successful in our fight against the landfill. Now, another group of ratepayers has engaged the municipal government of Stouffville in discussions about their financial priorities for the 1993 budget. The shoe is on the other foot.

under the scrutiny of objective review has yet to be established. But there is no mistaking how strongly the SOS members feel. This cannot be marginalized.

future. Invite their participation in solving the not unsubstantial challenges Stouffville will face in 1993.

understanding and creating solutions. Conflicts waste the resources of all people. Up until now the council and SOS haven't known how to talk to each other. I suggest a neutral third party and the willingness to hear another point of view are the answers to this impasse. Let's play nice.

Reform Party plan questioned

Open letter to Joe Sherren and the Reform Party:

Re: "Support by Joe Sherren about a bill put forth by the Reform Party to allow constituents to oust an MP who fails to represent their views." - Jan. 13, 1993.

I see more and more flaws in the Reform Party platform, but I cannot remain silent about this statement. You cannot just oust an elected person when any special interest group lobby their point of view and the elected member does not agree. There is always a large silent majority in the background.

Markham Whitchurch-Stouffville, voted 60.9 per cent 'Yes' in the referendum of Oct. 26, 1992. Mr. Sherren supported the 'No' vote strongly. Reform leader Manning, in his own (projected) riding of Calgary S/W had a 'Yes' vote of 50.6 per cent. What would have happened if you were both in office? Should you resign? There is a large cost of re-elections, and a training period for individuals to a new office. The electorate has a choice every three to four years. Get out and vote is my advice, don't create more chaos in the political world.

Margot Marshall
Cedar Valley

The ratepayers' group, Save Our Stouffville (SOS), has been abrupt and unsophisticated with council from the start. Even the choice of name is inflammatory. But, it honestly captures the degree of anxiety felt about the direction the town is taking. They truly believe Stouffville needs saving. Whether their concerns are legitimate

Council misinterpreted SOS concerns as an indictment of their financial management, rather than as a desire to become involved in the process. In short, SOS pushed, council reacted and lines were drawn in the sand.

If council believes they work to represent the needs of the people of Stouffville, then agree to meet with SOS. Answer their questions, teach them about the financial processes that guide Stouffville's

Brad Johnston
Stouffville

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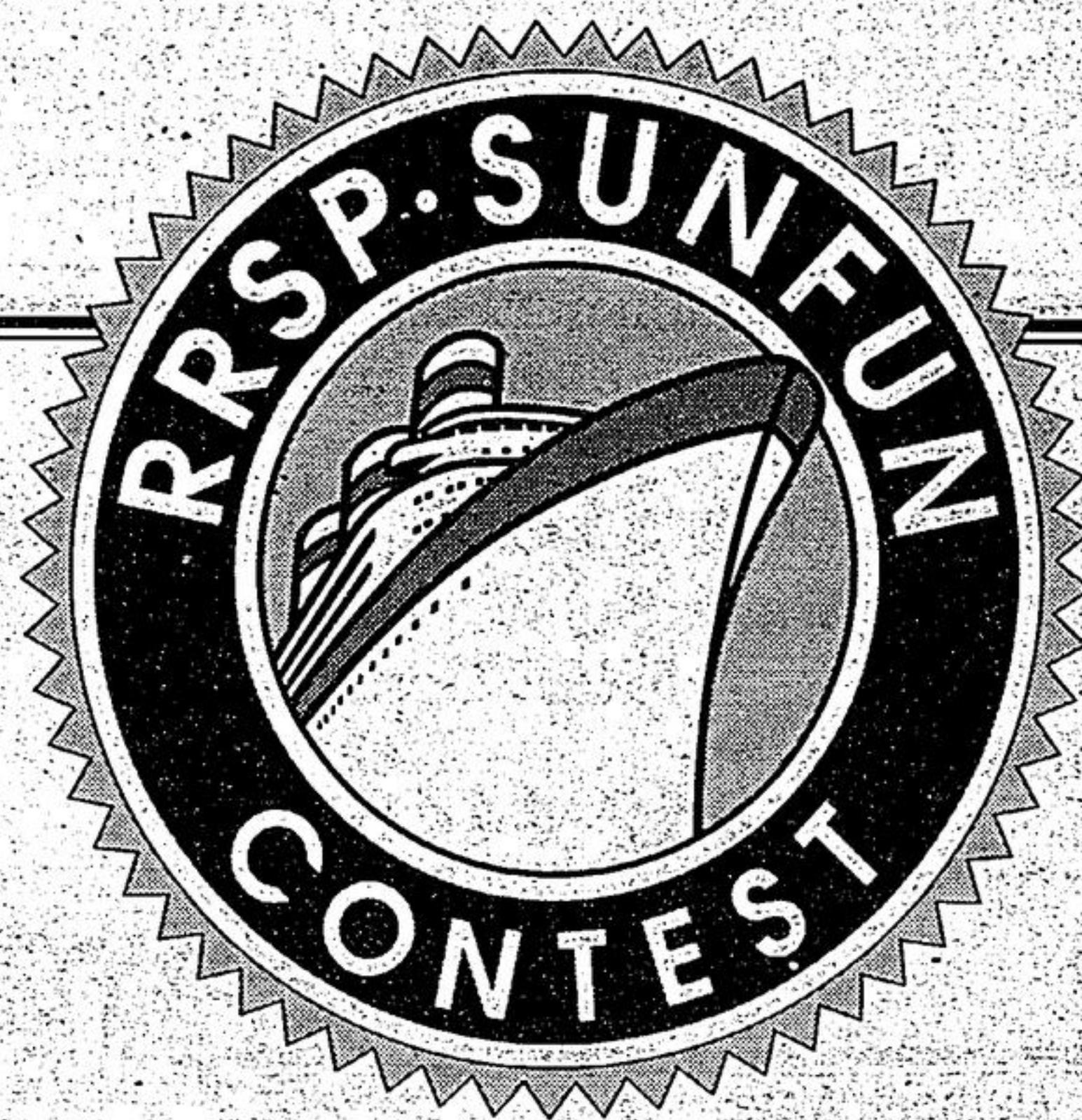
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