

Town does not need a \$4.3 million aquatic centre

Dear Editor,
According to John Stevenson of Leisureplan International, Stouffville "needs" a \$4.3 million "aquatic centre" plus "satellite" recreation departments in Vandorf and Balantrae.

Add the usual cost overruns, the extremely high maintenance costs of swimming pools, and another

EDITOR'S MAIL

\$10 million debt figure looms at the horizon over our tiny town for a questionable benefit of a handful of swimmers, each willing and able

to pay a user's fee - hundreds of dollars for each and every hour at the pool.

My question to all the day-dreamers, self-serving "consultants" and other irresponsible spendocrats - also those councillors striving to emulate their big city cousins: have you invented a money printing machine? To pay

for the \$63 million Taj Mahal in Newmarket, the struggling Recreation Centre in Stouffville, repair of crumbling roads, the proposed aquatic centre, the ever increasing "slave labor" salaries of \$60,000 to \$80,000 to town's bureaucrats, the members of some councils and school boards, whose sleepy brains could be activated only at a far away resort?

Wake up, and grow up - before it's too late! The huge, rich and mighty Soviet Union totally collapsed under the weight of bureaucracy, leaving Canada as the most overgoverned county in the world. Overspending bankrupted New Zealand - the living standard there dropped from third to 23rd in the world. Canada, with a \$380 billion foreign debt, and \$650 billion total debt, faces a similar demise. Instead of wasting time and effort

of planning swimming pools, leisure complexes and day-dreaming about dubious "service industries", we have to create and to manufacture goods competitive in world markets. Our politicians and councillors must stop squandering taxpayers' money on hordes of dubious, self-serving wheeler dealers, consultants, committees, strategists, administrators, lobbyists, task forces, and lawyers "interpreting" ambiguously created rules and regulations! Otherwise most of us will soon be taxed out of our pants and homes.

And even that would not prevent Canada from "going down the drain", if we do not learn some basics: Work before leisure, saving before spending; and integrity before self-interests.

A. Zakis
Stouffville

Failing to stop for school bus irresponsible

To whom it may concern,

You know who you are! You're the person that passed my child's school bus this morning. The one that was at a complete stop with all its lights flashing!

Has it been so long since a child was hit by a car getting on a school bus? What was so important that you had to put my child, and every child on that bus, in such danger? Were you a few minutes late for work? What about the lives of the children getting on that bus?

Perhaps you find that stopping for the school bus is a nuisance, it probably took longer for the stop light on the corner to change than it would have for the bus to move again. You stopped for the stop light, didn't you? You wouldn't charge out into the intersection on a red light would you? No, that would put your life in danger.

In recent years, the school buses have added a stop sign to the side of the bus, this is supposed to make you more aware of a stopped bus. Not long ago I saw a

school bus, in another area, with stop signs on each corner of the bus. I wonder if it makes any difference?

Oh, sure you probably rationalized it in your mind that the bus driver and the parents are watching out for the children. Well, yes we are, we have to. To protect them from irresponsible adults like yourself.

Our children are taught to be polite, considerate of others and also to obey all of the safety rules. You probably taught your children some of the same values. Even your parents taught you these things. What happened? Do the rules not apply to you when you're late? I'll bet you wasted more time this morning chatting at the coffee machine than it would have taken to stop and wait for our children to safely get on that school bus! This letter is addressed to you and all of the people that endanger our children every morning. You know who you are.

C. Singh
Stouffville

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