

## GTA

## Province to scrap super city plan, says Emmerson

By JOAN RANSBERRY  
Staff Reporter

The super city proposal will be shelved, predicts Whitchurch-Stouffville mayor Wayne Emmerson.

The provincial government is expected to announce its position in May in regards to recommendations made in the Golden Report, including

the formation of a super city to sprawl from Burlington to Clarington and north to Lake Simcoe taking in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

It would mean getting rid of five regions, including York as well as most of the politicians to be replaced by a 30-member Toronto council. Municipal politicians across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) have panned

the plan. Meanwhile, surveys carried out show that the great majority of residents oppose such a plan.

The province has got the message, said Emmerson. Not only will the province reject the mega city plan, the province will treat the "grass root" municipal level of government with a great deal more respect.

"We will be a partner at

the planning table. The province will want the municipalities at the table," said Emmerson.

Last week, MPP David Johnson, chairman of Ontario Management Board of Cabinet, was the guest speaker at a Stouffville-based GTA meeting involving 32 mayors and five regional chairs.

Johnson suggested that area municipalities are in for major change in such areas as disentanglement, assessment, school

boards and the way services are delivered and by what level of government.

The next GTA politicians meeting will be held in Clarington in mid May. This meeting will be critical since the province's decision on the Golden Report will be known, Emmerson said.

## Town

## Inner-city teenagers to learn about outdoors at education centre located in Stouffville

By JOAN RANSBERRY  
Staff Reporter

An outdoor education centre, designed for inner-city teens, got the green light from Whitchurch-Stouffville council Tuesday.

While a few Pangman Springs and Warden Avenue area residents questioned the weekend and summer project, strong opposition was not registered.

When residents asked if any of the 16 Toronto teens have criminal records, they were told the youngsters had not been through the court system.

The students are not from the courts, said Jim Hayhurst Jr., a youth councillor with Trails Youth.

"They are good kids who, given proper guidance and stimulation, could be better."

Trail Youths, a private foundation, will run the program in partnership with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Council agreed to the construction of a building to include a 40-seat dining hall, kitchen facility, a sick bay, washrooms, lounge, office and a 20-student classroom as well as cabins.

Hayhurst explained that the teens from 12 to 16 years will take part in canoe, kyaack and rope climbing as well as other Mother Nature education programs.

As well, the teens are taught problem

solving techniques other than fighting, said Hayhurst.

Cost of the \$3,300 per student program is covered through private donations. Meanwhile, each student pays \$100 for the privilege, giving the child a sense of responsibility.

"It teaches them that there's no free lunch," said Hayhurst.

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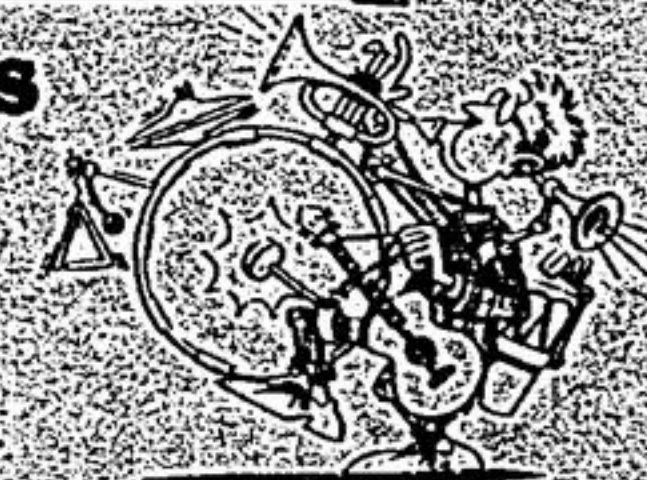
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