

# MNR offers help to volunteer groups

What would you do if you had \$1 million at your disposal? There's a lot of things you could do with that type of money no doubt.

With \$1 million at their disposal, the Ministry of Natural Resources is doing something by helping local volunteer outdoor concerns.

This past week, the ministry's Aurora district office announced an allocation of \$109,800 to 35 local projects through its Community Fisheries Involvement Program and the Community Wildlife Involvement Programs.

Among the beneficiaries of this ministry funding was the Little Rouge River Restoration Project.

Born last June, the Little Rouge River Restoration Project is a community-based project focused on improving the health of the Little Rouge River watershed.

The ministry allocated \$1,500 for a dam remediation project on the Little Rouge River in Markham and \$4,600 for a pond and stream rehabilitation project at the Christian Blind Mission site in Stouffville.

The dam remediation project on the Little Rouge River, located between the 18th and 19th Sideroads and west of Hwy. 48, involved the alteration of a barrier to allow migrating fish like rainbow trout in the spring, and brown trout and salmon in the fall, to utilize an additional 10 kilometres of river to reach potential spawning sites.

During the project a number of various groups, including the Metro East Steelheaders, the Rotary Club of Markham-Unionville, Environment Canada and Save the Rouge, volunteered their time.

Beginning work in late March, stop logs at the dam site were removed to raise water levels below the barrier. A more diagonal gradient was created that now allows fish to negotiate the barrier. Sue Sirrs, a Little Rouge River Restoration Project spokesperson, revealed only some bank stabilization work needs to be carried out.

The pond and stream rehabilitation project, which began last Saturday, involves the creation of a bypass channel around an



## Outdoors

Mike Hayakawa

existing pond on the northwest tributary of the Little Rouge River. The property is owned by the Christian Blind Mission and a private resident on Stouffville Rd. just east of Kennedy Rd.

Sirrs pointed out the creation of a new river channel would create cooler water temperatures and keep nutrients and sediments moving in the existing pond.

Sirrs noted the ministry's assistance was timely in the acquisition of aquatic plants that will be placed on the edges of the new stream channel.

Natural Resources minister Chris

Hodgson is glad to see that the funds the ministry has at their disposal is being put to good use by various local volunteer groups.

"Through the participation of volunteer groups like the ones in Aurora District, we can ensure this money is spent wisely and the programs meet the needs of the community," he said in a news release.

Funding for CFIP and CWIP projects was increased to \$1 million this year. The contribution for these initial projects was \$584,000.

Anyone interested in learning more about the CFIP and CWIP projects can contact the ministry's Aurora office at 713-7400.

Anyone interested in offering assistance to the Little Rouge River Restoration Project can call (416) 284-0257.

## DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



### Dana Kinoshita

Dana Kinoshita is having a gym dandy season. The 17-year-old Unionville native competed at the recent Provincial Championships in Brampton and came away with a first place

finish in the All Round portion in the Level 2 Open Division. In addition to that, the Wynners Gymnastics Club member also finished first overall in her four individual disciplines. A Grade 11 student at Markham District High School, Kinoshita has competed in six competitions this year and finished first in the All Round portion in five of those meets.

DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA  
3120 Steeles Ave. E.  
East of the 404 (Pkwy.) 475-0722

### TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

#### NOTICE 1997 TAXES

The Second Instalment of the 1997 Interim Realty Taxes are due on or before

**MAY 23, 1997**

TAX PAYMENTS may be made by mail, or in person at the Town Office and at the following C.I.B.C. locations:

Stouffville 6311 Main Street  
Aurora 15195 Yonge Street  
Newmarket Yonge & Davis Drive

Bank payments are to be made to a C.I.B.C. teller only during regular business hours. Payments will not and cannot be accepted through the instant banking machines. Individual banking fees may apply. At present Telephone Banking is available for C.I.B.C. customers only. After hours tax payments may be made in the night deposit box at the C.I.B.C. on the Market St. side of the Stouffville Branch.

#### TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
640-1900 895-2423

19 Civic Ave., Box 419, Stouffville Ontario L4A 7Z6  
Ruth Armstrong, Tax Collector, A.M.C.T., C.M.T.C.

### TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE WATER DISTRIBUTION FLUSHING PROGRAM

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Works Department will be conducting a watermain flushing program throughout the Community of Stouffville commencing Tuesday, May 20th, 1997 through to Friday, May 30th, 1997. This work will be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Should discolouration of water occur during the time the work is being conducted allow water to run until it clears. We ask that water usage be restricted to a minimum during the above mentioned hours.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this work please do not hesitate to contact the Public Works Department at 640-1900.

Paul Whitehouse, C.E.T.  
Director of Public Works

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