

Mayor Emmerson files papers for re-election

JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Wayne Emmerson is seeking a three-year job extension. This week, the mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville filed the appropriate papers indicating his intent to run for the mayor's job in the November municipal election.

"I feel I need more time to complete the things I started," said Emmerson. "When I took over the position, I wanted to turn things around for Stouffville. I think I'm accomplishing that." During a press conference held yesterday, Emmerson said he wants to be in the mayor's chair when the town's Secondary Plan is finalized

and when a similar plan for the Vandorf area gets well under way. Emmerson wants to be in a position to put the shovel in the ground for the new indoor swimming pool and he'd like to be around to help celebrate the first anniversary of the soon-to-open train station. Emmerson said he hopes to finalize the work that's needed to be in a

position to welcome a large manufacturing plant to town. There's a lot to do, said Emmerson.

New standards for elementary schools

Ontario's government wants elementary schools across the province ready when students return this fall to use a new, stricter set of standards for learning.

A new province-wide curriculum for Grades 1 - 8, released yesterday, is "significantly more rigorous and demanding" than what the government expected students to be taught before, the education ministry document says. The new blueprint for teachers will be "set to high standards and identify what parents and the public can expect children to learn in the schools of Ontario," its introduction promises.

The ministry said the curriculum includes a broader range of knowledge and skills and introduces many of those skills in earlier grades than before. But the document also states that, starting in September, all programs in schools will be based on its expectations — leaving teachers' representatives and school board officials wondering how the system could be ready in time. Changes have been expected, but it's too late for teachers to learn the new rules by the fall, said Joan Heeler, president of a local elementary teachers' federation. "This is going to cause chaos and confusion among teachers as to what they're going to be teaching in September," Joan Heeler.

"It's pretty short notice," argued Ihor Baczynsky of the York Catholic Teachers. "I think reality's going to start hitting them."

The changes are welcome, but none of the support materials teachers need to introduce the new curriculum to children have appeared, said Frank Bobesich, education director for York Region's separate board. But an associate director for the public board said the provincial standards appear similar to those used by the board, which, he said, stresses what students must show they have learned. "As I'm flipping through this, I don't panic," said Joe Allin. "I'm fairly confident that our curriculum will align" with the province, and that any changes will be "fine tuning," he added. The document, available on the ministry's website, says previous policies on classroom learning identify outcomes only for Grades 3, 6 and 9, but this one has

"precise and detailed descriptions of the knowledge and skills required for each grade."

It adds these extra details, "will eliminate the need for school boards to write their own expectations, will ensure consistency in curriculum across the province, and will facilitate province-wide testing."

This sameness will also help children who change schools, and parents in all regions of Ontario will be able to understand their child's progress, the document says. "By reading the curriculum, parents can see what their children are learning in each grade and why they are learning it."

Citizens of Uxbridge

SHOW YOU CARE

The Committee for a Smoke-Free Uxbridge has asked Uxbridge Council to consider the following to improve the smoke-free by-law in our community:

1. All hospitality establishments, including restaurants, bars, bowling alleys and bingo halls have 100% of their seating as non-smoking until 9 p.m. and then 50% of their seating non-smoking after 9 p.m.
2. All workplaces be designated smoke-free with the option of a designated smoking room*
3. Effective January 1, 2000, all hospitality establishments shall be smoke-free, with the option of a designated smoking room* (up to 25% of the seating area).
4. All enclosed public places, including recreation facilities, banquet halls, meeting rooms, reception areas, washrooms, stairwells, corridors, elevators, and common areas of residential buildings, including lobbies, lounges, mail rooms, laundry rooms and reception areas be smoke-free.
5. All outdoor public events where people are gathered and sitting in one area have a designated smoking section no larger than 30% of the area.

*Designated smoking room means: fully-enclosed and separately ventilated directly to the outside and is not required by the public for access or thoroughfare.

Our aim is not to take away the rights of the smoker as they still may choose to smoke - outside, at home or in their car. It is to give the right of clean air to those who have chosen not to smoke and those who have limited access to public places because secondhand smoke has an immediate and harmful effect on their health.

Our journey over the last four years has seen the Committee not only address the issue of by-laws, but take on a campaign of public awareness through the youth in our community, public events and promoting healthy active living. We have also established a support group for smokers trying to quit.

On June 18th, 7:30 p.m. at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre, Uxbridge Council will be hosting a public forum to hear from the people of this town. They have heard from us, now it is time to show that you care about this issue too. You will send a strong message by your attendance or lack of attendance. If you can't be present, write a letter or call your Councillor and Mayor or complete the following and drop it in a box at Zehrs, I.G.A. Quaker Pharmacy, Toronto Street Pharmacy, Township Office, Health Department or Hospital.

PLEASE SHOW YOU CARE.

"An environment which supports non-smoking as the norm, is the key to a new generation of non-smokers!"

CLIP

To the Mayor and Councillors of Uxbridge Township:

I, _____ support the proposed
(please print name)
improvements to the smoke-free by-law and request that
you vote in favor of these positive changes in order to
protect the health of our community.

Signature: _____

Address: _____

P.C.



TOWN OF
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

NOTICE

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Municipal
Offices will be closed on

**MONDAY JUNE 30th, 1997 AND
TUESDAY JULY 1st, 1997**

The following areas will be staffed on June 30th

**PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS & RECREATION
EMERGENCIES:**

640-1900 or 895-2423

For Information on Garbage/Recycling Collection:
Miller Waste Systems 475-6356

ANIMAL CONTROL: 1-800-516-6662

FIRE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE: 911

The Municipal Offices will reopen on Wednesday,
July 2nd, 1997, at 8:30 a.m.

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

SUMMER SPECIALS

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CORRECTION NOTICE

We wish to draw your attention to the
following in our current '75 Years Storewide
Summer Fun Sale.

PAGE 20 Motomaster SK110, LE and
Aqua Plus Tires
Copy Should Read: While quantities last
Selection may vary by location.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience
we may have caused you.

note 325-97 zones all