



MISSED PUTT: Peter Shier misses a putt by an inch on the eighteenth green at the Emerald Hills Golf and Country Club in the Darryl Sittler/Ernie Whitt Canadian Special Olympics Golf Tournament, held on Tuesday, July 22. Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

The ratio of officers to people in York Region one to 915, says Scott

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enough resources to do the job. But then we have a low crime rate and the public seems satisfied."

He said as the population expands, so too must the budget. For example, he says, the ratio of officers to people in Metro is 1 to 411. An acceptable ratio in an outlying area is 1 to 700. In York, it's 1 to 915.

"A long range plan will help us put all that in perspective and allow us to plan ahead, put it before the Regional Council and hope the Regional Council accepts it."

"The plan will address many issues outside the audit, such as long-range planning in areas like traffic management and other changing issues, as the province downloads more responsibilities to municipali-

ties. As well, public hearings are scheduled, perhaps as early as late fall, to gain a sense of the public's expectations and concerns, he added.

Rosati's motion also includes a resolution that commits the board to monitoring the performance of the Chief.

This comes after Chief Bryan Cousineau stepped down in April, while the Ontario Provincial Police investigate allegations of criminal wrongdoing, brought to the attention of those same provincial auditors.

"I'm an outsider and I have had quite a broad experience," Scott added.

"I have to say you have a real professional police force here who have been doing wonders."

Health Commission gives '905' hospitals breathing room

MIKE ADLER
Staff Reporter

The provincial Health Services Restructuring Commission gave suburban residents some encouragement yesterday, even as it lowered the axe on 15 Metro-Toronto hospitals, suburban hospitals say.

The commission will announce its initial plans this fall for reshaping health care in York, Durham, Halton and Peel regions. A lobby group for 17 hospitals in the "905 belt" says commissioners seem to understand its message — that people here want more services closer to home.

"They're starting to recognize explicitly the kind of development we need," Jim Armstrong of the GTA 905 Healthcare Alliance said in Ajax yesterday.

In a May presentation, the group told the commission access to chronic, long-term care, rehabilitation and mental health services, "are seriously deficient" in the suburban regions compared to most of Ontario.

Yesterday, the commission's final word on Metro hospitals found "a distribution problem" in the available rehabilitation beds in the Greater

Toronto Area, and said a 226 per cent increase of such beds is needed outside Metro.

"The rehabilitation beds in Metro Toronto will decrease, but there will be a proportional increase in the balance of the GTA," the government-appointed group said in a release, which also promised an eastern "regional centre" would be chosen following its review of services in York and Durham.

The announcement means some suburban dialysis patients, who are now forced to travel to Toronto's Wellesley Hospital, will be able to get treatment at York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, the regional dialysis centre.

York Central will get \$8.2 million a year for taking a fifth of Wellesley's dialysis program and portions of the emergency, surgical and other programs at North York Branson Hospital, which is converting to an ambulatory care centre.

Nancy Webb, a spokesperson for York Central, said suburban hospitals can do many things done in Metro.

"Give us the resources to do it," she said. "Give us the resources to grow with our community."

Closing some downtown hospitals will have less of a measurable impact on Markham Stouffville Hospital, spokesperson Rosalie Penny said yesterday.

But because Markham Stouffville is close to Scarborough hospitals, it could be affected by the results of the Joint East Metro Hospitals Task Force, a study ordered by the restructuring commission and expected in the fall, she said.

And a spokesperson for Scarborough Grace Hospital said Markham residents — about 20 per cent of its case-load — will be relieved to hear the hospital will keep its popular obstetrics program, which delivers 3,000 babies each year.

The commission reversed its preliminary decision to remove Scarborough Grace's special care nursery, which allows it to care for all but the most seriously ill newborns. "We would have been sending two babies a day to another hospital," said Catherine Hinton.

Appeals from residents, including many in southern Markham, were instrumental in producing this good news, she said.

Local economic developer files suit against Lindsay mayor

Whitchurch-Stouffville's business economic developer has filed a law suit against his former employee, the Town of Lindsay and its mayor.

Eric Lismanis is suing the town and Lindsay Mayor Marty Stollar for \$6,000, plus costs and interests.

The case was filed in Small Claims Court in Lindsay.

Lismanis claims mayor Stollar made defamatory statements against him.

The case deals with Lismanis' handling of a private festival and a town-run project.

Lismanis resigned from his post as economic developer officer for Lindsay last May and was hired in Whitchurch-Stouffville in January.

—Joan Ransberry

Resurfacing of Hwy. 48 up to York Road 15 is 'an investment for the future'

JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

A King City company picked up a \$2.6 million contract to resurface a section of Hwy. 48, extending to York Road 15 in Ballantrae.

Yesterday, Durham-York MPP Julia Munro and Transportation Minister Al Palladini announced that safety will be improved by resurfacing of part of Hwy. 48 in Markham and the northerly section of York Road 15, or Aurora Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"Restoring this heavily used section of Hwy. 48 to top condition will

improve safety as well as driving conditions," said Palladini.

"The work is also an investment for the future, as it will extend service life of this highway for many years to come."

The contract was awarded to K.J. Beamish Construction Company Ltd. of King City.

Work is scheduled to begin any day, while completion will be in late October.

Work also includes the rehabilitation of the Little Rouge River Bridge, located about five kilometers north of Hwy. 7.