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JULIA MUNRO M.P.P. DURHAM / YORK CONSTITUENCY OFFICE



SIGN OF THE TIMES: This sign was posted on MPP Julia Munro's constituency office last week to urge residents to look at the reasons behind Bill 160.

Bill 160 meeting

The public is invited to hear all about the province's controversial education reform legislation (Bill 160) and what it means to parents, students and children.

Everyone who wants to discuss the issue is invited to Summitview Public School for an information meeting tonight (Thurs. Nov. 13) at 7:15 p.m. sharp in the lunch room.

Hosted by the Summitview Parent Council, parents can listen to representative from the teachers' federation; the board of education, the office of MPP Julia Munro, and informed parents.

Quality healthcare for growing communities

We are the GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance, a group of sixteen hospitals representing the regions of Durham, Halton, Peel and York. And we support the restructuring of the healthcare system in Ontario.

Today in Ontario, the healthcare services available to you depend on where you live:

If you live in the regions of Durham, Halton, Peel or York, chances are someone you know has travelled a long distance to receive kidney dialysis, cardiac care or radiation treatment for cancer.

That's because our regions receive less healthcare funding per capita than any other area of the province.

The Health Services Restructuring Commission's GTA/905 report is scheduled for Tuesday November 18, 1997.

We agree:

We want to ensure that people living in our growing communities receive quality healthcare. We urge the Commission to recognize that our communities deserve:

1 Access to healthcare services closer to home. That means less travel for people requiring services such as radiation treatment, dialysis, eye care and cardiac care. Residents of our communities should have the same access to healthcare services as those in the rest of the province.

2 Quality healthcare services. Growing populations need greater access to healthcare services to meet expanding demands. Without a fair funding formula that recognizes population size, providing sufficient services is a challenge.

Right now for every healthcare dollar spent elsewhere in the province, only 70 cents is spent

in our communities. Not only do we receive less healthcare funding than other regions, but our communities are growing by an average of 100,000 people each year.

3 Affordable, effective healthcare. We already measure up to the province's high standards for healthcare. We are efficient hospitals that provide high quality care for the residents of our communities.

Accessibility to healthcare services should be available close to home. The Health Services Restructuring Commission's GTA/905 report will affect us all. Let's ensure the report recognizes our communities' need for equal access to healthcare services.

Call: *The GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance for more information.*
1-888-265-4652

Smooth return to class

MIKE ADLER
Staff Reporter

Things went smoothly in Stouffville schools Monday as students returned to class after two weeks.

"Kids were excited to be back," said principal Wally Robinson of Summitview Public School. "We got a lot done."

Teachers at Stouffville District Secondary School planned to continue in other ways their opposition to Bill 160, the legislation that triggered the province-wide walkout.

"I think there's a general feeling that our point was made," said principal Rod Leonard. Less clear yesterday was how the board would make up the 10 days lost from the school year. Schools were waiting for a decision from the board, which awaited direction from the province.

It's possible that the number of remaining PA days and exam days will be cut, but "you're not going to get 10 (instructional) days out of PA days and exam days," Leonard speculated.

The first half of the school year will definitely be extended two days into the mid-year exam

period, said Joe Allin, a board superintendent.

Ontario's public high school teachers decided Sunday to return to school with their elementary colleagues, three days after three other provincial teachers' unions unexpectedly announced they would go back.

Provincial leaders and different units of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation discussed the situation before the Sunday announcement, and some wanted to stay out, said Lynn Johnston, union president for York Region. "It was the emotional versus the intellectual," Johnston said. "The intellectual, I think, ruled the day."

Different unions will be meeting this week to repair their partnership and launch a new phase of protest against the bill, he said.

As it is, Johnston said, the legislation would result in job losses for 253 public high school teachers in York Region because of its cut to teacher preparation time.

Classes at St. Mark Catholic Elementary School on Glad Park Ave. did not resume Monday because its teachers are on a legal strike. The situation is in the hands of provincial mediators, the separate school board said yesterday.

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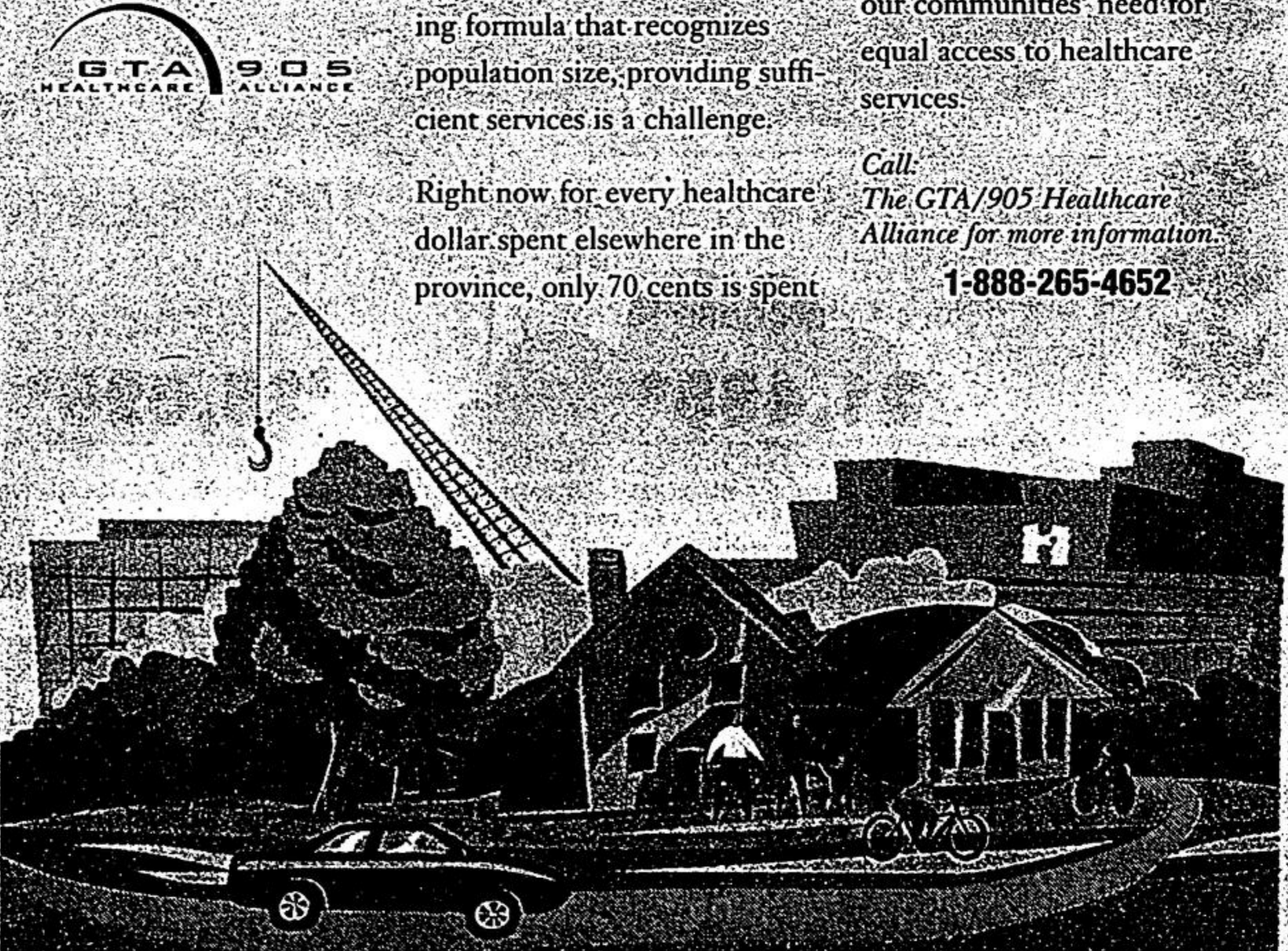
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