

# OPINION

## Stouffville Tribune

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**Publisher** - Ian Proudfoot  
**General Manager** - Alvin Brouwer

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## Views ON THE News

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC OPINION

**Q:** Toronto has installed controversial red-light cameras as part of a pilot project to deter red-light runners across the city. Would you be in favour of such a project here in York Region?

Absolutely. This would have my unequivocal support. We need to nail idiots who run red lights.

DAVID C KING

Please install red light cameras, we will provide some suggested locations on request. They will not only cut down on the number of accidents, but should also improve traffic congestion and reduce road rage with the non-offenders.

ERIC AND CHERYL MILNE

Yes, if it would reduce the accidents at intersections and if it is financially viable. We have to stop the carnage.

MICHAEL CROMPTON

Oh definitely. I watched a guy on Bullock. He stopped and then went right through a red light. As far as privacy goes, when you walk into a bank they take your picture too. You have to obey the law.

JOANNE WHITELEY

Oh yes, absolutely. I think it's a disaster going through a red light. Cameras would stop them as they couldn't deny breaking the law.

MARGARET CRAWFORD

Yes, I would. And it's not only red lights, but stop signs too.

FRANK PETRIE

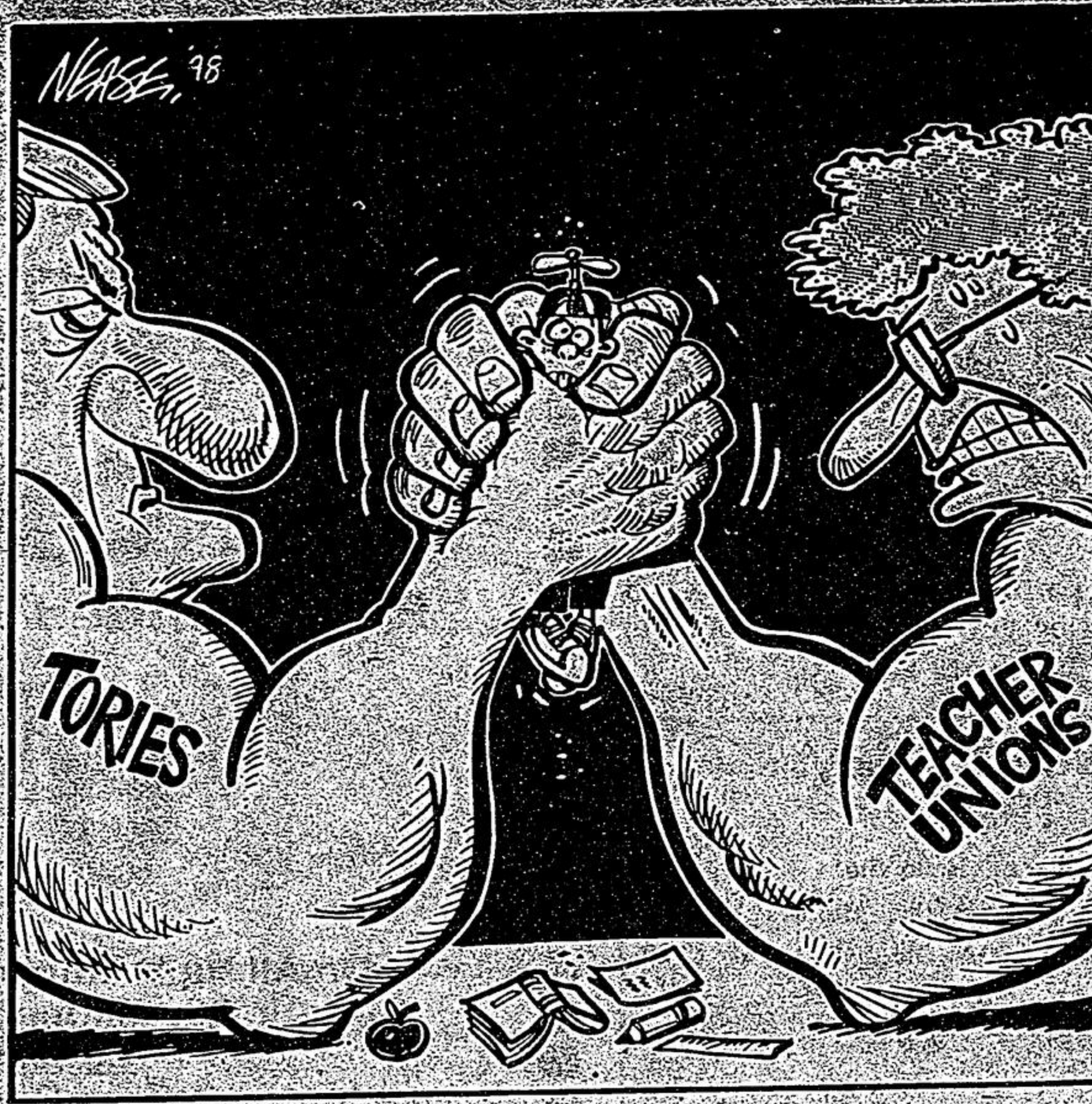
Yes, I would. There are too many people speeding and going through red lights.

NERRIEANN SIMPSON

## THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Given that school boards in York Region are unable to keep pace with the number of students, is growth in the region moving too quickly?

Submit contributions to  
Views on the News, fax: (905) 640-5477  
E-mail: thetrib@istar.ca



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Garbage a valuable resource

Regarding York Region's search for a wet/dry recycling and composting transfer facility, perhaps we should be looking at all of our garbage as a valuable source of raw materials to be processed and sold. Ninety-five percent of garbage can be recycled and reused. The other five percent could be burned in a state-of-the-art incinerator.

The ash remaining could be sold to the concrete block manufacturers to be used in the production of lightweight blocks. Cinders and slag have been used in this process for many years. Electricity would be produced to make the facility self-sufficient.

The compost could be bagged on site and sold to local garden supply outlets. After all, gardeners are paying a premium for manure which is a form of farm garbage.

The land search committee is looking at 36 potential sites across the region. This will upset the ratepayers groups and the NIMBYS.

Why waste time and money in this search when we already own the ideal site. It's located at McCowan and Elgin Mills roads and we already own it.

Yes, I'm proposing the Markham Fairgrounds site, which is surrounded by farmland, and would have the least adverse effect on the vast majority of residents.

If all the facilities were enclosed and underground conveyer systems used there should be no offensive odours and minimal adverse effects to local res-

idents. If the surrounding lands were zoned for permanent agriculture a buffer would be created to protect the residents of future subdivisions.

DEREK WARDLESWORTH  
STOUFFVILLE

### Ask what students learn

As a senior student at Brother Andre Catholic High School, I am intensely effected by the on-going education dispute. For the past few weeks students have been anxiously sitting around waiting to see if they were being sent to school the following day.

Tuesday, Sept. 29 was the day the government legislated students back to school, which I might add seemed to be for the sole reason of satisfying the numerous parents angered at the recent teachers' strike. I do not think parents or governments realize just how much preparation goes into re-opening the school for the new year. Many people believe the teachers can just be 'thrown' into the job, which can't be any further from the truth. While at school, timetables were lost, students were late (some didn't even show up) because of the short notice, and then I was asked to spend 50 minutes discussing how my summer had been, like I did when I was in elementary school. It was foolish for the government to put students back in the classroom within a 12-hour notice because you can certainly tell the teachers weren't prepared. Maybe York Region parents should ask their children what they learned at school today.

J. DOUX



Roy Green

## Professor took 11 years to study the obvious

An Oxford University professor has released the results of a study on what makes people happy.

Professor Michael Argyle spent 11 years of his life analyzing questionnaires about happiness.

That's a large block of one's life to devote to single subject but, after all, it would be well worth it if one discovered the secret to happiness.

So, what did the good prof learn?

- Married people are much happier than those who are divorced or separated.

- People with friends are happier.
- Extramarital affairs bring unhappiness.

- The very poor are less happy than those with middle incomes.

It took him 11 years to come to these conclusions.

Which leads me to conclude that he left something out — the happiest people on the face of the earth are university professors who get paid to spend 11 years discovering the obvious.

## 'People who watch television soap operas seem to gain a great deal of happiness from that'

There was one unusual finding from the study. "People who watch television soap operas seem to gain a great deal of happiness from that," said professor Argyle.

From which we might conclude that Argyle is hoping Oxford will cough up the money for him to spend another 11 years analyzing why people who spend hours absorbing all the misery, anguish, grief, suffering, torment, woe, pain and sadness — to say nothing of outright catastrophe — are happier than those who know nothing of Coronation Street, One Life To Live, As The World Turns and, in Canada, Riverdale.

My guess is he'd spend all that time and conclude soap-watchers are happier because no matter how miserable their own lives are, they're not as bad as all the misery, anguish, etc., suffered by the fictional characters on TV.

So save us the time and money, prof. Anyway, I don't think that's the answer. I think the reason those people are happier is because they have nothing to do all day but stay home watching soap operas.

And filling out questionnaires about what makes them happy.

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