

BUSINESS: Stan Buell aims to protect small investors

Group seeks better investment regulations

NOREEN O'LEARY
CORRESPONDENT

Stan Buell is on a mission to help small investors.

Buell, along with York Region businessmen Phil Colley, Bob Hagerman, Paul Smith, and Dan McCombe, founded the Small Investors Protection Association this summer.

SIPA, a volunteer organization, is designed to assist and protect local investors.

"I felt maybe I could help people

and give them some guidance as to what they can do to protect themselves," said Buell, 61, a Markham resident.

SIPA is also actively pursuing improvement to regulations for small investor protection.

Buell's idea to create SIPA came after he and his wife Helen discovered a broker had mishandled their accounts, which resulted in the Buells losing most of their investments in 1987.

When Buell approached regulators with his concerns, he said little attention was paid to him. He then decided that a group of concerned people would stand a better chance of being heard.

"I've discovered a lot of evidence that shows a lot of people have suffered when they depend on their brokers," he said.

"It is quite a problem in the community. Everyday you see stories in the paper. Most people can't believe that a broker would do something wrong."

SIPA has 22 members, many of whom are York Region business people, including lawyers, accountants, and retired stock brokers.

"We have a good cross-section of the community, and a lot of capable people," Buell said.

The group has also received a lot of support from Markham Regional

Councillor Ralph Aselin, who Buell said has been helpful from the beginning.

At the group's first meeting, Diana Edmonds, a securities litigator, and Robert Goldin, a financial investigator, addressed the members.

Edmonds briefed the group on the different laws that apply to investment litigation, and described the various stages of a lawsuit. Edmonds also suggested that the minimum loss that would warrant a litigation would be \$30,000.

Goldin spoke of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada (IDA), an organization that, according to Goldin, most brokerage firms are members of.

Goldin said the IDA is responsible for investigating complaints against brokers.

Goldin also said that small investors must protect themselves by monitoring their accounts and raising questions if they discover anything wrong.

SIPA is planning a public forum at the Markham civic center in November to increase public awareness.

SIPA can be reached by telephone at 471-2911, by fax at 472-2249, or by e-mail at buell@globalserve.net.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Helen and Stan Buell had a bad experience with investing in the 1980s. That event led Stan to form the Small Investors Protection Association.

MINTERIORS INC.
Professional Home & Office Cleaning




We have a winner in our Shine into the Millennium Contest September 24, 1998

CONGRATULATIONS TO
MRS. DOROTHY CARTO OF DON MILLS

Mrs. Carto has won Professional Home Cleaning Bi-weekly From October 1st 1998 Until January 1st In The Year 2000!

Come see us at the 1998 Markham Home Show, October 23rd, 24th, 25th

WE CLEAN, YOU SHINE.
(416) 497-1100

THE BAY MARKVILLE CHARITY GALA
Saturday, October, 17th, 1998
7 - 11 p.m.

The Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation
Fall Fashion Show & Silent Auction
Gala Evening.

Joining us will be, the President of the Hospital Foundation, the Mayors of Markham & Stouffville and Alicia Kay from CFTO.

Tickets available at the Bay Markville or at Markham Stouffville Hospital for \$10 each.

All proceeds of ticket sales will be donated to the hospital foundation.

DOOR PRIZES & SILENT AUCTION
Suzanne's Gourmet Catering & Magnotta Winery
The Marktones Variety & Cabaret Group
Fall Fashion Show presented by Alicia Kay from CFTO
Bonus Air Miles
Exclusive Shopping till 11p.m.

*Thank You for Your Support - Polo R.L. / Hager / Korci / Elco / Fila / Esquire Watch Company / Estee Lauder / Timex / Lancome / Clinique / Elizabeth Arden / Clarins / CK / Nautica / Holiday Luggage / Monet

COMMUNITY: Parent/child resource centres in Markham and Stouffville

Pathways helps families cope

NOREEN O'LEARY
CORRESPONDENT

Services for children, youth, and families, are now just one phone call away.

Markham Neighbourhood Support Centre and Youth Housing Markham have amalgamated to form Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region. Pathways will continue to offer all services provided by the original agencies and will develop new programs as opportunities arise.

Parent/Child Resource Centres is one service offered through Pathways. The three resource centres, located in Markham, Milliken Mills and Stouffville, provide a variety of services for preschool children and their caregivers for a small annual fee.

The centres offer primary caregivers a chance to come together, have a cup of coffee, and realize they're not alone and that there is a lot of support in the community, said Cathy Denyer, executive director of Pathways. "The program is very interactive with kids and parents."

The three centres have approximately 250 families as members and are available to anyone living in Markham, Unionville, Stouffville, Milliken, and Thornhill. Each centre can receive anywhere from 30-50 visitors at a time.

Members are encouraged to take advantage of each centres facilities, including the Toy Lending Library, where toys and games can be borrowed for a set period of time.

"We provide the opportunity for members to borrow quality items like videos, books, puzzles, and toys," said Denyer. "It also allows the opportunity for a parent to decide if a toy is appropriate for their child's stage of development and if it

might be something they would like to purchase themselves."

Each centre also has a drop-in playgroup, where parents or caregivers and their children can interact through painting, songs, and stories. According to Denyer, each centre also offers an educational component for the children.

"We provide a setting that is very non-threatening and protective of children," she said.

Parents and caregivers may use the centres to borrow books on child care and parenting, find out about local day care services, and attend workshops. The centres also offer a first-time mom's program, where new parents can network with other first-time parents and professionally trained individuals regarding their questions and concerns.

Youth housing is another program provided by Pathways. They provide two residential group homes with 16 beds for young people who are unable to live at home, and offer a caring and supportive environment. Youth Housing offers ongoing counselling in life skills, career and educational planning, and peer and family relationships. "We have a goal of family reintegration," said Denyer.

Where reintegration is impossible, Youth Housing will assist youth in independent living.

Pathways is also responsible for MY Place Youth Centre at Markville Shopping Centre. It provides a safe place for young people to socialize.

Pathways will have its official launch on Oct. 15 at 70 Main St. N. in Markham. Open-house begins at 10 a.m. with face painting, arts and crafts, and story time for the children. The ribbon-cutting is at 4:30 p.m.

16th

ANNUAL

MARKHAM

HOMESHOW

October 23 • 24 • 25 Markham Fairgrounds

Canada's Largest 3 Day Home Show