

LABOUR: Provincial workers continue bargaining until midnight tomorrow

OPSEU strike set for Thursday

BY RICK VANDERLINDE
STAFF WRITER

There won't be quite as many provincial workers on the picket line in York Region as there were in 1996 if the provincial employees union goes on strike Thursday.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union has set a strike deadline of midnight tomorrow.

If the country's second largest union walks out, it will be the second such strike in three years.

"The government said they didn't have a mandate to negotiate, so we set a strike mandate," OPSEU spokesperson Randy Robinson said. "We are still negotiating right now and we're hopeful we won't have to walk out."

But the impact on the public isn't expected to be as severe in York Region, where several sectors of the union have been cut since the last strike.

For instance, snowplowing and road maintenance in York Region has been virtually taken over by municipal governments.

Only highways 400, 404 and 48 remain under provincial jurisdiction. And the workers who maintain those highways are expected to be transferred to the private sector this June.

"There isn't much left in York Region that is maintained by the provincial employees," York Region transportation David Aspinwall said.

Tax assessment officers also won't be affected by the strike either because they now belong to a different bargaining unit within OPSEU.

Criminal trials at Newmarket's courthouse are expected to continue in the event of a strike because some court workers are considered essential. But the jail guards who work at detention centres in Toronto, where most of York Region's prisoners are held, can walk off the job.

As a show of protest, many of those guards stayed home "sick" yesterday.

Management filled in during the "OPSEU flu". Services that may be affected during a strike in York Region include:

- driver tests and examinations given by transportation ministry staff;
- new applications for family benefits and disability cheques;
- several services provided by the land registry office.

OPSEU is fighting the province's contract position because it includes several "takebacks".

ANNOUNCEMENT



Photo By Cheryl Johnson

Lisa Oelke of Foodland Ontario presents The Garden Basket with a Merit Award for Produce. On hand to receive the award was Donny Ajtzimihail, Asst. Produce Manager, Sandy DiNardo, Asst. Store Manager, and Rocco Dattoli, Produce Manager.

Economist & Sun
Stouffville Tribune
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Come To
Church on Sunday

BLOOMINGTON GOSPEL CHURCH
13660 Ninth Line
(South of 47 Highway formerly Bloomington Rd.)
Pastor - Dr. John Howarth
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Christ Crucified As Prophecied
Luke 24:46
6:30 p.m. - Evening Program
Everyone Welcome

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH
34 Church St. N. • 640-1163
Worship Minister: Rev. Robert Nightingale
Education Minister: Nancy Monteith
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
10:30 am - Worship Service
Personal Care Items Collection
Sunday School from Baby Fold to the Grade 8 level.
Everyone Welcome

Parkview Village
12184 Ninth Line South
Stouffville
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
Bob & Alma McAllister
Missionaries
7 p.m. - Auditorium

STOUFFVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
A Fellowship Church
6273 Main Street
Pastor - Rev. Gordon Bickle
Asst. Pastor - Gordon MacCormack
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
10:00 a.m. Bible Class
11:00 a.m. Family Worship Hour
Message - "The Powerful Trio"
Music - Jenny Santorelli & Aileen Lombardo
Looking Ahead - 2nd Annual Good Friday Breakfast
Friday April 2nd - 8:30 a.m. to ?
No Charge - No Offering - Mark your calendars
Wisdom Is Knowing When to Speak Your Mind and When to Mind Your Speech
WE CARE

WIDEMAN MENNONITE CHURCH
10530 Hwy. 48 - North of Major Mackenzie Phone: 640 6219
Interim Pastor Henry Regehr
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
9:45 am - Christian Education
10:45 am - Pastor Henry
7:00 pm - Popcorn & Family Movie Night
Everyone Welcome

VIVIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
473-3543
On Hwy. 48 at Vivian Rd.
Pastor Robert Okum
Holding forth the doctrines of grace
9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
7:00 p.m. - Evening Service
Everyone is Welcome

THE ANGLICAN PARISH of CHRIST CHURCH
254 Sunset Blvd., Stouffville
The Rev. Robert A. Shields 640-1461
Celebrating 120 years of ministry 1879-1999
Wednesday, March 17th
"Be Our Guest" Open Kitchen 5 - 7 p.m.
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
Fifth Sunday in Lent
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
8:45 a.m. Ladies "Lite" Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist with Church School & Nursery provided.
Everyone Welcome!

Springvale Baptist Church
Stouffville Rd. at Kennedy Rd.
887-5651
Senior Pastor: Bob Flemming
Associate Pastor: Bill Thornton
Associate Pastor/Student Ministries: Brian G. Simcoe
Worship & Music Co-ordinator: Heather Thornton
Children's Ministries Co-ordinator: Sharon Russell
Sunday, March 21st, 1999
9:00 a.m. - NO SERVICE
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Celebration Service
Pastor Brian G. Simcoe
6:00 p.m. Fellowship Groups
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Kids Clubs
For more info call Church Office



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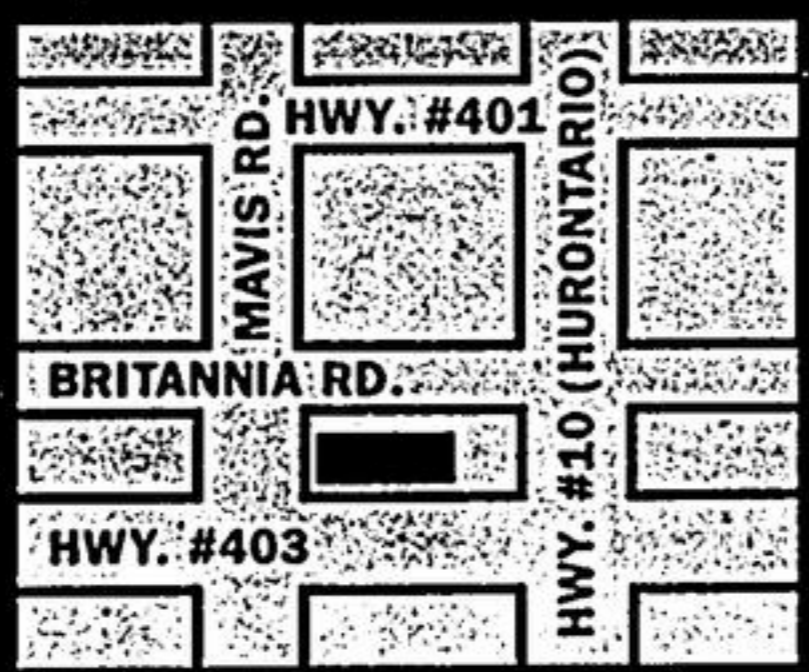
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Sun. 12pm - 5pm

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