

INSIDE: Opinion 6  
 Calendar 10  
 InfoGuide 14  
 Classified 17

16 It's back to the future for the Stouffville Soccer Club executive.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENT: Boy Scout apple days  
 WHEN: Friday and Saturday  
 WHERE: Plazas and door-to-door.



14 Bruce Willis and Michelle Pfeiffer explore the ups and downs of matrimony.

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TUESDAY FOCUS

*Inquest slated into girl's death at Hospital for Sick Children*



STAFF PHOTO/SIOERD WITTEVEN

Sharon and William Shore in the bedroom of their daughter, Lisa, who died in hospital two years ago.

## Searching for answers

BY RICK VANDERLINDE  
 Staff Writer

For a York Region couple, the bottom line in their 10-year-old daughter's unexplained death is no medical mystery.

Lisa Shore was admitted to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children Oct. 21, 1998 to control chronic burning pain that had plagued her after she broke her leg six months earlier.

The syndrome — reflex sympathetic dystrophy — is rare and difficult to treat. But it's never been known to be fatal.

So why did Sharon and William Shore's little girl die?

"We took our child's life in our hands when we went there," Sharon said. "Did the hospital kill her? We think so. If we had kept her at home

10-year-old's death 'no medical mystery,' parents say

and not gone to the hospital, she would still be alive."

The Shores, who had been coping with their daughter's bouts of uncontrollable pain for months, are convinced of that.

But there's a greater mystery to be solved.

How could one of North America's foremost children's hospitals have failed their daughter so badly?

The Thornhill couple hopes a coroner's inquest scheduled to begin in Toronto Nov. 8 goes a long way to answering that question.

Deputy Chief Coroner Dr. Jim Cairns will oversee the inquest, which is designed to find ways to prevent a similar death from occurring.

Officials at the Hospital for Sick Children will not comment on the case until the inquest is complete.

Sharon Shore wants hospital staff — especially nurses who cared for her daughter — to tell their stories publicly.

"It's going to be very difficult to live through, but it's something that we have to do," she said. "If we don't go through with the inquest then it gets swept under the rug."

About a month after their daughter's shocking death, the Shores demanded hospital records, relying

See TREATMENT, page 3.

## Patients will 'suffer' in budget crackdown

Provincial funding won't cover population growth

BY JENNIFER BROWN  
 Staff Writer

York Region hospital officials were outraged Friday when the province ordered them to balance their budgets but provided no extra funding to cope with massive growth.

The three hospitals are projecting deficits this year of between \$3.5 million and \$6 million, which they blame entirely on the growing number of patients and the province's refusal to increase funding.

The Ministry of Health has ordered all hospitals to balance their budgets over the next two years, which could force York's hospitals to reduce services and increase waiting lists.

"We're disappointed we thought there would be additional funding for hospitals in high-growth areas," said Markham Stouffville Hospital president Dr. Jim Maclean.

"I don't know the answer," he said. "We have to think about what it means."

His hospital's projected deficit is \$4 million this year.



DR. JIM MACLEAN: \$4-million deficit projected for Markham Stouffville Hospital.

but Maclean said that will only provide basic services the growing community needs, including extra beds and out-patient services.

"We're just providing service. You can't cut service and we're not going to do that," said a frustrated Maclean.

"We've been told there is no more new money. We just don't believe residents of York Region should suffer because of inefficiencies elsewhere. York Region residents shouldn't have to bear the brunt."

But they have been, and will continue to do so, according to York Central Hospital president

See HOSPITALS, page 8.

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