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8 Provincial government considers funding for private religious schools in light of UN decision.

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

EVENT: *The Child is Coming*
WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m.
WHERE: Springvale Baptist Church, 513-6122



17 Woody and Buzz are back together in *Toy Story 2*, coming to theatres tomorrow.

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TO REACH US: (905) 640-2100

TENSE TESTIMONY AS OFFICER WHO FIRED SHOT TESTIFIES AT INQUEST

Fatal shot forgotten

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
 Staff Writer

Det. Robert Wiche doesn't remember firing the shot that killed Markham teen Faraz Suleman, he told an inquest yesterday.

Testifying for the first time about the June 19, 1996 shooting on Trafford Crescent, Wiche told Coroner's counsel Brad Kelneck he recalls the early morning chase and

he remembers moving around to the front of the stolen Jeep Suleman was driving after it came to a stop.

He had his weapon drawn and yesterday described in detail being struck by the vehicle as it accelerated. But when asked if he recalls firing the gun he replied, "I must have. I don't have any independent recollection when it happened. It obviously did."

During the cross-examination, Suleman's mother's lawyer, Paul Copeland, reminded Wiche about the notes he made at the time notes which were not written until five days after the shooting because Wiche was too upset, he testified.

"He drove at me and struck my left shoulder," Copeland read from Wiche's transcribed 1996 notepad. "I bounced from the left fender

portion of the Jeep. As I bounced away, I maintained both hands on my gun. I fired one shot into the rear portion of the driver's window."

"Now you say you don't remember anything, you don't remember how the gun went off," Copeland asked.

See WICHE, page 2.

Mayor wants to talk to respondents

York Region amalgamation survey

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

The mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville wants the 29 people who took part in a recent amalgamation survey to give him a call.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson is taking strong acceptance to the people's choices and to their remarks about his municipality.

Of the 29 surveyed by the *Stouffville Tribune*, as part of survey by York Region's Metroland newspapers, only 18 per cent want Whitchurch-Stouffville to maintain the status quo, while the remainder want the town to be part of a one or two city scenario.

"Amalgamation is not necessarily better," stressed Emmerson.

The amalgamated City of Toronto is anticipating a tax hike this year, he said.

"How can that be better?" Emmerson said.

One Stouffville resident surveyed said the town had too many fire stations and not enough fire trucks. "This is just not true," Emmerson said.

Those taking part in the survey do not reflect the general opinion of the community, he said.

Emmerson wants the survey respondents to call his office to set up a meeting. "We run an open government. I want them

See RESPONDENTS, page 2.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

LET THEM EAT CAKE

Employment facilitators Ruth Robinson and Heather Graham celebrate the first anniversary of the Neighbourhood Resource Centre at Stouffville District Secondary School.

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 77 Phillips Drive, Unit 3
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 471-8660

STOUFFVILLE CANADIAN TIRE

STOUFFVILLE ROTARY CLUB
 Presents York Regional Police Male Chorus
 Sunday, Dec. 5 ~ 7:30 pm

Tickets available at Canadian Tire & Stouffville Travel. Proceeds to Whitchurch-Stouffville Mobility/Transit.

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