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Government intervention 'last resort'

From page 1.

problems promoting student success, instead of the current system whereby they intervene only when boards experience financial trouble.

The issue of government intervention touched this area in 1993, when Queen's Park had investigators check out the Catholic board's $32-million deficit. Board officials eventually eliminated the deficit.

Crowe said she likes the idea ministry officials should be held accountable to taxpayers, just as boards are.

She disagreed with the EIC's assertion officials know little about their students' performance, saying her board enacted testing for grade 3 and 6 students before it was mandated by the province.

Catholic school principals report test results to the board and the school communities.

Officials use the data to direct resources to subject areas that need improvement.

Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees agreed with Crowe the recommended independent agency is an unneeded layer of bureaucracy.

"That's what the Education Improvement Commission is. It's the commission that we look to provide independent advice," he said.

Klees welcomed the idea of a report card for the education ministry.

"Anything to ensure there's more accountability, we should be doing it," he said.

Klees said the 45-page, $60,000 report should have outlined penalties for boards that fare poorly compared to other boards.

Thornhill MPP Tina Molinari agreed there should be consequences for boards that perform poorly.

"We certainly believe in accountability and there are certainly ways to explore how to achieve that," she said.

Bill Hogarth, director of education for the York Region public board, welcomed the idea of an impartial agency.

"We've got no problem with it," he said.

Though he noted trustees already monitor what the board does to promote student success, Hogarth indicated he doesn't oppose government intervention — provided it's used as a last resort.

Hogarth admitted officials have some work to do in tracking student performance but said they are "well down the road".

The board, he added, is examining how it assesses schools and students and comparing the marks of local students with their counterparts elsewhere.

Hogarth criticized the EIC report, saying it doesn't set out real timelines or delve into the system to see which of the commission's suggestions are realistic.

Ann Vanstone, co-chairperson of the EIC, said she understands that criticism.

But, she added, much of the information gathered by school boards goes to the ministry and never sees the light of day.

She also conceded asking the province to create an impartial agency is difficult but rejected the claim it constitutes an unneeded layer of bureaucracy. The education system, she noted, does not have the government's equivalent of a financial auditor.

"What we're saying is that the way the education system is functioning deserves the same kind of scrutiny," she said.

She agreed "to some extent" boards are accountable but said most of them have trouble telling the commission how well their students do.

Statistics aren't readily available for where students go when they graduate, such as post-secondary education or the workforce, she explained.

Vanstone also responded to criticism the report doesn't suggest real timelines for improvement, saying the EIC wants pilot projects running this year and next.

Gerry Harrison, president of the York Region branch of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, supported the report's key recommendations.

"I have no problem with things being held up for accountability. I think it's the day and age we live in," he said.

Harrison said the EIC's suggestion of comparing suspension rates at different schools is a good idea.

Whether the government acts on it and other suggestions is another matter, he added.

LEGACY 5KM RUN / WALK

In support of Markham Stouffville Hospital

Founding Sponsors: IBM, Minto
Presenting Sponsor: Sun Microsystems

Date: Sunday, April 30, 2000 Time: 10:00 am
Location: Legacy Community (9th line and 14th Avenue) Markham

For more information please contact the Legacy Information Line at (905) 472-7373 ext. 3777

PLEDGE FORM

Last Name: First Name:
Team/School Name:
Address: City: Prov.:
Postal Code: Phone#: Male ☐ Female ☐ Age: Years participated
How did you learn about our race?
Why are you participating?

SPONSOR'S NAME	ADDRESS/CITY	P.C.	PHONE #	PLEDGED	COLLECTED	CASH/CHEQ.	RECEIPT REQD.
John Smith (Sample)	55 John Street	M5V 3P6	123-4567	$25.00	$25.00	Cash	Yes

Total $ collected: Amount Forwarded:
Fundraisers Signature: Date:
This form may be photocopied
CONTRIBUTIONS OF $10 OR MORE WILL RECEIVE A RECEIPT BY MAIL IF REQUESTED.

ENTRY FORM

Please complete one Entry Form per individual
Last Name: First Name:
Address:
City: Prov:
Postal Code: Phone #:
☐ Male ☐ Female Age: Years participated
TEAM OR SCHOOL CATEGORY:
☐ Check here if you are a member of a team/school
Team/School Name:
REGISTRATION FEES: (no refunds will be issued)
☐ $20 if received by April 18th, 2000
☐ $30 if received after April 18th, 2000
☐ Pre-school & Elementary School Children FREE of charge (Not eligible for free T-Shirt)
☐ $250 / team
PAYMENT METHOD
☐ AMEX ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ CASH ☐ CHEQUE
Card #:
Name on Card:
Expiry Date: Y M
Signature:
2000 LEGACY RUN/WALK RELEASE & INDEMNITY
Release, Waiver, and indemnity in consideration of the acceptance of my application and the permission to participate as an entrant or competitor in the Legacy 5K Run/Walk I, for myself my heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns HEREBY RELEASE WAIVE, AND FOREVER DISCHARGE the sanctioning bodies and sponsoring companies, the Ontario Road Runners Association and the Ontario Track and Field Association from any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, action, and causes of action whether in law or equity, in respect of death, injury, loss or damage to my person or property HOWSOEVER CAUSED, arising or to arise by reason of my participation in the said event, whether as a spectator, participant, competitor, or otherwise; whether prior to, during, or subsequent to the event AND NOTWITHSTANDING that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of any of the aforesaid. I HEREBY UNDERTAKE TO HOLD AND SAVE HARMLESS AND AGREE TO INDEMNITY all of the aforesaid from and against any or all of them arising as a result of or in any way connected with my participation in this event. BY SUBMITTING THIS ENTRY, I ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED to the above WAIVER RELEASE and INDEMNITY, I WARRANT that I am physically fit to participate in this event.
Signature:
Parent/Guardian: (if Under 18 Yrs.)

EVENT INFORMATION

DATE: Sunday, April 30, 2000, 10:00 a.m. sharp
PLACE: Legacy Community at 9th Line and 14th Avenue, Markham
REGISTRATION FEES:
➤ $20.00 by April 18, 2000
➤ $30.00 after April 18, 2000
➤ Elementary & pre-school children are free (not eligible for free T-Shirt)
➤ Team entry fee (maximum 5 people): $250.00
HOW TO REGISTER:
➤ Register in person at the Richmond Hill RUNNING ROOM (8900 Yonge St., Unit 1, Richmond Hill)
➤ Register in person at Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation Office (Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
➤ Mail your Entry Form post marked by April 17th to: Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation (381 Church Street, P.O. Box 1800, Markham, Ontario, L3P 7P3)
➤ Fax entry form to: Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation Fax: (905) 472-7018 with credit card #
➤ Event Day 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Registration Tent
PAYMENT: Cash, Cheque, Visa, Mastercard or Amex
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (905) 472-7373 Ext: 3777 or contact the Richmond Hill RUNNING ROOM Store at 8900 Yonge St., Unit #1 (905) 764-7255
RACE KIT & T-SHIRT PICK-UP
➤ Race Kit & T-Shirt (long sleeved) Pick-Up at RUNNING ROOM Store (Richmond Hill location only) April 26th to 28th 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Sat., April 29 10:00 to 5:30 p.m.
➤ Race Day at the Registration Tent
➤ Race Kits and T-shirts for first 1,000 registered participants

RACE DAY ACTIVITIES

PARKING FREE: Parking will be available on site
FINAL REGISTRATION / INDIVIDUAL PLEDGE DROP OFF: 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Registration and Pledge Tent on-site
WARM UP: 9:40 a.m.
START OF RUN: 10:00 a.m. Sharp
AWARDS PARTY: Immediately following the race Post event food & refreshments will be available to all participants upon presentation of their race number.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to:
➤ The Top Three Male and Female Finishers in the following categories: Open; Secondary School; Elementary School.
➤ The Top Two Male and Female Finishers in the following Age Groups: 19-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50+.
➤ The Fastest Team
➤ Top Pledge Collecting Team
➤ The Top Pledge Collecting Adult and Youth (under 18)

PLEDGE INCENTIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM

SEE SCHOOL PROGRAM FLYER FOR DETAILS
➤ The SCHOOL PROGRAM is generously supported by Canadian Tire Corp., Stock Transport and by the Unionville Men's Slo Pitch League
➤ Elementary Schools raising $1000 or more in pledges will receive a Canadian Tire Gift Certificate for $500.00
➤ Secondary Schools raising $2000 or more in pledges will receive a Canadian Tire Gift Certificate for $500.00
➤ Stock Transport will provide $500 vouchers to the Elementary School and Secondary School with the highest pledges. The Top Participating (largest number of participants) School will also receive a $500.00 voucher.
➤ There is a lucky draw ticket for every $50 in pledges. They will be entered into a draw for a Trip for 4 to Disney World! Generously donated by the Unionville Men's Slo Pitch League. The draw will take place immediately after the race.

PLEDGE INCENTIVES

SPONSORED BY: BROOKS

All Participants are eligible for one of the following rewards, based on their total ($) pledges collected:
• With $50 or more; Event Baseball Cap
• With $100 or more: Brooks Sports Bag
• With $150 or more: Brooks Hiking Shoes
• With $250 or more: Brooks Golf Jacket and Pants
• With $500 or more: Receive a Brooks Golf Jacket, Pants and Running Shoes
• With $750 or more: Brooks 3 in 1 Parka
• With $1000 or more: Any two from above list
➤ Eligible winners will be given written confirmation and details of how to receive their reward from Brooks
➤ Individual Pledges of $10.00 or more received by 9:30 a.m. on Race Day will be mailed a tax receipt if requested.
➤ Proceeds from this event will be allocated to the Markham Stouffville Hospital Cardiac Equipment Fund for an Echocardiology Machine.

TEAM CHALLENGES (Corporate and Community)

SEE TEAM FLYER FOR DETAILS
TO ENTER: Complete one entry form for each team member (5 maximum) and submit all team entries together with to Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation. Teams are a maximum of 5 people, if you are entering several teams, please submit all of the teams of 5 together. Pledge Prize eligibility will be based on the total pledge amount of each individual team.
Prizes Categories: Top Pledge Collecting Team and Fastest Team. Prizes: Sun Microsystem Sponsored Souvenir Watch.
For more information, or to request a team package contact 905-472-7000 ext. 6606.

ONTARIO ROAD RUNNERS ASSOCIATION / ONTARIO TRACK & FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Legacy 2000 5K Run / Walk is pleased to be an ORA and Ontario Track and Field Association accredited race. (Accreditation No. 2034)