

Ruling today on moraine OMB status

BY MIKE ADLER
Staff Writer

A provincial court ruling is expected today on whether the City of Toronto can rejoin a pivotal hearing on development of the Oak Ridges Moraine in Richmond Hill.

A judge heard arguments Friday on whether the city should be a party at the Ontario Municipal Board hearing, but did not issue an immediate decision.

If the court rules in Toronto's favour, it will be allowing a party with a large budget to support opponents of several housing developments proposed for Richmond Hill's remaining rural area. It also will delay the hearing's scheduled start date of May 29.

Glenn De Baeremaeker, president of Save The Rouge Valley System, said lawyers for developers

tried their best Friday to shut out the city. "What I saw today was just a bunch of legal mumbo-jumbo."

SRVS is ill-equipped to argue the case on its own, De Baeremaeker said, and Toronto is the only potential party with the financial resources to do a good job.

In a pre-hearing last month, the board refused to grant party status for Toronto, arguing it would bring no unique perspective to the debate.

The city quickly moved to appeal that decision in divisional court.

The town did not oppose the city's bid to participate, but has not endorsed it.

Richmond Hill Councillor Brenda Hogg, however, thinks it should. "Toronto has the money to balance out the debate and that's why we need them there."

Aquabreathing seminar this Thursday

Margaret LeGear Aquatics is hosting a seminar for parents to introduce a learn-to-swim approach to their

children using Aquabreathing, at Markham Community Library this Thursday at 7 p.m. Admission is \$2.

2000 Legacy Run/Walk Raises \$88,430



Bill Crothers (Chair, Founder of the Board), Gina Rosen (President Foundation), Jim MacLean (President & CEO of MSH) and Dr. Bob Gall (Chief of Staff) join members of the 2000 Legacy 5km Run/Walk (in T-shirts) to celebrate the presentation of \$88,430 raised for the Hospital Foundation

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