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5 Take a deep breath:
 Stouffville asthma
 sufferer gets new-found
 relief thanks to hospital.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
EVENT: Stouffville Figure Skating Club ice show
WHEN: May 10 and 11
WHERE: Stouffville Arena (905-640-8822)



26 Packing a punch:
 Martial arts experts
 concerned with cardio
 kickboxing classes.

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TO REACH US: (905) 640-2612

MAYOR BACKS FEWER COUNCILLORS; PUBLIC MEETING TUESDAY

Council to be down-sized?

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Are the face and the size of
 Whitchurch-Stouffville council
 about to change?

On Tuesday, the municipality is
 hosting a public information ses-
 sion, designed to seek public input
 about the future makeup of town
 council.

The biggest question of the night

will, no doubt, be: should council
 be down-sized from six councillors
 to four?

The move to down-size is com-
 ing "straight from the province,"
 said Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor
 Wayne Emmerson. "The province
 feels Ontario has too many politi-
 cians," he said. "The number needs
 to be reduced. The province has
 asked us to make ourselves smaller.

We have to take a look at it."

Presently, Whitchurch-
 Stouffville council is made up of a
 mayor and six ward councillors.
 The ward system has been in place
 in this municipality since 1972.

Another key question being
 examined at the public session is:
 should council operate on the ward
 system or should the wards be dis-
 solved and councillors be elected

town-wide?

Mayor Emmerson expects to
 hear some emotionally-charged
 arguments from both sides. Some
 people are very protective of the
 ward system, while others prefer a
 wide-reaching umbrella style. "It
 will make for discussion," said
 Mayor Emmerson.

If the ward system is abandoned

See LIVELY, page 9.

Is sale of Ontario Hydro dead?

York MPPs differ
 over value of utility

BY JEFF MITCHELL
 Staff Writer

Plans to privatize electrical
 power generation in Ontario are
 as good as dead, Vaughan-King-
 Aurora Liberal MPP Greg Sorbara
 said after Premier Ernie Eves
 scrapped plans to sell Hydro
 One.

"I would be very surprised if
 (the Tory government) ever got
 close to privatization again," Mr.
 Sorbara, who represented
 Whitchurch-Stouffville in the '80s
 said. "They know the public is, by
 a wide margin, against selling
 this asset and, secondly, it's a bad
 idea."

Mr. Eves announced
 Wednesday his government will
 delay a move on privatization
 until the public can be consulted.
 The decision came the day
 before the new premier faced
 voters in a byelection in nearby
 Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey.

"This election killed the idea
 of privatizing Hydro One. It
 became the issue of the cam-
 paign," Mr. Sorbara said. "There's
 no doubt about it; I've been in
 politics long enough to know
 when a government is afraid of
 dropping support."

But Oak Ridges Tory MPP
 Frank Klees expects Hydro One
 will be back on the block once
 the public gets used to the open
 market for hydro supply, which
 kicked in Wednesday.

He agreed overwhelming

See KLEES, page 11.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

GET BACK HERE!

Woodbridge Father Bressani Catholic High School's Tiana Ringer goes for a run but is brought down by a shirt tackle by Stouffville District Secondary School's Alana Schad in season-opening York Region senior girls' rugby game played at SDSS on Monday. Stouffville won 22-0.

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