

# Agency helps dogs identify seizures

From page 16.

pre-schooler unconscious with a concussion and scar tissue on her brain.

The seizures increased in frequency and severity during her adolescence and into her 20s. She was having one or two a month, although it eventually decreased to about one every six to eight months.

Ms Hoffman went for more than four years without any seizures.

When they returned, however, she was having between six and eight a day and the convulsions were severe. Often, she ended up in hospital for days because the convulsions wouldn't stop without medical intervention.

Six years ago, Ms Hoffman had brain surgery, which reduced the frequency of the seizures and tempered the convulsions.

Still, she was feeling left out of mainstream society. She didn't leave home without her husband for two-and-a-half years.

"People were becoming afraid of me and afraid to be with me anywhere in public."

Ms Hoffman called an agency that provided the hearing impaired with service dogs and asked if the organization could help her.

While there weren't dogs trained to deal specifically with seizure illnesses, the agency and Ms Hoffman worked to train Seiko to assist her.

*'I feel like I've been freed from a horrific secret.'*

Almost two years ago, Ms Hoffman got Cherokee as a service dog.

The dogs opened up the world again for Ms Hoffman because friends and family knew the animals, by recognizing signs, would alert Ms Hoffman when a seizure was coming and protect her during an episode.

"I'm not limited socially. I feel like I've been freed from a horrific secret."

The meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the Loyal True Blue and Orange Home at 1181 Yonge St. north of Elgin Mills in Richmond Hill.

There is a \$5 cover charge for non-members of the agency.

For more information, call 905-508-5404 or e-mail at epilepsya@aol.ca

A message from **The War Amps** 

To order a *Spot the Danger!* video or the new *PLAYSAFE Interactive CD-Rom*, visit our Web site at [www.waramps.ca](http://www.waramps.ca) or call 1-800-250-3030.

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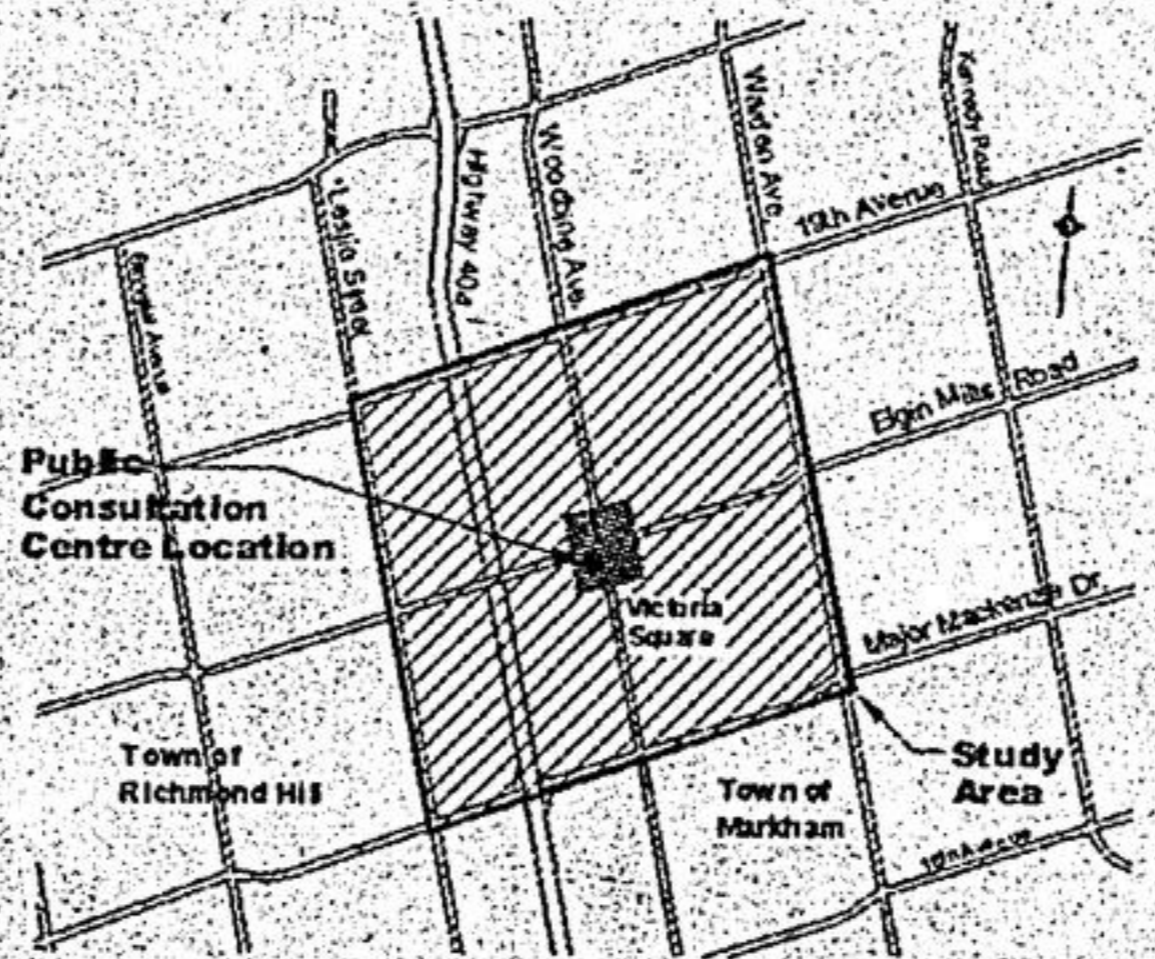
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The Regional Municipality of York  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION CENTRE**  
**WOODBINE AVENUE (Y.R. 8)**  
**TRANSPORTATION AND CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY**

The Regional Municipality of York has retained Earth Tech Canada Inc. to carry out a Transportation and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study to accommodate increasing traffic volumes in the vicinity of Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) between 19th Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive. Woodbine Avenue is currently a Regional two-lane north-south arterial road that bisects the Hamlet of Victoria Square. The Study Area generally encompasses the area from Leslie Street to the west, Warden Avenue to the east, 19th Avenue to the north and Major Mackenzie Drive to the south. Due to known constraints within the Hamlet of Victoria Square, a Woodbine Avenue Bypass of the Hamlet will be one of the alternative solutions evaluated as part of this study.

The study is being undertaken in accordance with the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (2000)* process for a Schedule 'C' project. The Class EA process includes public and review agency consultation, an evaluation of alternatives, an assessment of the impacts on the environment, and identification of reasonable measures to mitigate any adverse impacts.

As part of the Class EA planning process, a Public Consultation Centre (PCC) is being held to present the preliminary results to date, including the need and justification for the project, the recommended solution, and the alternative design concepts under consideration, for public comment. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss their comments directly with Earth Tech Canada and York Region staff. The PCC is scheduled for:



**DATE:** Tuesday, December 3, 2002  
**TIME:** 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Victoria Square Community Hall  
 2929 Elgin Mills Road  
 (just west of Woodbine Avenue)

You are encouraged to attend the PCC and provide your comments so that they may be included in the study. We are interested in hearing any comments or concerns that you may have about this project. Any comments received at the PCC will be considered in identifying the preferred solution. Following this, the alternative design concepts will be evaluated for presentation at a second PCC to be held in 2003. The public will be notified of the date, time and location of the second PCC at the appropriate time through a similar newspaper notice.

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected to assist the Project Team in meeting the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Please contact one of the following team members for further information, or to be added to the project mailing list:

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| <p><b>Steve Mota, P.Eng.</b><br/>                 Program Co-ordinator<br/>                 Environmental Assessment<br/>                 Transportation and Works Dept.<br/>                 17250 Yonge Street<br/>                 Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1<br/>                 Telephone: (905) 764-6345,<br/>                 Ext. 5056<br/>                 Fax: (905) 895-0191<br/>                 e-mail:<br/> <a href="mailto:steve.mota@region.york.on.ca">steve.mota@region.york.on.ca</a></p> | <p><b>Bob Koziol, P.Eng.</b><br/>                 Project Manager<br/>                 Earth Tech Canada Inc.<br/>                 105 Commerce Valley Dr. W.<br/>                 7th Floor<br/>                 Markham, Ontario L3T 7W3<br/>                 Telephone: (905) 886-7022,<br/>                 Ext. 2495<br/>                 Fax: (905) 886-9494<br/>                 e-mail:<br/> <a href="mailto:bkoziol@earthtech.ca">bkoziol@earthtech.ca</a></p> |
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**"RELENTLESS PAIN IN YOUR NECK, ARMS AND WRISTS? FREE WORKSHOP WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO GET RID OF CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME... WITHOUT DRUGS OR SURGERY!!!"**

If you suffer from relentless pain in your neck, shoulders, arms or wrists and want to end it now, this workshop is for you. Most people work in a dangerous environment, sitting in front of a computer or on the phone all day in a chair and desk, set up for ergonomics not ergonomics! The long term effects of being hunched over a desk combined with the repetitive motions you do all day can have devastating effects on your health!

- Common symptoms are:
- pain or numbness in hands, forearms or wrists that wakes you up at night
  - weakness in hands that makes you drop things
  - pain in neck, shoulders or head

If your experience any or all of these annoying and sometimes debilitating problems, this workshop will reveal some exciting new ways of dealing with carpal tunnel that have helped countless people.

- You will learn:
- how to know if you have carpal tunnel syndrome
  - what causes these ailments and why most conventional treatments are not effective
  - how your work environment should be set up to reduce or eliminate the pain
  - exercises you can do to make sure you stay better and don't relapse
  - what you can do to get better and stay better

If any of this interests you or makes you curious to find out how these new methods could help you call (905) 640-4440 to book a seat at the next workshop Thursday, December 5, 2002.