

Deal with Chinese city 'good for business'

BY MIKE ADLER
Staff Reporter

Wuhan, an ambitious central Chinese city of 7 million, has grown closer to Markham.

"We think globally," Markham Mayor Don Cousens said Wednesday after signing a business agreement with his Wuhan counterpart, Li Xiansheng, in the town this week. "We will work with Wuhan to develop support for Markham businesses by investigating trade and investment opportunities in our communities."

That will mean getting Markham businesses to look closely at opportunities in China and the Chinese market, said Ted Northcott, Markham's senior business development officer.

Meanwhile, as Wuhan companies expand into North America, they should consider opening warehouses or branch plants here, he said.

Much credit for the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the two municipalities is going to Jack Tsui, a local entrepreneur with businesses in Markham and Wuhan. The

president of Peak Garden Developments provided introductions for Regional Councillor Tony Wong and the rest of a town delegation to Wuhan last year.

Wuhan is the capital of China's central province of Hubei and grew from three towns linked by bridges across the Yangzi and Han Rivers.

Its non-binding agreement with Markham promises educational or recreational exchanges on cultural matters. The city's delegates to Markham this week were shown a presentation on Markham Centre, the town's carefully planned new urban core.

SIMILAR AGREEMENTS

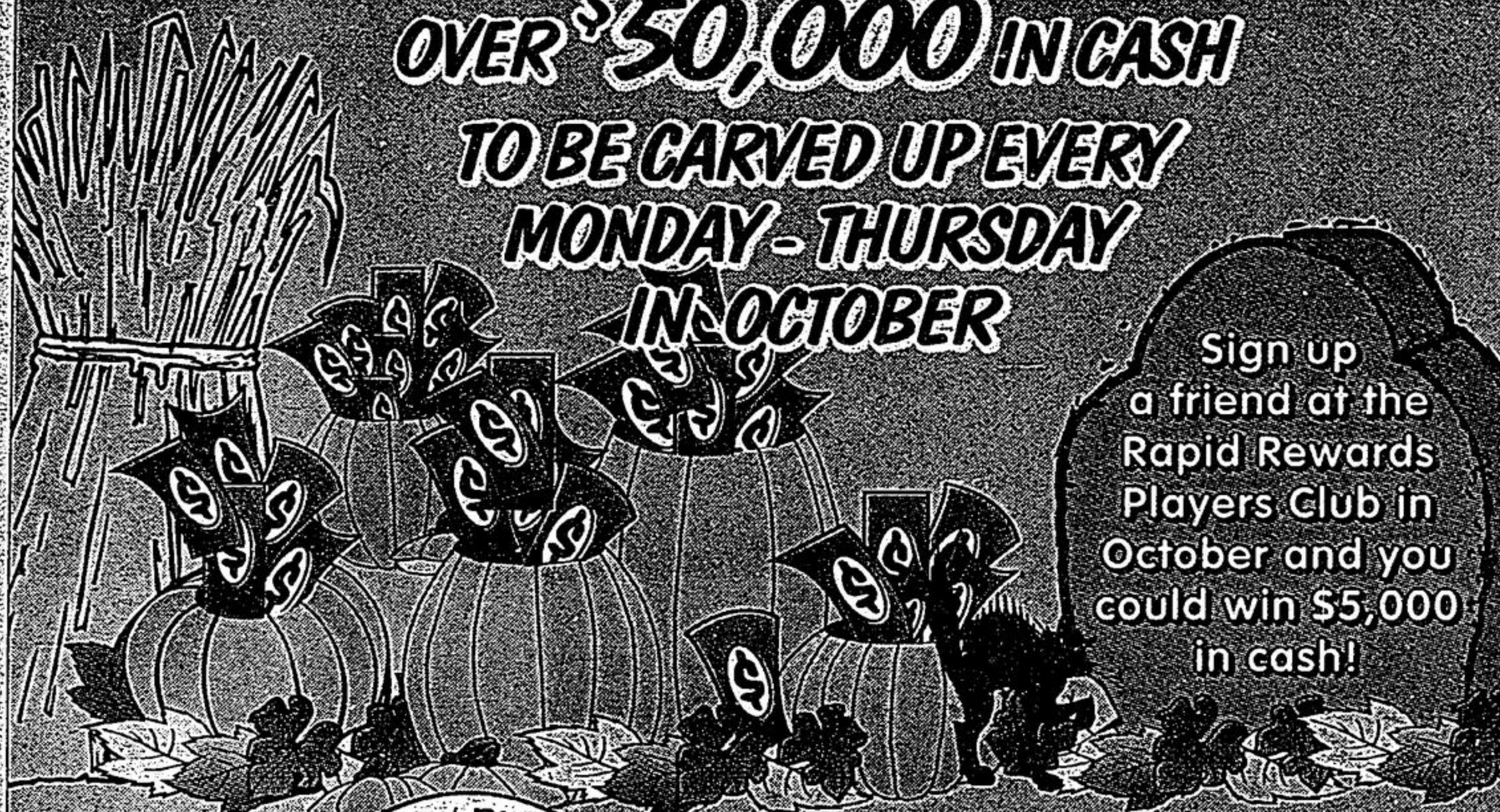
In recent years, Markham has signed similar agreements with several foreign municipalities, including the Town of Cary, North Carolina, which borders a high-technology industrial zone, and with Beijing, home of the gigantic Zhongguancun Science Park.

Management of the park, which signed an agreement with the town last September, is expected to open a small office in Markham soon, Mr. Northcott said.

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Ward 7 Councillor

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Ms. Renate Weiler, Managing Dir

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A Time For Change

Help Carolina Protect Markham

It's time for every resident in Markham to stand up and be counted. If we don't, there will be no green space left, traffic gridlock, crowded schools and still Markham Council approves more new developments. It's time for a change!

For the last six years I have worked at The Town of Markham. I have watched first hand the decisions made by Council. And as a long-time resident of Ward 4, I have felt the negative effects of such decisions. Council needs to reflect the wishes of existing town residents, not work against them! Too often voters have to choose between those seeking just a job or individuals who are confused whom they represent. For my part, I am neither. I am prepared to stand up and fight and I will never forget who I represent...

Carolina intends to...

Slow Down New Development

I recognize that growth is inevitable but we need the roads and schools 1st. Our current Councillor has been an advocate of rapid growth. I will not represent anyone but the residents of Ward 4.

Reduce Residential Taxes

Yes, we need great libraries, parks and arenas but existing residents should not have to pay for new infrastructure due to new development. I will work hard to convince the Province that a new deal for existing residents is only fair. New growth should not be put on the backs of Ward 4 homeowners!

Improve Communication to Residents

To keep residents aware of issues affecting them, regular community meetings and an annual report will be part of Carolina's commitment to you.

Carolina is not a radical. In fact, anything but. The passions of her life are her family and this wonderful Town we live in. Please get involved. It is indeed a time for change. Together, we can accomplish so much.



ELECT **Carolina Moretti** Councillor
Ward 4
905 472.8974