

# Group wants lands linked

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week, was introduced in December, along with a one-year freeze on rural-to-urban planning amendments in potential greenbelt areas — York and five other regions around the Golden Horseshoe.

The alliance, however, says possible greenbelt areas should include all of the central Ontario planning region studied by the previous Tory government's central Ontario smart growth panel, an area stretching from Haliburton to Brant and including Simcoe County.

The groups also want Bill 27 amended to endorse NOAH — the creation of protected green corridors linking the Oak Ridges Moraine to Algonquin Park and the Adirondack Mountains in New York State.

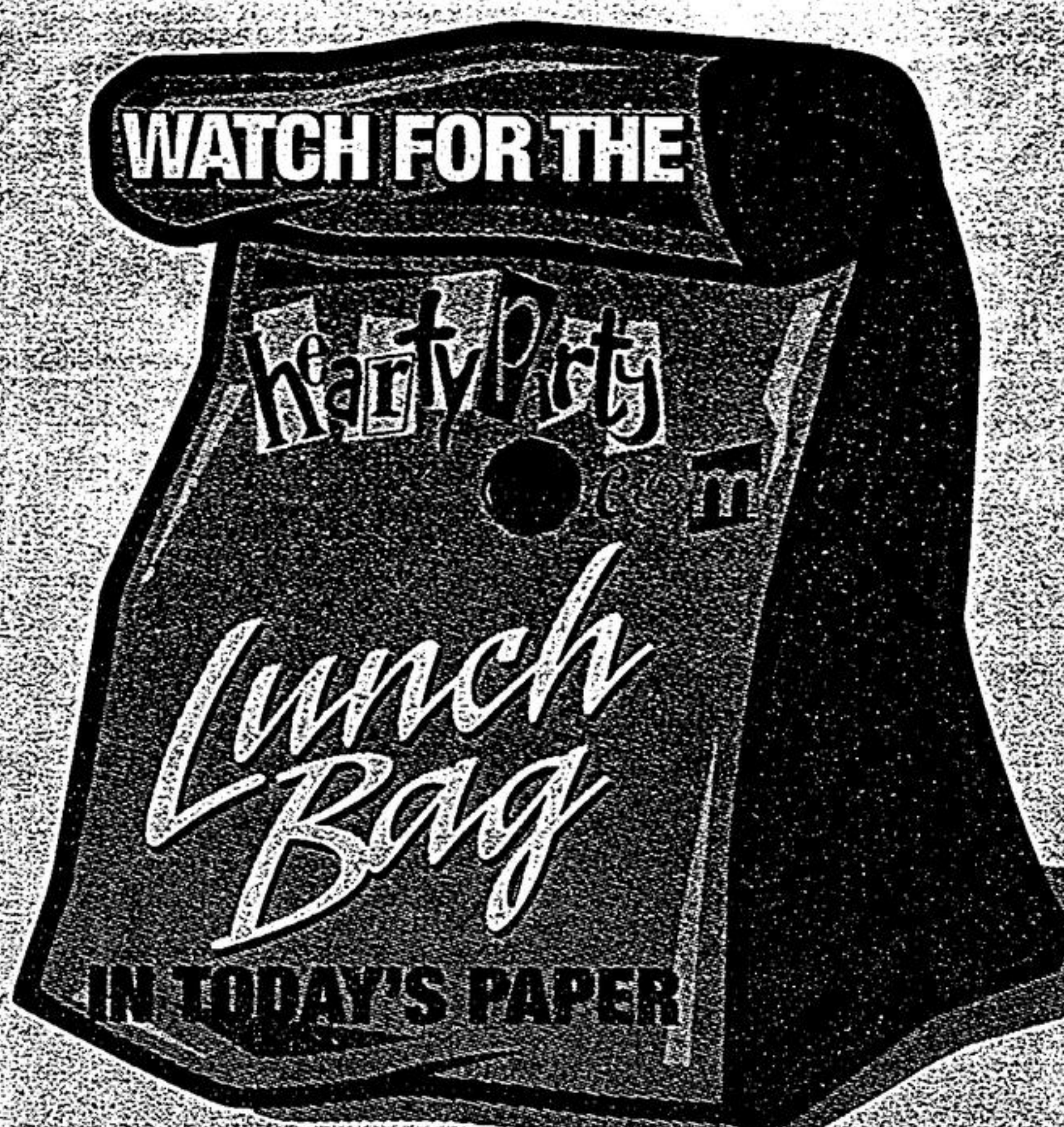
"Our environment requires connections to survive," said Mr. Donnelly, a lawyer representing environmentalists in the region. "These things have to work together or they fall apart."

Simcoe County's exclusion from the greenbelt may allow developers to leapfrog it, harming Lake Simcoe's health, Bob Eisenberg, chairperson of the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition, which is not an Alliance member, said last month.

*Our environment requires connections to survive. These things have to work together or they fall apart.*

A government greenbelt task force which includes Richmond Hill biologist and NOAH originator Natalie Helferty, Metrus Development general manager and Richmond Hill resident Fraser Nelson and Kleinburg environmental activist Deborah Schulte as members continues to meet weekly and will release an interim report before holding public meetings on a proposal in May or June.

Critics such as Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees have said the greenbelt may drive up housing prices but Mr. Donnelly predicted rural residents will welcome the protection it brings.



## Does Your Child Have Learning Difficulties?

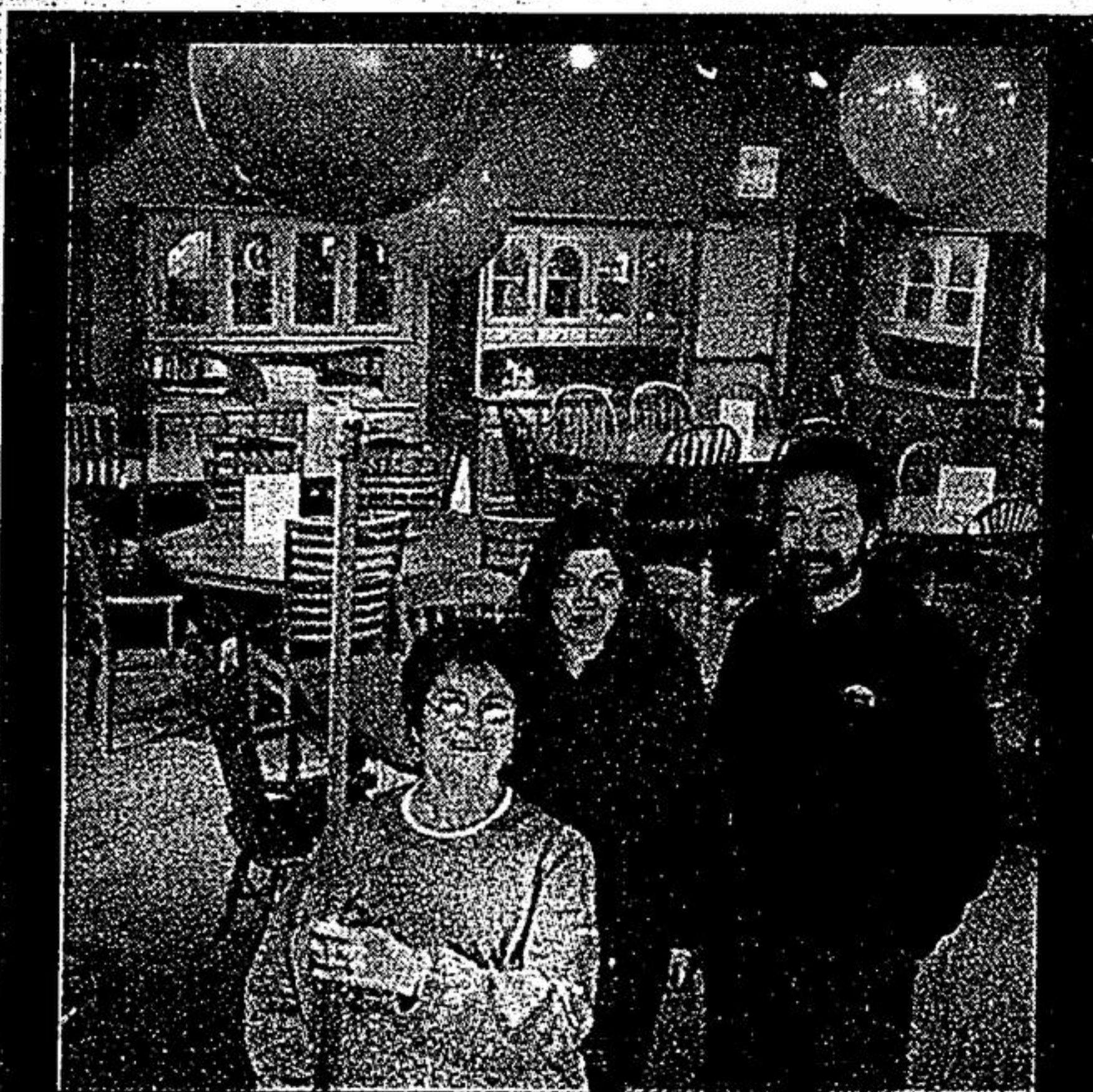
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## Grand Opening Winner

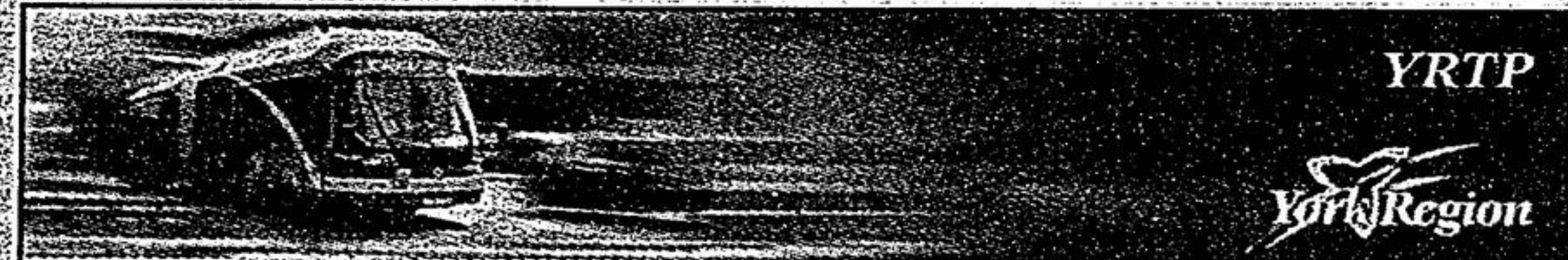
Marjorie Corris from Bowmanville popped a balloon for big savings at our grand opening celebrations last weekend. Thanks and congratulations to everyone who visited us over the three day extravaganza, from owners Donna and Craig Stewart.

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### Notice of Submission Terms of References for Yonge Street Corridor Public Transit Improvements Highway 7 Corridor & Vaughan N-S Link Public Transit Improvements

In 2003, following completion of Need and Justification Studies that addressed the rationale for public transit improvements, the Region of York received approval to proceed with focused environmental assessment studies for the above noted projects under section 6. (2)(c) of the Environmental Assessment Act (EAA). Due to a change in legal requirements under the EAA, the Region has decided to broaden the scope of its environmental assessment studies and submit new Terms of References for approval. The new Terms of References (ToRs) include both the rationale and an updated assessment of alternatives to public transit improvements as part of the EA study. Study findings and previous input received where it remains relevant are being assembled and addressed for incorporation into the new study process. As required under the EAA, the ToRs have been placed on the public record for review and comment.

You may inspect the ToRs on our website at [www.yorkinmotion.com](http://www.yorkinmotion.com), and at the following locations during normal business hours:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Ministry of the Environment<br>Environmental Assessment & Approvals Branch<br>2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A<br>Toronto, ON M4V 1L5<br>(416) 314-8001 | 2. Ministry of the Environment<br>Central Region Office<br>5775 Yonge Street, 8th Floor<br>North York, ON M2M 4J1<br>(416) 326-6700 |
| 3. Regional Municipality of York<br>Office of the Regional Clerk<br>17250 Yonge Street<br>Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1<br>(905) 895-1231                            | 4. Town of Richmond Hill<br>Office of the Town Clerk<br>225 East Beaver Creek Road<br>Richmond Hill, ON L4B 3P4<br>(905) 771-8800   |
| 5. Town of Markham<br>Office of the Town Clerk<br>101 Town Centre Blvd.<br>Markham, ON L3R 9W3<br>(905) 477-7000   | 6. City of Vaughan<br>Office of the Town Clerk<br>2141 Major Mackenzie Dr.<br>Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1<br>(905) 832-2281                 |
| 7. Richmond Hill Central Library<br>Adult Reference Desk<br>1 Atkinson Street<br>Richmond Hill, ON L4C 0H5<br>(905) 884-9288                                 |   |

Anyone wishing to make comments regarding the new ToR must submit their comments in writing prior to May 14, 2004. All comments should be submitted to:

Ms. Gemma Connolly, Special Project Officer  
Ministry of the Environment  
Environmental Assessment & Approvals Branch  
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A  
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5  
Phone: (416) 314-7213 Fax: (416) 314-8452

A copy of all comments will be forwarded to the proponent.

Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and can be released, if requested, to any person.

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