

New health networks cut Markham out of York Region

BY ROY GREEN
Staff Writer

The boundaries for Ontario's new health delivery program will tear York Region's health system apart, according to regional officials.

The Ministry of Health has created 14 local health integration networks (LHIN) designed to enhance and support local capacity to plan, co-ordinate, integrate and fund the delivery of health services at the community level.

But the boundaries drawn by the province divide York Region into three separate health networks and remove Markham Stouffville Hospital from the region's catchment area.

Much of the region is in the central network, along with parts of Simcoe County and the north end of Toronto.

But a large part of Markham, including Markham Stouffville Hospital, is included in the central east network, which also covers Peterborough, Cobourg and Haliburton.

And the western part of Vaughan is in the central west network, along with parts of Grey Bruce, Shelburne and Orangeville.

Joyce Frustaglio, chairperson of the health committee, called the new boundaries "hogwash."

"Half of Markham and the western part of Vaughan is gone and they've moved one hospital into another catchment area," an angry Ms Frustaglio said at Thursday's health committee meeting.

"It's like cutting up your family; you have six kids and they're saying three of them will be eating dinner somewhere else."

It threatens the region's work

to co-ordinate health services, regional chairperson Bill Fisch said.

"We spent five or six years getting our hospitals working together, including offering them \$62 million five years ago to (support expansion)," he said. "If Markham Stouffville is no longer in our LHIN, why would we give them money. We've got to tell the ministry not to break up York Region; that all of the region must be in one LHIN."

Markham Stouffville Hospital has also asked to be "reunited" with Southlake Regional Health Centre and York Central Hospital in the central region, according to spokesperson Lorne Zon.

"I understand there is some opportunity for some changes in the boundaries and we will be requesting we be kept together," Mr. Zon said Friday.

Southlake clarifies cancer flip-flop

Southlake Regional Health Centre is trying to clear the air after Health Minister George Smitherman contradicted a provincial document that indicated York Region should be a priority for a cancer centre.

Despite a Cancer Care Ontario report showing York as having the highest provincial increase in cancer mortality rates, projected at 24 per cent, Mr. Smitherman suggested in the legislature cancer centres in Niagara Falls, Kingston and Ottawa ranked ahead of Southlake.

Southlake isn't worried.

"We remain very positive about the Cancer Care report because we had an opportunity to clarify that we were understanding the report as originally received," Southlake spokesperson Tammy LaRue said.

But Ontario Progressive Conservative leader John Tory called on Mr.

Smitherman to clarify his remarks.

"I think Mr. Smitherman is really going to have to reconsider if he really meant what he said. You simply can't take the fastest growing part of the province and with all the planning work that was done and then dispassionately let it fall off the table," Mr. Tory said in an interview.

He characterized it as one of many things approved by the previous Conservative government that have been stalled by the Liberals.

"The evidence is so overwhelming and the need so profound in terms of people who need treatment and need to get it closer to home," Mr. Tory said.

Ms LaRue confirmed the plan continues to recommend 10 radiation machines operate north of Toronto by 2014, with the first ones being provided in the 2008-09 fiscal year.

—Chris Traber

Take 3 Years

To Pay TRUE 400

SAVE \$700

NOW \$1999

- 2.75 HP Continuous Duty
- Soft System Deck
- Quietest Motor In The Industry

LOWEST PRICE EVER

Nautilus Iron Classic Smith Package

- Lat pull down low/high pulley station
- Solid Steel Construction
- Pec Deck Included

SAVE \$500

MSRP \$1099

Now \$599

Bladez 6527 Treadmill

- 2.75 hp Continuous Duty
- Polar Heart Rate
- Interactive 20" Belt

SAVE \$500

MSRP \$2199

Now \$1699

Bladez 6320 Treadmill

- 2.0 hp Continuous Duty
- Contact Heart Rate
- 20" Belt
- EZ Folding System

SAVE \$500

MSRP \$1499

Now \$999

Keys CardioMax 707 Elliptical

- Motorized Tension Control
- Ultra Smooth Belt System
- Contact Heart Rate

SAVE \$200

MSRP \$999

Now \$799

Keys 502t

- 1.75 hp Continuous Duty
- EKG Pulse Grips
- Fold-up Design

SAVE \$300

MSRP \$1099

Now \$799

Body Solid 1500

- New Sleek Design
- Easy Guided Motion
- Accessories Included

SAVE \$200

MSRP \$999

Now \$799

Yoga Kit

- Includes tacky yoga mat, yoga mat bag and one foam block

Only \$24.99

GIFT GIVING IDEA

Forza 5 function Pedometer with Calorie Counter
reg. \$19.99
NOW \$14.95

Polar F1 HR Monitor Watch
reg. \$79.99
NOW \$59.00

Tanita Body Fat Scales
from \$88.00

Nautilus

- Iron Classic Combo Bench
- Includes leg extension

reg. \$299 NOW \$199

FITNESS SOURCE

FOR ALL THINGS FITNESS

VAUGHAN MILLS
(905) 781-7074
NOW OPEN!

TORONTO
(416) 440-0244

VAUGHAN
(905) 660-4888

NEWMARKET
(905) 836-7618

MARKHAM
(905) 471-4118

HAMILTON
Meadowlands Power Centre
(905) 304-5919

MISSISSAUGA
(905) 755-9000

OAKVILLE
(905) 815-0123

BRAMPTON
(905) 604-5000

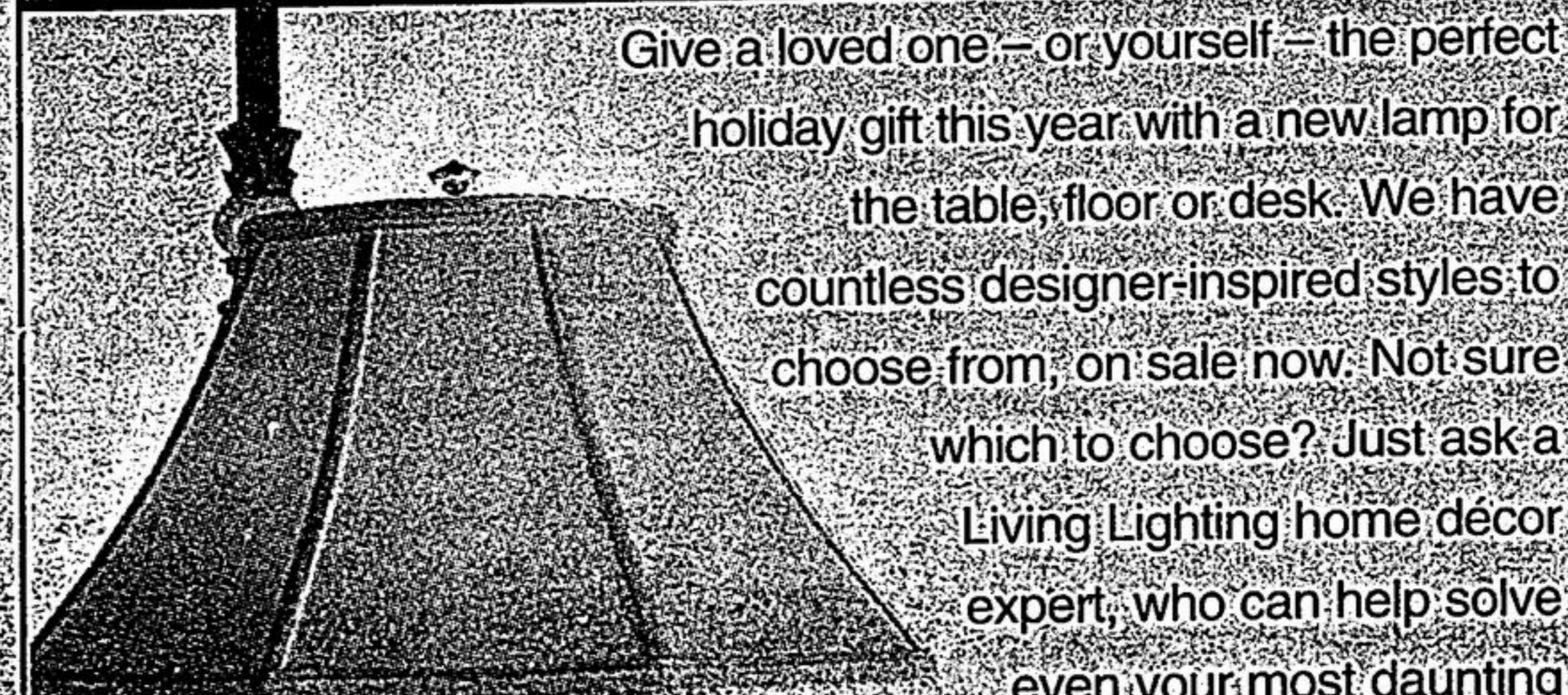
PICKERING
(905) 428-5700

www.fitnesssource.ca



The gift of good design.

ALL LAMPS ON SALE NOW!



Give a loved one — or yourself — the perfect holiday gift this year with a new lamp for the table, floor or desk. We have countless designer-inspired styles to choose from, on sale now. Not sure which to choose? Just ask a Living Lighting home décor expert, who can help solve even your most daunting design challenges. For the gift that keeps giving, all year long.

Living Lighting. It's light for Living.

LIVING LIGHTING

Home Décor

Ask the experts at www.livinglighting.com

5308 Highway #7
Markham, ON L3P 1B8
Tel: (905) 294-9557

STORE HOURS
Mon-Fri: 10:00-9:00pm
Sat: 10:00-6:00pm
Sun: 12:00-5:00pm



In-stock merchandise only, selection may vary by store, sale ends Dec. 24, 2004

Trademarks of Air Miles International Trading B.V. used under license by Loyalty Management Group Canada Inc.