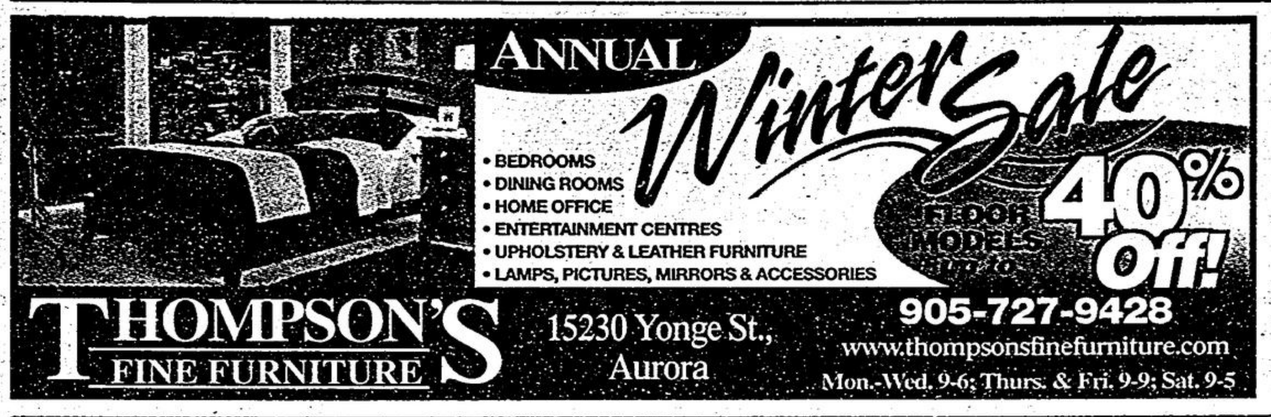

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Civic DX, model ES1515PX shown

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Accord DX, model CM5615E shown

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Lease and finance offers are from Honda Canada Finance Inc., on approved credit. †Based on a 2005 Civic Sedan DX, model ES1515PX, factory order may be required (††2005 Accord Sedan DX, model CM5615E) (‡2005 CR-V LX, model RD7755E). Lease for 60 (††/‡48) months at $198.00 (††$268.00) (‡$298.00) per month plus applicable taxes with 120,000 (††/‡96,000) km allowance (12¢/km exceeding allowance). $0 (††$4,637.40) (‡$4,911.37) down payment or equivalent trade acceptable to dealer ($0 down on approved credit from Honda Canada Finance Inc.). Initiation payment of $279.70 (††$5,689.21) (‡$6,038.78) includes down payment, first monthly payment, registration, security deposit of $0, freight and P.D.E. and taxes. PPSA is additional. Total freight and P.D.E. is $1,095.00, (††$1,180.00) (‡$1,325.00). Total lease payment is $13,662.00 (††$20,174.61) (‡$22,145.68). Option to purchase at lease end for $6,642.00 (††$12,446.00) (‡$14,100.00) and taxes. Civic (†† Accord) (‡CR-V) leases are calculated with finance rate of 3.9% (††/‡4.9%). Rate may change effective February 1st, 2005 and will affect down payment, security deposit, residual value and initiation figures. Dealer may lease for less. *2.9% (**3.9%) purchase financing is available on select 2005 Civics and Accords(**CR-Vs) for up to 36 months. Finance example: $20,000 at 2.9% (**3.9%) per annum equals $580.74 (**$589.59) per month based on a 36 month term. C.O.B. is $906.64 (**$1,225.24) for a total of $20,906.64 (**$21,225.24). Dealer may sell for less. †/††/‡/*/**Offers valid through January 31st, 2005 at participating dealers only. Does not include Civic or Accord Hybrid. See participating dealer for full details. ①Recent university or college graduates may be eligible for an allowance of up to $750.00 on certain models. ①/△See participating Honda Dealers for complete details. ◊As reported by 2005 EnerGuide published by NRCan. Visit www.vehicles.gc.ca for full details.

Hospital gets funding for Uxbridge campus

BY ROY GREEN
Staff Writer

Markham Stouffville Hospital is one of the first to learn its share of the $200-million one-time bailout fund announced Monday by Health Minister George Smitherman.

While other hospitals are checking the mail see if they are eligible for funding in a variety of categories, hospital vice-president Lorne Zon said the ministry has approved $114,200 for Markham Stouffville's second campus, the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital.

"We are a two-site hospital and the funding is for our second campus," Mr. Zon said Friday. "To the best of our knowledge, this is it; although, like everyone else, we can apply for funds to cover severance payments. Every little bit helps, but we're still looking at a $3.6-million shortfall."

Monday's announcement included $91 million that all of Ontario's 159 hospitals can apply for to cover severance costs.

The breakdown for the rest of the $200 million is:

- $65 million to "reward hospitals who have financial difficulties but are working to become more efficient";
- $5 million to reward balanced-budget hospitals, including the most efficient "pacesetter" hospitals;
- $20 million bridge funding for hospitals that need significant assistance bringing their budget under control; and
- $19 million for small rural hospitals.

It is in the last category that Markham Stouffville/Uxbridge Cottage qualified for the $114,200 in funding, Mr. Zon said.

SERVICE REDUCTIONS

By law, hospitals must balance their budgets over two fiscal years, giving them until March 2006 to revise their plans.

Markham Stouffville has submitted a plan covering the current $3.6-million shortfall but says it will result in substantial service reductions.

Meanwhile, Richmond Hill's York Central Hospital and Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket will be applying for severance funding and are waiting to learn if they are eligible for funds from the $65-million for hospitals that are working to become more efficient.

York Central Hospital should qualify, president and CEO Bruce Harber said.

"We sure are in that category; we submitted a balanced budget plan and (the ministry) has agreed with how we're going to balance over the next 15 months," Mr. Harber said. "Two or three years ago, there was a huge turnover in nursing and we don't want to go back there. We want to protect clinical services."

Southlake is very close to balancing its budget and is also anticipating some extra assistance from the one-time transitional funds announced Monday, according to CEO Dan Carriere.

"We're basically focused on the $91 million in severance costs and the $65 million to help to reach a balance. Those are the two areas," Mr. Carriere said.