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New condos save power, water for owners

Hwy. 7 development rare for region

BY SERENA WILLOUGHBY
Staff Writer

A new condo development in Markham is taking the LEED in environmentally sustainable development.

Majestic Court, at Hwy. 7 and Warden Avenue, will be one of the first residential developments in York Region built in accordance with LEED (leadership in energy and environmental design) certification standards.

LEED is a grading system developed by the United States green building council in 2000 and introduced in Canada in 2004.

Its holistic approach looks at everything from reducing construction waste to improving indoor air quality.

Condominium units will be outfitted with EnergyStar appliances, low-flow shower heads, dual flush toilets (different flush handles for fluids and solids) and individual metering of electricity.

The 400-unit condo will use about 30 per cent less energy and 40 per cent less water than equivalent developments.

Stephen Carpenter, a member of the Canada Green Building Council, explained the grading process has typically enjoyed more popul-

See GREENER, page 12.

BYPASS SURGERY WAIT TIMES DOWN 36% IN REGION, MCGUINTY SAYS

York envy of Ontario: Premier

BY MICHAEL POWER
Staff Writer

He started with the good news: York Region has the lowest wait time for elective bypass surgery in Ontario.

In fact, York has seen about a 36-per-cent drop in wait times for the procedure, according to the Central Local Health Integration Network, the provincial body overseeing

health delivery in York and the surrounding area, Premier Dalton McGuinty said in a discussion with York Region Newspaper Group Thursday.

"You're now the envy of the province," he said.

Mr. Guinny's statement, however, contradicts news of one York Region hospital feeling the burden of greater number of patients.

Southlake Regional Health Centre announced it has experienced a 33-per-cent increase in patient volume over the past few years.

The situation has led to everything from hospital bed shortages to longer wait times for surgery.

That has put unprecedented pressure on services at Southlake, forcing the hospital to launch a public campaign warning of the

pressure to provide care.

But Mr. McGuinty painted a rosier picture of surgery wait times at hospitals in the central health network.

The premier outlined a list of health care priorities Ontario has set, including reduced wait times in cancer, bypass and cataract surgeries, as well as reduced times for

See WAIT, page 15.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

FAR OUT, MAN

Doug Alles, (from left), Ruth Patterson, Ray McNeice and Carol Watson, promote Latcham Gallery's fourth Arty Party May 6 at Cedar Beach Pavilion at Musselman's Lake. This year's event will have a flower power theme. An art auction, food and music by the Slimedogs are scheduled. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the gallery or by calling 905-640-8954.

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