

### Girls hockey team donates gifts, issues challenge

The 16 members of the Markham Stouffville Stars Atom BB hockey team work together off the ice as well as on.

They've gotten together to buy gifts for less fortunate girls their age and are donating them at their annual Christmas party Friday.

The unwrapped gifts are being donated to the Stouffville Kinsmen

### Christmas gift drive

The players aren't leaving it at that; they are challenging other teams in Stouffville and Markham to do the same to help others during the Christmas season.

The team's head coach is David Howe. Stouffville resident Rob Robinson and Joe McTamney are also on the coaching staff.

The Markham Stouffville Stars website is [www.smgha.com](http://www.smgha.com)

## New fire hall could include police

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
Staff Writer

Stouffville's downtown fire hall will likely be a thing of the past by the time 2008 rolls around.

Instead, firefighters will be working out of a new station in downtown Stouffville, most likely shared with York Region paramedics and, possibly, York Regional Police.

A consultant is being hired to look at locations to replace the old station 51 at 6392 Main St.

The location would have to provide us with good access and quick response times, town CAO Dave Cash said.

The building will have the latest in back-up electrical generators to serve you in case of a blackout and the building will be used as an emergency operations centre.

York Region Police are assessing whether to have a detachment in the hall.

The price tag for the hall could be as high as \$3 million, depending on which services ultimately move into the building, Fire Chief Chris Powers said.

*People are expecting urban service standards, and we have to grow to accommodate that.*

The majority of the funds are to come out of development charges.

After the town decides what downtown facilities it needs, the current fire hall could be sold to help pay for the new station, demolished or redeveloped.

Whitchurch-Stouffville residents and businesses are covered by full-time fire fighters from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week. Volunteer firefighters are

on call overnight.

Future plans for the town's fire and emergency services department call for round-the-clock coverage.

"With the growth, this is one of the long-term objectives," Chief Powers said.

"People are expecting urban service standards and we have to grow to accommodate that."


Whitchurch-Stouffville has 14 fire fighters.

Station 51 has served the community since around 1967 from its 6392 Main St. location.

Before that, the fire hall was in the centre of town where the Clock Tower now stands. That hall was built shortly before 1912.

The northern part of Whitchurch-Stouffville is served by a station in Ballantrae on Hwy. 48, north of Aurora Road.

For more information, go to [townofws.co](http://townofws.co)



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