

**Lions hosting rabies clinic**

You can protect your pets next weekend.

The Ballantrae and District Lions Club is holding its annual rabies clinic

next Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Ballantrae Community Centre.

Cost is \$16 per animal.

The community centre is located on the north side of Aurora Road, east of Hwy. 48.

Subject: Request to amend the Official Plan of The Regional Municipality of York (Region-initiated) File No. ROPA 56

Date of this Notice October 7, 2007

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT**

The Regional Municipality of York

A public meeting will be held in accordance with Section 17(15) of the Planning Act, as amended, to inform the public and receive comments on this proposed Amendment to the Official Plan for The Regional Municipality of York:

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

1:30 PM

Committee Room A (First Floor)  
York Region Administrative Centre  
17250 Yonge St., Newmarket

**Purpose and effect of this Amendment:**

The purpose of this amendment is to clarify, add technical detail to, and update the Region's transit policies and related schedule. As such, this Amendment is largely technical in nature and maintains the intent of existing policies. Specific proposed changes under the Amendment include, but are not limited to, the following:

- describing in the preamble of the related section(s) the purpose and intent of the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, as it pertains to transit;
- describing in greater detail the operational requirements of conventional and rapid transit;
- referencing the Regional Council-adopted Regional Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Guidelines;
- incorporating new Planning Act legislation, including the ability to require land dedications, at no expense to the municipality, for transit facilities including transit stations and commuter parking lots; and,
- adding new definitions including, but not limited to, such terms as "Transit Operation and Maintenance Facility" and "Travel Demand Management".

This amendment has a Region-wide impact, although it pertains more specifically to those lands located along and adjacent to areas served, or that will be served, by transit services.

**For additional information:**

Background information will be available for inspection at the York Region Planning and Development Services Department (see address and telephone numbers at the end of this notice) from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m. on regular business days. Refer to the Subject information and File No. at the top of this notice. **If you require further information, please contact Sean Hertel, Senior Planner, by calling 905-830-4444, extension 1556, or through electronic mail at sean.hertel@york.ca.**

**Approval Process:**

Following the public meeting, the Council of The Regional Municipality of York may, if it chooses, adopt the proposed Amendment and give notice of the decision to adopt the Amendment.

Pursuant to Ontario Regulation 525/97, made under the Planning Act, applications for amendment to the Official Plan for The Regional Municipality of York commenced on or after January 19, 1998, are exempt from the approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Once notice of decision is given, if you have objections to this amendment you may file with the Clerk of The Regional Municipality of York, within the time specified in the notice of decision, a notice of appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.

**NOTE:**

1. If a person or public body that files a notice of appeal of a decision of The Regional Municipality of York in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or does not make written submissions to The Regional Municipality of York before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss all or part of the appeal.
2. If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment you must make a written request to the Clerk of The Regional Municipality of York in care of the address at the end of this notice.

Any person may attend the public meeting and/or make oral or written submissions either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Amendment. Written submissions, referring to the Subject information and File No. at the top of this notice, should be made to:

Commissioner of Planning and Development Services  
York Region Administrative Centre  
Box 147  
17250 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1  
Telephone: (905) 830-4444 or 1-877-464-9675 (toll free)  
Facsimile: (905) 895-3482

Bryan Tuckey, M.C.I.P., R.P.P.  
Commissioner of Planning and Development Services



**VQA, LCBO helping winery's success**

From page 1.

makers who pioneered the wine surge in Niagara.

"They took a chance and defied the naysayers," she said. "People said the same things about Niagara years ago."

And that seven perhaps something of an understatement. Willow Springs currently possesses an 11-acre vineyard and they are also the most northern commercial vineyard in all of Ontario, Willow Springs general manager, Grant McLeod said. Much of the success of the vineyard, he said is due to a number of factors such as the naturally high water table in the area.

Another important factor is all the attention the grapes receive.

According to Mr. McLeod, winery owner Mario Testa is out in the vineyard checking on his crops on a very regular basis. Of special interest, always, is the sugar content of the grapes. The higher the sugar content, the better the wine.

Unlike other crops suffering in the constant heat of the arid summer weather we've experienced, grapes are thriving. Rain, Mr. McLeod explained, serves to dilute the sugar content, and thereby lowers it, reducing grape quality.

It really is something of a

labour of love, Mr. Testa said. He's always busy with the vineyard, but he always finds ways to keep the working side of things fun for himself, his family and his hired help. He's proud of where he's at today, but said it only came through a lot of trial and error and, even more so, hard work. "Our vineyards have been up

*They shipped nearly 400 cases (to the LCBO), almost their whole supply, to sell over the course of the year. The wine sold out in two months. He's still surprised by that one.*

and running for about 15 years and for our winery it's been open for about six (years)," he said. "Our first planting was in 1992... It grew, it wasn't great, but we made some wine from it and then from there on, that's how we got started."

The climate of the area, Mr. Testa acknowledged, definitely

increases the challenge of tending to and growing good grapes and making fine wine.

"It is tough and there's definitely a lot more work to it," he said. "We're not the Niagara Region, so we lose a good two or three weeks of growing time. It was a challenge, but I said let's give it a try and kept on going."

There have, of course, been plenty of other challenges on the way, but plenty of rewards too.

A number of their wines have been certified by the Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) and a big boon for the winery came when the LCBO accepted some of their products, such as the Willow Springs Winery's Baco Noir, to sell in a number of stores.

Mr. Testa said they shipped nearly 400 cases, almost their whole supply, to sell over the course of the year.

The wine sold out in two months. He's still surprised by that one.

"Whoever would have thought that?" he said. "It just sold like wildfire. We were victims of our own success."

Willow Springs features an in-house wine store and visitors centre.

For more information, go to willow-springswinery.ca

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Contact the Admissions Department at: 905.737.1114 x236  
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