

Heritage theme for \$6 M fire hall

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Stouffville's new fire hall, to be built on Weldon Road south of Main Street, will be large enough to accommodate two full-time crews and the York EMS paramedic facilities.

The plan for the station, which will replace the old fire hall on Main Street in the centre of town, was approved by Whitchurch-Stouffville politicians last week.

Along with the station and the Ballantrae Fire Station, additional fire and emergency services for the northeastern part of the municipality will be contracted out to Central York.

The new fire hall will be able to accommodate crews staffing the station 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

A request for proposal is going out for the design of the fire hall and arena, which will be built next door. Both projects are to be built at the same time.

The fire hall will be built with an eye to the history of fire fighting in Stouffville. For more than 100 years, the Stouffville Fire Brigade,

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formed solely of volunteers, provided the town's fire protection.

The fire hall will cover around 17,000 square feet, with additional space for the paramedic component.

The cost is estimated at \$6 million, including \$805,000 for the land. About \$3 million will be funded by the town.

One ice pad or two at new arena?

When it comes to the new arena, which is to be built adjacent to the fire hall, no decision has been made on the number of ice pads.

The issue comes down to how big a saving it is to build one or two, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said.

Calculations will have to be made on whether it's more cost-effective to build one pad and put on an additional one later or build two right away.

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