

Sara Lobraico, 10, takes part in the Bowl for Kids Sake event at the Stouffville Bowling Centre last month. The lanes are set to close in May.



STAFF FILE PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

Medical centre needed in growing town: mayor

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over the next few years as more new residents move into town.

"As we grow and more babies arrive, people want doctors close by," Mr. Emmerson said.

Two new doctors will arrive in town when the centre is built, Mr. Emmerson said.

That number could grow to five, said Mr. Chang, who is awaiting municipal approval before recruiting more physicians.

Mr. White, who has the bowling alley for 11 years, doesn't believe the town needs a location for doctors.

"It needs doctors," said Mr. White, who ran unsuccessfully for council

in 2006. "There are enough locations already."

About 300 people bowl at the centre every week, either for regular games or events such as birthday parties, he said.

He's worried about people such as the 30 or so special needs residents who bowl every Sunday at the centre.

There's no other bowling centre that can accommodate them in the vicinity.

Many children celebrate their birthdays at the five-pin facility, particularly in the winter. It is an alternate sport to those who don't play hockey or curl.

"For a lot of people," Mr. White said, "this is their only sport."

People have come here to bowl for almost 60 years. There are close to 30

children and young people who come out to bowl every week.

The bowling centre also holds a number of fundraisers each year: for breast cancer research, Bowl for Kids Sake which supports Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region and others. The last fundraiser to be held at the Stouffville Bowling Centre will be to raise awareness and funds for those with autism.

"You don't get rich" running a bowling centre, Mr. White said, but it is needed in town.

He is not planning to start another bowling centre business or to move this one. He worries that once the centre is gone, it won't be replaced.

Mr. White will be presenting the petition to town council soon.

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American Express Team Warms Up for Markham Stouffville Hospital's 11th Annual Legacy 5K Run on Sunday, April 27

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Pictured, Denise Pickett, President & CEO (second from left), trains along side American Express employees for the Legacy 5K.

"With a proud history of supporting the community, American Express is thrilled to be back for a second year sponsoring the Markham Stouffville Hospital Legacy 5K Run/Walk," says Denise Pickett, President & CEO. Amex Canada Inc. "The hospital is integral to providing progressive health and community services to residents of the Markham Stouffville area including many employees of American Express, and our involvement gives us an excellent opportunity to give back to the community where we live and work."

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