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JOIN US THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 27
RUN OR WALK
FOR MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL



Come and get a first hand look at the WONDERFUL Community spirit that this event thrives on!

THANK YOU to all of our participants, families, volunteers, the Cornell Community, sponsors, suppliers, schools, teams, hospital staff, York Region Police, the Markham Firefighters...everyone comes together to show their support of our Great Hospital!!!



Photos courtesy copyright tylergray.com

Please pick up your BROOKS pledge incentive prizes at the Pledge table on Sunday!

Event day Registration:

8:30am to 9:30am

WARM UP: 9:40 am
Provided by Active Therapy Centre

START Time: 10:00 am

This is a Chip timed 5k Run
Arrive early and enjoy a complimentary coffee from Tim Hortons - Markham.
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Enjoy a complimentary BBQ with refreshments.

You may REGISTER Saturday at the Markham Running Room store
Or Sunday at the Registration tent

For more information please call 905-472-7373 ext.6606
www.legacy5k.ca

Not just gas prices on the rise, drivers

BY SEAN PEARCE
Staff Writer

You'll be feeling the sting of gas prices in more ways than one this summer.

That's the word from economics professor Perry Sadorsky at York University's Schulich School of Business.

Aside from the obvious impact of paying more at the pumps, Mr. Sadorsky warned the higher cost of fuel will have a trickle-down effect that will drive the price of other goods much higher.

"Oil is a factor in just about everything we use," he said.

"It's used in the production and the transportation of goods."

The average North American's fuel bill is still actually rather low in relative terms, according to Mr. Sadorsky.

The big concern should be how higher energy prices will influence the cost of other commonly purchased goods.

"Eventually, you'll have a situation where other prices will shift to reflect the higher costs," Mr. Sadorsky said. "Prices on other goods will go up."

The trucking industry, perhaps more than others, is reeling from the spike in the price of diesel fuel. With prices hovering around \$1.30 per litre, it isn't hard to see why, Mr. Sadorsky said.

Airlines and taxi companies are also hurting, he added.

Fuel costs are quickly taking a toll on truckers, Ontario Trucking Association spokesperson Rebecka Torn said.

"The rising price of diesel fuel is having a significant impact on trucking companies and individual owner operators," Ms Torn said.

"Traditionally, fuel represents anywhere from 15 per cent to 30 per cent of a carrier's operating cost, which is usually their second largest component cost after

labour. The cost of fuel has been gaining on labour as the top cost and is now in the range of 40 per cent to 50 per cent for most trucking companies."

Many companies, Ms Torn said, have tried to mitigate rising costs by improving fuel efficiency through the use of speed limiters, auxiliary heating and cooling systems, a reduction in idling and other methods. In the end, however, many have little choice but to try and pass the added cost along to customers in the form of fuel surcharges.

"Many trucking companies are falling behind in recovering this cost as customers try to take advantage ... by balking at the full fuel surcharges," Ms Torn said.

"No doubt this is putting many companies, especially those that do not have the resources to weather this storm, at risk."

In many cases, those added costs for trucking companies are gradually being passed along to other companies, such as grocery retailers, Mr. Sadorsky said. It's only a matter of time until consumers, in turn, pay more as a result.

"They have been trying to internalize the cost so far," he said. "Eventually, they'll have to do something."

The grocery industry is, indeed, feeling the impact of higher oil prices, senior vice-president of the Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors Dave Wilkes said.

According to Mr. Wilkes, other aspects of their business are also being hit hard.

"It's not just in the transportation, if you like, as the cost of building new facilities is going up, too," he said.

"Petroleum is often the base for packaging, so that cost will eventually go up as well."

"The competition within the sector right now is protecting the consumer," Mr. Wilkes said. "It will be difficult to sustain the current price structure."

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