Stouffville

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NHL scouts getting good look at Stouffville defenceman

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Coalition disaster, MP says

'Remarkable series of events': Calandra

> BY DAVID FLEISCHER Staff Writer

If a coalition replaces the Stephen Harper Conservative government, it would be guided by a "wise man's council" of former politicians that could include former prime minister Paul Martin, longtime Richmond Hill MP Bryon Wilfert said.

While coalitions can be tenuous, the Liberals, NDP and Bloc Quebecois agreed to support each other for a minimum of 18 months. Mr. Wilfert also said Liberals, who will hold the key economic cabinet posts, will make economic policy a priority.

As a political imbroglio overtakes Ottawa, threatening to bring the government down as early as Monday, local MPs are staking their ground.

"It's truly a remarkable series of events," Oak Ridges-Markham Conservative MP Paul Calandra said.

"It's completely motivated by self-interest. This would be a disaster for this country," the Whitchurch-Stouffville resident added.

"I'm extraordinarily angry today that any party would bring in a separatist government," Mr. Calandra said.

See HARPER, page 8.



Santa Claus visits downtown Stouffville Monday to check the shortened route for Saturday's Stouffville Kinsmen parade held in his honour. The parade starts at 2 p.m. and ends at Giant Tiger. Other events will be held in the downtown core all weekend, including a nativity presentation and wagon rides.

PARADE, LIVING NATIVITY, HEART OF STOUFFVILLE GET DOWNTOWN INTO SPIRIT

Santa bundling up for busy weekend

NORTH POLE - Santa and his reindeer confirmed they will be flying in from the North Pole this weekend so they can take part in a number of events, including the Santa Claus Parade Saturday afternoon.

Weather forecasts call for a cold day.

"Bundle up, kiddies, because I will be," Santa said from the toy workshop yesterday. "I'm looking

forward to seeing all my friends of all ages on Main Street Saturday."

The annual parade, hosted by the Stouffville Kinsmen, starts at 2 p.m. from the Tenth Line and Aintree Drive. It will head south and then west on Main Street to Giant Tiger. Please note, the route has been shortened this year.

Santa even popped into Stouffville Monday to put his seal

of approval on the new route.

Just prior to the parade, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., Mayor Wayne Emmerson, members of council, along with the Stouffville Lions, will be serving up free hot dogs and hot chocolate in front of the clock tower.

The parade isn't the only festive event taking place this weekend.

On Friday night, the Stouffville Business Improvement Area and

Stouffville United Church will kick the season off with a live re-enactment of the nativity, complete with a real live mule.

The 45-minute event starts at 7 p.m. at the Care and Share Thrift Shop parking lot.

The large tree by the gazebo will be this year's town tree, which will

See DOWNTOWN, page 5.

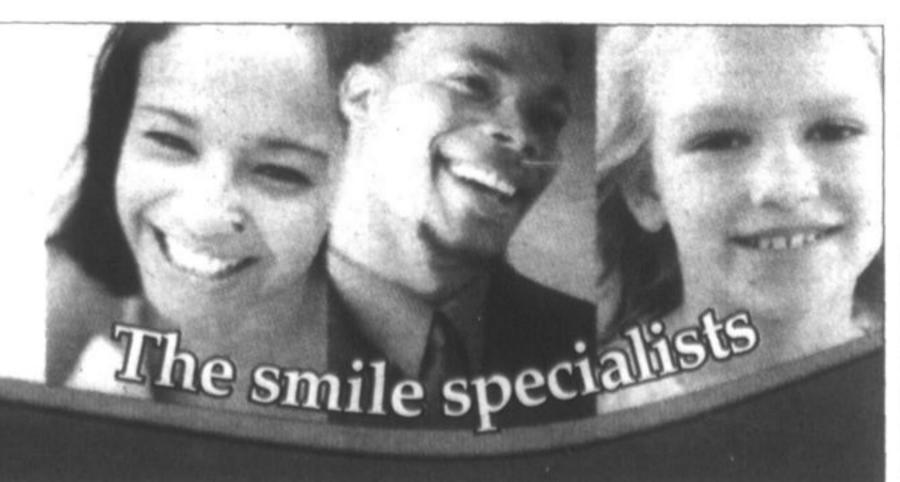




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