

**DOWNTOWN:** Town takes over, expands BIA

# Price hike for merchants

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
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The average fee for downtown businesses will go up by \$125 despite there being 32 more businesses in the newly expanded downtown Stouffville.

Council also approved basing the special fees on MPAC valuations Tuesday.

"Alternative options would create an unfair and complicated funding model where few (of the) smallest businesses will subsidize a few (of the) largest owners," wrote Marc Pourvahidi, treasurer and director of finance for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in his Jan. 19 report to council.

On Dec. 31, the Stouffville Business Improvement Area was formally dissolved and on Jan. 1, the town took over operations of the area.

The special levy for these businesses pays for additional garbage collection, street cleaning, planter boxes, benches and decorative lighting.

"Small municipalities are only as good

as their core, their downtown," said Mayor Wayne Emmerson.

In 2009, the town applied for funds from the Main Street Ontario Grant to help offset some of the costs of operating the downtown. However, late last year, the town was informally notified the program was under review.

The funding formula for downtown businesses was going to be split equally between the government grant, municipality and businesses. Now it will be split down the middle between the businesses and town.

"As such, each party would fund approximately \$75,000 to provide the necessary financial support to operate the programs and initiatives for this defined area," Mr. Pourvahidi wrote.

The downtown core now extends east to St. James Presbyterian Church, west to Ninth Line and north from Main Street to include the former Stouffville District Secondary School site.



## What's On in Whitchurch-Stouffville

### Leisure Services

Email: [leisure.services@townofws.com](mailto:leisure.services@townofws.com)  
Customer Service Phone: 905-642-PLAY (7529)

**It's not too late to join an active living program for winter...**

**TAI CHI (YANG STYLE)**  
7 WEEK PROGRAM  
Wednesdays  
9:00 am - Latcham Hall or  
7:40 pm - Ballantrae CC  
Fee: \$48.30

**ZUMBA**  
7 WEEK PROGRAM  
THURSDAYS  
6:00 pm - Lebovic Leisure Centre  
Ditch the workout - join the dance party!  
Fee \$55.65

Contact Lebovic Leisure Centre  
**905-642-7529**  
for further information

**PA DAY ACTIVITIES!**  
Monday, February 1st

Public Skating • 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Stouffville Arena

Public Swimming • 2:00 - 4:00 pm  
Lebovic Leisure Centre



**NEW INDOOR DROP IN PLAYGROUND**  
Wednesdays • 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Stouffville Arena, 2nd floor

**GRAND OPENING**  
Wednesday, January 27

**7th Annual**

**winter carnival**  
Saturday, February 13th  
1 - 4 pm

Cedar Beach Pavillion  
Musselman Lake

Clown, choirs, ice skating, ATV/pony/hay rides, treasure hunt, food, beverages, entertainment and more! - A great day to spend with family and friends!

Visit: [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com)  
for more information

### Library

30 Burkholder Street, Stouffville  
Phone: 905-642-READ (7323) or 1-888-603-4292

**Life in Whitchurch-Stouffville in 2009-2010**  
What is your life like? What is important to you? How do you like to spend your time? Imagine what you would like to tell someone living in Whitchurch-Stouffville in 2060. In 500 words or less, describe your life in the community now. The winning submissions will be included in the time capsule at the new arena.

**Deadline for submissions is January 25, 2010.**  
Please deliver your entries to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library, 30 Burkholder Street or email them to [wspinfo@whitchurch-library.on.ca](mailto:wspinfo@whitchurch-library.on.ca). Please include your name, address, phone number and AGE (16+ or under 16). Restricted to residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville only.

**"DIGGING FOR TROUBLE: Understanding the Problems of Canadian Mines in South America"**  
Thursday, January 28  
7:30 - 9:00 pm  
Ulises Garcia will speak on mining issues from San Marcos, Guatemala to Canada.  
**Free Admission!**

**Basic/Intermediate ESL Classes**  
Thursdays, beginning February 4th 10:00 am - noon  
Cost \$84. Pre-registration is required!

**JOIN US FOR STORY TIME!**  
Mondays 7:00 - 7:30 pm  
Tuesdays 11:00 - 11:30 am  
Wednesdays & Saturdays 10:30-11:00 am  
Ages 3-6 yrs

**PRE-SCHOOL CRAFT!**  
Thursday, February 4th  
10:30 am - 11:00 am  
Wednesday February 17th  
11:15 - 11:45 am  
Cost \$2.00 per child  
Pre-registration is required!

**Working to serve you better!**  
Check out our new web site!  
[www.whitchurch-library.on.ca](http://www.whitchurch-library.on.ca)

### Museum

14732 Woodbine Avenue, Gormley  
Phone: 905-727-8954 or 1-888-290-0337

**FAMILY DAY AT THE MUSEUM!**  
Monday, February 15  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Drop in and create some heritage crafts to take home.  
Tour the buildings. Visit the gift shop.  
A great family experience!  
**Admission: \$2.00 per youth.**

**P.A. DAY CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP at the Museum!**  
**HOW THINGS WERE DONE!**  
Monday, February 1 - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Come and spend the day learning about 'how things were done' in Whitchurch-Stouffville over 100 years ago! You will make your own old fashioned toys and crafts, play games, and also cook in the Victorian Kitchen! Children will participate in an assortment of hands-on activities, crafts, heritage cooking and traditional games. Just perfect for children aged 8-12!  
**Cost: \$40.00 (\$32.00 for Museum members)**  
Pre-registration is required!

**HISTORY HANDS-ON (H2O) in Winter Experience Pioneer Life!**  
Saturday, February 27th  
12:00 - 4:00 pm  
Really experience life as it was 100 years ago! Visit the Log Cabin and try your hand at some Pioneer chores. Help prepare treats in the Farmhouse Kitchen. Complete your lessons on a slate in the 19th-century classroom. Activities change seasonally.  
**Admission is free... donations gratefully accepted.**  
**DUE TO CONSTRUCTION of the NEW Visitors' & Community Centre, THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED March 22 to May 19, 2010.**  
Research appointments may still be possible - please call to confirm availability.

For more information, visit us online:

Town: [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com)

Library: [www.whitchurch-library.on.ca](http://www.whitchurch-library.on.ca)



# REGISTRATION

Markham Soccer Club - Lighting Division  
**Competitive Team Tryouts for 2010**  
All tryouts are held at Mount Joy Indoor Soccer Centre  
Mount Joy Community Centre, 6140 16th Ave (just east of HWY 48), Markham  
Website: [www.markhamsoccer.org](http://www.markhamsoccer.org)

Please note: there is a \$5 tryout fee per player per session payable at the door upon entry

Age Division	Year of Birth	Date of Tryout	Day	Start Time
<b>BOYS:</b>				
Under 8	2002	Feb 8th	Mon	6pm
		Feb 28th	Sun	9am
Under 9	2001	Feb 8th	Mon	7pm
		Feb 22nd	Mon	7pm
Under 10	2000	Feb 14th	Sun	9am
		Feb 22nd	Mon	6pm
Under 11	1999	Feb 14th	Sun	11am
		Mar 1st	Mon	6pm
Under 12	1998	Feb 14th	Sun	12pm
		Mar 1st	Mon	7pm
Under 13	1997	Feb 14th	Sun	1pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	9am
Under 14 (OYSL)	1996	Feb 14th	Sun	2pm
		Feb 28th	Sun	5pm
Under 14	1996	Feb 21st	Sun	1pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	10am
Under 15 (OYSL)	1995	Feb 28th	Sun	6pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	12pm
Under 15	1995	Feb 21st	Sun	2pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	11am
Under 16	1994	Feb 21st	Sun	5pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	5pm
Under 18	1992	Feb 21st	Sun	6pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	1pm
<b>GIRLS:</b>				
Under 8	2002	Feb 10th	Wed	6pm
		Feb 24th	Wed	6pm
Under 9	2001	Feb 10th	Wed	7pm
		Feb 24th	Wed	7pm
Under 10	2000	Feb 14th	Sun	10am
		Feb 28th	Sun	10am
Under 11	1999	Feb 21st	Sun	9am
		Feb 28th	Sun	11am
Under 12	1998	Feb 14th	Sun	5pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	2pm
Under 13	1997	Feb 17th	Wed	7pm
		Mar 3rd	Wed	7pm
Under 14	1996	Feb 21st	Sun	10am
		Feb 28th	Sun	12pm
Under 15	1995	Feb 21st	Sun	11am
		Feb 28th	Sun	1pm
Under 16	1994	Feb 21st	Sun	12pm
		Feb 28th	Sun	2 pm
Under 17	1993	Feb 17th	Wed	6pm
		Mar 7th	Sun	6 pm
Under 18	1992	Feb 14th	Sun	6pm
		Mar 3rd	Wed	6pm

If you are interested in becoming a Rep Coach, please contact us at [info@markhamsoccer.org](mailto:info@markhamsoccer.org)



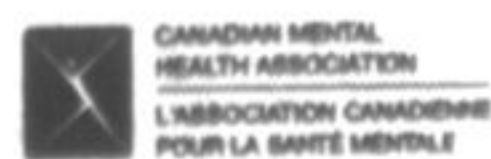
A place in Markham for people ages 16 and up to:

- Meet friends
- Use a computer
- See movies
- Learn to cook
- Receive supportive counselling
- Find out about local services

**A safe, open and fun environment**

The Living Room is a program of the Canadian Mental Health Association, York Region.

Call 905-201-0432



A member agency of United Way of York Region

This message brought to you as a community service of The Markham Economist & Sun