



SUSANNE HILTON: Stouffville resident seeking third term as Ward 4 town councillor in Oct. 25 election.

Growth still big issue with council incumbent

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Susanne Hilton ran for councillor of Ward 4 in 2003 because she was concerned about the town's growth.

Seven years and two terms as councillor later, Mrs. Hilton is still concerned about Whitchurch-Stouffville's growth.

"I want to be vigilant about it," she said of why she is seeking a third term.

The town's growth is being mandated by the province and region,

according to Mrs. Hilton, but it is up to Whitchurch-Stouffville to "do the best we can to manage it".

Added Mrs. Hilton: "We don't want people to see Stouffville as a place you drive through to get somewhere else. We want people to see Stouffville as a destination."

Other candidates in Ward 4 are Anne Pride and Alexis Adams.

Mrs. Hilton says there are projects she wants to keep working on, including the revitalization of downtown, upgrading the roads in the older parts of town and seeing the

growth of the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park as an arts centre.

She's proud of her work on the municipal cultural policy, which resulted in the restoration of the arts and entertainment centre.

"That was a great move forward," she said. "In the big picture we want to bring arts and culture forward and on par with sports."

Before being elected to council, Mrs. Hilton became a member of the Grassroots Committee on cultural activities.

"When I got onto council and the mayor of the day (Sue Sherban) was also into arts, she said yes we've got to get moving and have a better balance," Mrs. Hilton said.

Mrs. Hilton, who taught anthropology at the University of Western Ontario and University of Toronto, moved to Stouffville 32 years ago.

She volunteers on eight local and regional committees.

And because Mrs. Hilton lives in the ward she represents, "I live with the same issues as the other Ward 4 residents," she said.

For example, Rupert and Summerfield parks have been upgraded and are now on-par with the newer parks, according to Mrs. Hilton.

The design for a portion of Rupert Avenue has been completed and construction is expected to begin next month and be completed by August.

"That's a major accomplishment," she said. "People have been wanting this done for over 10 years and I've been fighting for it for over six-and-a-half years."

She wants roads to be safe for cars, pedestrians and cyclists.

"We've got children walking to two elementary schools along the side of the road with open roads," she said. "What's unsafe for the pedestrian is unsafe for the cyclist. ... (And the roads) are broken down."

Mrs. Hilton has been married to her husband Ian for 37 years and they have a daughter, Danielle. Election day is Oct. 25.

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6:30PM

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Last fall, York Region Community Foundation (YRCF) held its second annual full-day educational Workshop, bringing together representatives from York Region's charitable sector for a day of learning, networking and new ideas. This workshop was hosted by Enbridge, sponsored by BELL, and supported by generous companies who want to do their part for the wellbeing of our community.

On **Thursday, October 28, 2010**, YRCF will again offer the opportunity to come together as a sector, to learn, share and enhance our ability to help those in need, and help to build a stronger community.

York Region Community Foundation (YRCF) is committed to connecting donors with opportunities to support causes and charities they care about. To find out more about YRCF visit www.yrcf.ca

YRCF wants to sincerely thank the sponsors of the 2009 Workshop for their continuing support and for making this Charities Workshop possible.

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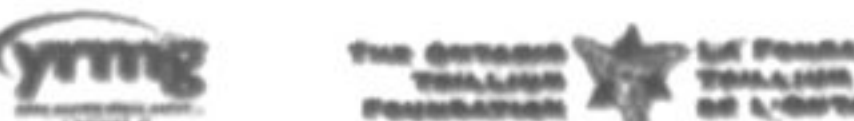
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