

# Too much tax money from homeowners: councillor

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
sbolan@yrmg.com

Ken Ferdinands is seeking a third term as councillor of Ward 1.

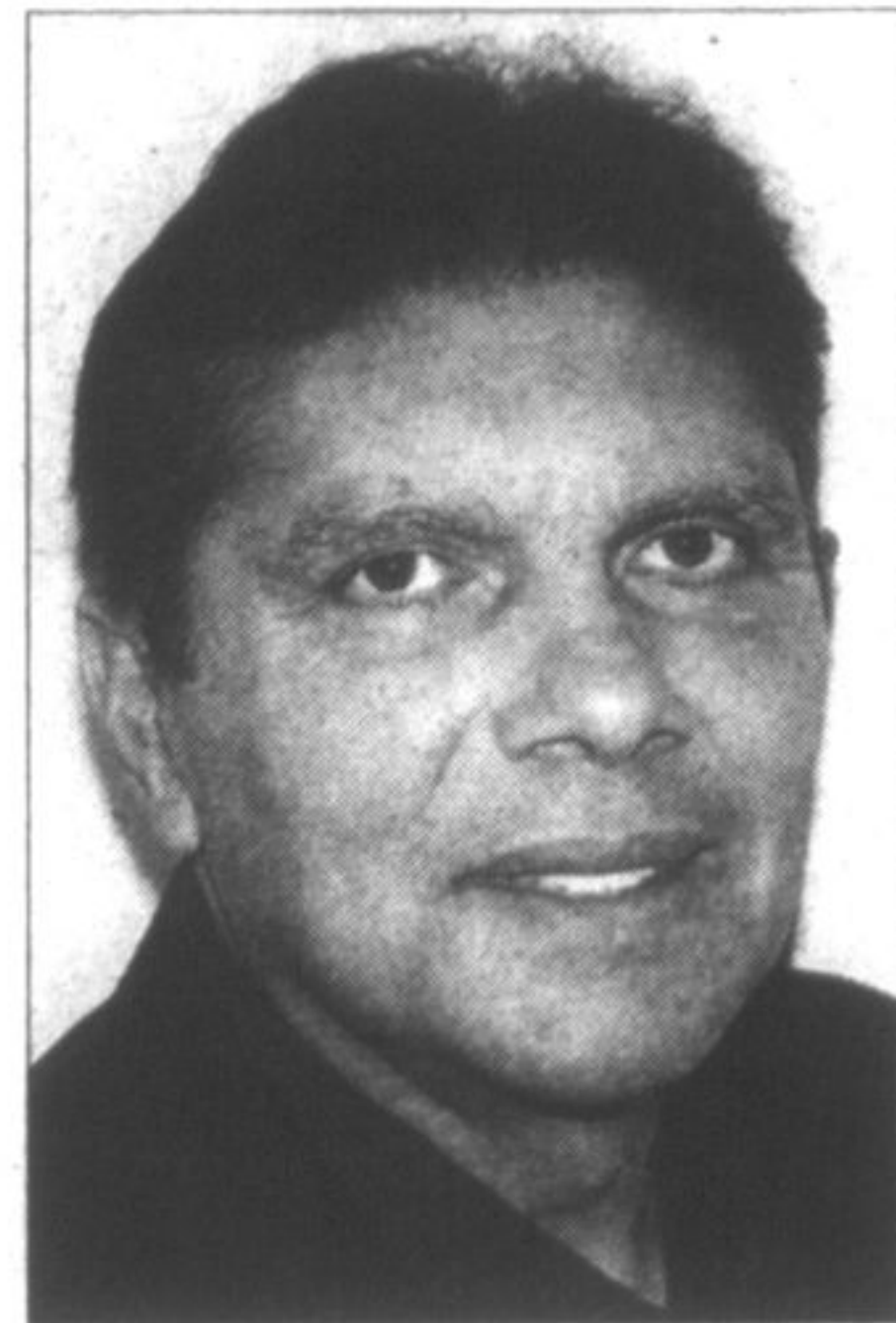
"If I wasn't getting the kind of satisfaction I was getting and meeting with success, I would be happy to pass the torch," Mr. Ferdinands said.

Although the rural ward residents, according to Mr. Ferdinands, "are quite independent and don't rely heavily on municipal services" there are still some issues that need to be dealt with.

For example, since 2006 a disproportionate level of land use regulation has been levied in the area, along with an increased number of flood hazard zones.

"(The flood hazard zones have) the potential to sterilize their land," Mr. Ferdinands said.

The Vandorf Preston Lake secondary plan, in the Aurora Road and Hwy. 404 area, has been recently approved.



**KEN FERDINANDS:** Councillor says entrance to community needs improvement.

"The evolution of the plan is of interest," he said. "People are very concerned the rural nature of the northwest quadrant be maintained."

When it comes to the whole of Whitchurch-Stouffville, Mr. Ferdinands is concerned about the ratio between commercial, industrial, institutional and

residential assessment.

According to Mr. Ferdinands, industrial, commercial and institutional assessments account for less than 10 per cent of Whitchurch-Stouffville's tax revenue.

"That figure needs to improve by 50 per cent," he said. "Without balance (there will be a) disproportionate burden on the residential tax portion."

Mr. Ferdinands also wants the western approach into town spruced up.

"It's the front door to our town," he said. "I think the town needs to become more engaged in the development of those lands."

Mr. Ferdinands, who moved to Whitchurch-Stouffville 35 years ago and still lives in the same Ward 1 house, was first elected to council in 2003 after being invited to run by Steve Pliakes, the ward's former councillor who ran for mayor that year.

"It was a leap of faith for

me certainly and not something I had contemplated," said the retired high school geography teacher and department head with the Toronto District School Board.

For the past seven years, Mr. Ferdinands has been a board member of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, Latcham Gal-

lery, Vandorf Hall and the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority. For about the past five years, Mr. Ferdinands has been on the Community Liaison Committee with the York Region Police and the Source Water Protection board.

"I'm running on my record and my commitment to work diligently,"

he said. "I hope that people will accept that is my commitment to them."

Mr. Ferdinands has been married to Colleen for 37 years and the couple have two daughters, Karalyn and Kristen, and two grandchildren, Alexandra and Carter.

The municipal election takes place Oct. 25.

## POLICE WEEK OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Community Safety Village

Rain or Shine Admission is free

- Police exhibits and displays
- Climb inside the Air2 helicopter and Marine Unit boats
- See demonstrations from our Traffic Unit and Emergency Response Unit
- Meet our Police Services dogs
- Bicycle and helmet safety workshops
- Motorized cars for children
- The real CSII
- Musical entertainment
- Refreshments, barbecue and much more...
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**LOCATION**  
2001 Sheppard Ave. E.

For more information about Police Week activities please visit our website at [www.yrpolice.ca](http://www.yrpolice.ca) or call 905-927-1919 ext. 21 or email [247@yrpolice.ca](mailto:247@yrpolice.ca)

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## NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

**York Region West Nile virus Mosquito Control Program:**

From May 17, 2010 to October 1, 2010, the Regional Municipality of York in conjunction with the York Region District School Board and York Catholic District School Board will be conducting a larvicide program under the authority of the Medical Officer of Health. The purpose of the program is to control larval mosquitoes to prevent their development into vectors of West Nile virus.

The pellet formulation of the larvicide methoprene (product name Altosid), with Registration No. 21809 or the Altosid XR briquets (methoprene) with Registration No. 27694 under the *Pest Control Products Act* or Bacillus sphaericus (product name VectoLex WSP) with Registration No. 28009 under the *Pest Control Products Act* will be placed into catch basins along Regional and Municipal Roads and in catch basins on private property as required.

In addition, the biological larvicide Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis (product name Aquabac XT), with Registration No. 26860 or Aquabac 200G with Registration No. 26863 under the *Pest Control Products Act* or VectoLex CG Registration No. 28008 under the *Pest Control Products Act* may be placed in ditches and temporary or permanent pools including storm water retention ponds if evidence of mosquito breeding is found.

All larvicide will be applied by Ministry of the Environment licensed applicators or trained technicians.

Larviciding is a low risk and effective measure for the control of West Nile virus when used in accordance with label directions. The slow-release pellet formulation interferes with the mosquito life cycle, preventing the mosquito larva from reaching maturity. It is not sprayed. The products have been approved by both the provincial and federal governments and are considered low risk for humans, pets and the environment.

For exact locations and dates of larvicide treatment contact: York Region *Health Connection* at 1-800-361-5653 (TTY: 1-866-252-9933) York Region District School Board at 1-800-268-1660 or visit [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/wnv](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/wnv) York Catholic District School Board 1-800-363-2711 or visit [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)

Prevention and protection are the best ways to protect yourself and your family from West Nile virus. For simple and common sense precautions that should be taken, contact York Region *Health Connection* at 1-800-361-5653 (TTY: 1-866-252-9933) or visit [www.york.ca/westnile](http://www.york.ca/westnile)

For more information, please call York Region *Health Connection* at 1-800-361-5653 (TTY: 1-866-252-9933) or visit [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)



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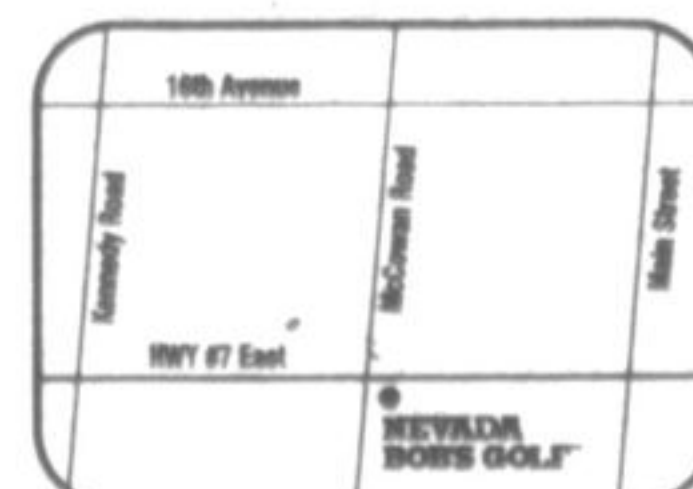
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