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## Stouffville to Haiti: Crisis revisited

## Pool could become accessible water park

Town applying for \$2.83-million grant

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
sbolan@yrmg.com

The town has applied for a \$2.83-million grant to turn the outdoor pool in Stouffville Memorial Park into an accessible water park.

The grant is part of the federal government's mid-sized project component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund program, which is designed to assist the public and private sectors in retrofitting or constructing infrastructure that will level the play-

Would cost town \$980,000-plus to repair pool in Memorial Park/page 2.

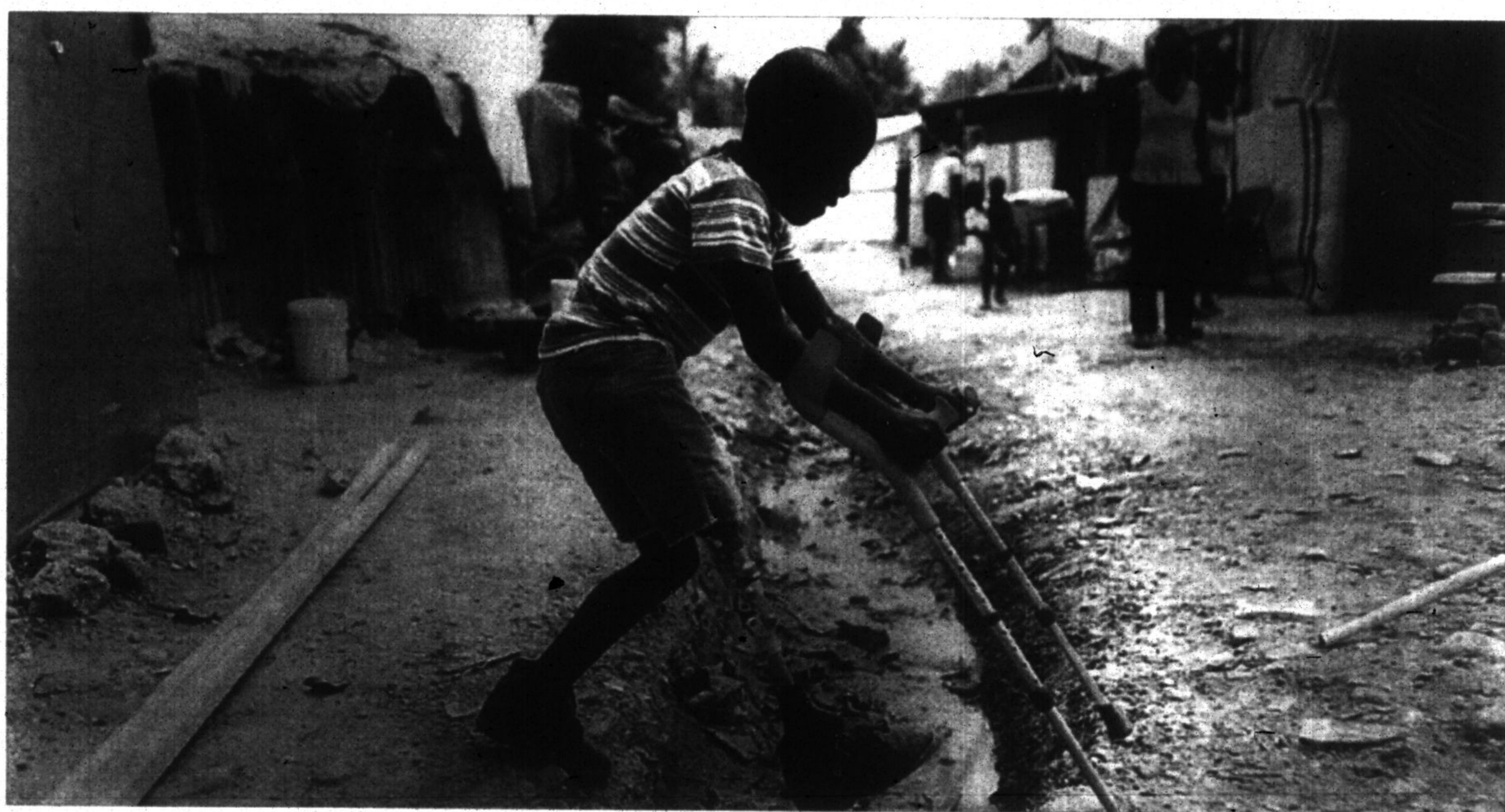
ing field and broaden/promote the opportunity for people with disabilities to fully participate in community life.

The grant is available for a maximum of \$3 million or 75 per cent of a project's budget.

This project is estimated to cost \$3.77 million, with the town's contribution being \$943,454.

The water park project will

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PHOTO/CBM/SHELLEY

Sebastian, a client of the CBM mission in Whitchurch-Stouffville, makes his way around earthquake-ravaged Haiti a year after disaster struck.

## Recovery slow in disaster zone

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
sbolan@yrmg.com

Walking along streets that are nothing more than churned-up pieces of concrete and mud and being surrounded by an abundance of tent cities, one would think devastation hit Haiti just days or weeks ago, not last year.

Little has changed for this country since a 7.0 magnitude earthquake killed more than 200,000 people and decimated a country

already known for being the poorest in the western hemisphere.

Initially, about 1.6 million displaced Haitians formed makeshift tent cities.

Now, about 810,000 people still live in those tents.

"It hasn't progressed as quickly as people had hoped," said Ed Epp, executive director of Whitchurch-Stouffville-based CBM Canada. "People had hopes. Had dreams. If nothing changes for the better,

then cynicism and all the rest take over."

"It's not Canada's fault. It's not the U.S.'s fault," added Stouffville's Dave Lock, who along with his wife, Sonya, founded and operate Freedom House Haiti Christian Orphanages.

The problem, according to Mr. Epp and Mr. Lock is the lack of response and organization from the Haitian government, which itself is in a current state of flux due

to an election.

"I sympathize with the governments of the world trying to work without a system there," Mr. Epp said. "To me, the bottom line, still, is the Haitian people still aren't included in the process."

CBM Canada has been providing health care to disabled Haitians for more than 30 years, with a focus on blindness prevention, special

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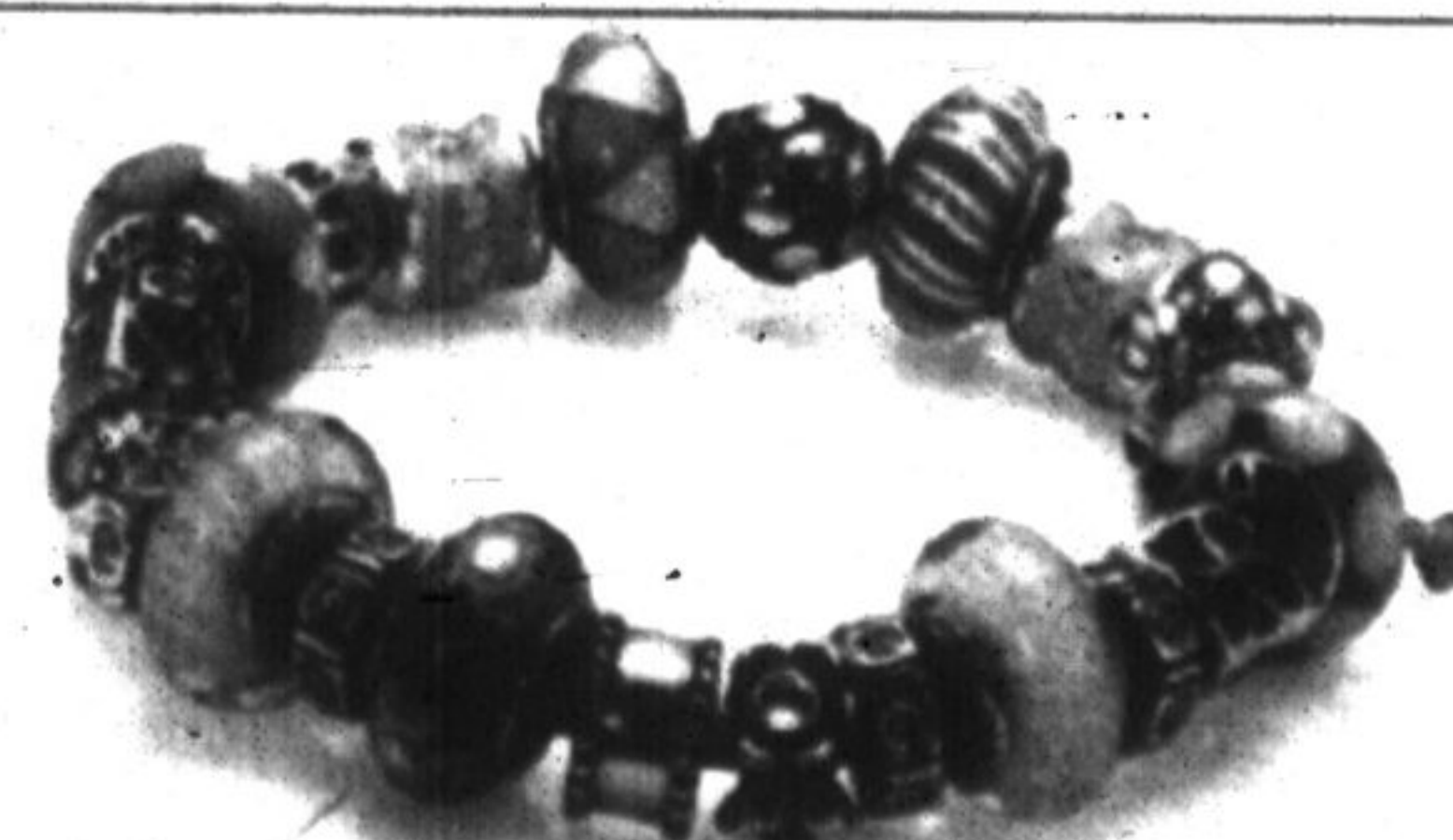
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