

# New pool disappoints group

From page 1.

month, Marc Pourvahidi, the town's treasurer and director of finance, is confident Whitchurch-Stouffville will get the money.

"In York Region, there were only two applications put forward because of the lack of time," Mr. Pourvahidi said, noting the grant information was not received by the municipality until December. "Because of that, we are very optimistic and hopeful."

The Town of Georgina is the other York Region applicant, according to Mr. Pourvahidi.

Providing the grant is received, the municipality plans on applying for an amendment that would bring the total amount of funding to \$3 million, which is the maximum allowable, to help off-set the cost of the tank pool, according to Mr. Pourvahidi.

The pool being proposed would not be as deep as the current facility, 14 feet, but it would still provide recreational and lane swimming.

"The resulting addition would complement the current design to provide a complete and comprehensive fully accessible water feature and park," according to the Feb. 22 report to council by Rob Raycroft, director of leisure and community services for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

By incorporating the tank pool into the water feature, it is saving the town about \$2.2 million in capital costs, according to Mr. Raycroft.

*It was a five to one vote in favour of adding the pool into the water feature. Councillor Rob Hargrave was the only nay vote.*

In the 2010 budget, council approved \$4.3 million for phase two of Memorial Park's redevelopment, with about \$3.6 million for the water feature. The town was going to be on the hook for 80 per cent of the project's cost, with the remaining 20 per cent coming from development charges.

If the grant is received, the town will be responsible for \$1.7 million.

"We're still far ahead when it comes to the financing because of the grant," Mr. Pourvahidi said. "We're still on the hook for development charges and taxes, but it's still better than what we had in the budget."

On Tuesday morning, Mr. Raycroft presented council with three options regarding the outdoor pool, the first being to keep the current facility open.

Last fall, the pool's recirculation system failed, which is located under the pool's concrete deck and

**'I find it very sad that this gift was left to deteriorate to the point where it's irreparable. The public was not given enough time to react. When council knew in 2007, these problems existed. It was never even made an issue at election time, when I'm sure it could have been a deciding factor.'**

**Karen Dynes**  
Save the Outdoor Pool committee

staff decided, based on its current condition, the pool could not open this summer.

The pool is 53 years old and the typical lifespan is 20 to 25 years, according to Mr. Raycroft.

The pool does not meet current health code regulations when it comes to water turnover rates, but it has been able to operate as such because of a grandfathering clause, according to Mr. Raycroft.

However, if any repairs were to be made to the pool, the clause will be voided and the pool would have to be brought up to code.

If council opted to re-open the pool, it would have not have been operational until mid to late September, at the earliest. The outdoor swimming season ends Labour Day.

Stage one of this option did not address accessibility upgrades to the facility, which have to be complete by 2014, as all town facilities are required to be accessible by then.

"It will also require another complete shutdown of the pool facility to accommodate the stage two works," Mr. Raycroft wrote.

The second option council considered was creating a fully accessible outdoor pool facility in its current location.

#### AJAX: BAD EXAMPLE

The Town of Ajax is redeveloping its outdoor pool, which is similar in size to Whitchurch-Stouffville's and 50 years old.

Last July, tenders for the project, which included making the facility accessible, came in at more than \$3 million, according to Mr. Raycroft.

"Staff would caution council that the Ajax pool tenders were all higher than the construction estimates and market conditions could impact the overall tender prices, either higher or lower," Mr. Raycroft wrote in his report. "Staff expect to incur dewatering expenditures and specific design parameters related to the (Toronto and Region Conservation Author-

ity) requirements for renovations within the regulated area. These conditions were not present on the Ajax project."

No one from the Save the Outdoor Pool committee, which just a week before requested council repair the current pool, was present during Mr. Raycroft's presentation or when council made its final decision Tuesday morning.

It was a five to one vote in favour of adding the pool into the water feature. Councillor Rob Hargrave was the only nay vote.

During the Feb. 15 council meeting, the delegation presented council a petition with 1,200 signatures in favour of saving the pool.

"That concerns me," said Councillor Phil Bannon, in reference to no one from the group being at the meeting. No one in the gallery spoke to the item.

Karen Dynes, a member of the committee, arrived in council chambers a few hours later and once informed by The Sun-Tribune of the decision, said: "They're relying on a grant they don't know they're going to get," she said. "I'm very disappointed that pool is being demolished."

"I find it very sad that this gift was left to deteriorate to the point where it's irreparable. The public was not given enough time to react."

"When council knew in 2007, these problems existed. It was never even made an issue at election time, when I'm sure it could have been a deciding factor," she said.



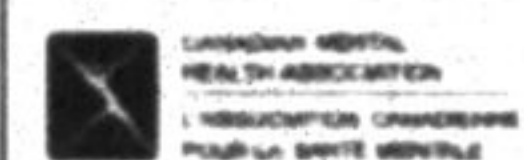
A place in Markham for people ages 16 and up to:

- 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

## REGISTRATION

## UNIONVILLE MINOR SOFTBALL

COMMUNITY YOUTH SOFTBALL FOR OVER 40 YEARS

All greater Markham area Boys, Girls & Jr. Adults  
4 Boy Divisions (1986-2002), 4 Girl Divisions (1986-2002)  
4 CO-ED Divisions (2003-2006)

### EARLY REGISTRATION

Sunday, February 27  
10 am - 2 pm  
Crosby Arena  
Angus Glen C.C.  
Centennial C.C.

Early discount  
\$10 off new players  
\$20 off returning players

Weekly Games • Full Uniform • Tournaments • Photos  
• Trophies • Ongoing Pre-season Pitching & Skills Clinics  
• Coach & Umpire Training • Optional Competitive League

905-604-0190  
www.umsa.ca

GET INVOLVED IN MARKHAM'S LARGEST FASTPITCH LEAGUE!  
SPONSOR • COACH • UMPIRE • VOLUNTEER

## Markville

CHEVROLET • BUICK • GMC

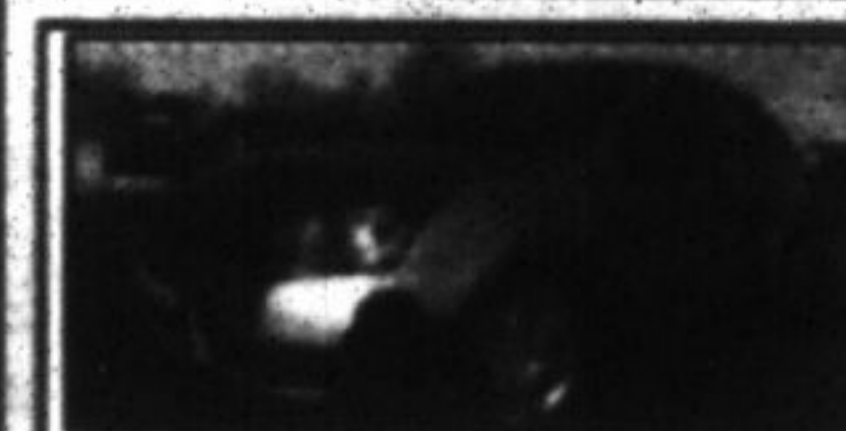
4.99%\* PREFERRED CUSTOMER FINANCE RATE



2009 NISSAN VERSA  
44,496KM. AUTO. AC. PWR WINDOW & LOCK. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK#P4709  
**\$93 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$12,500** + HST



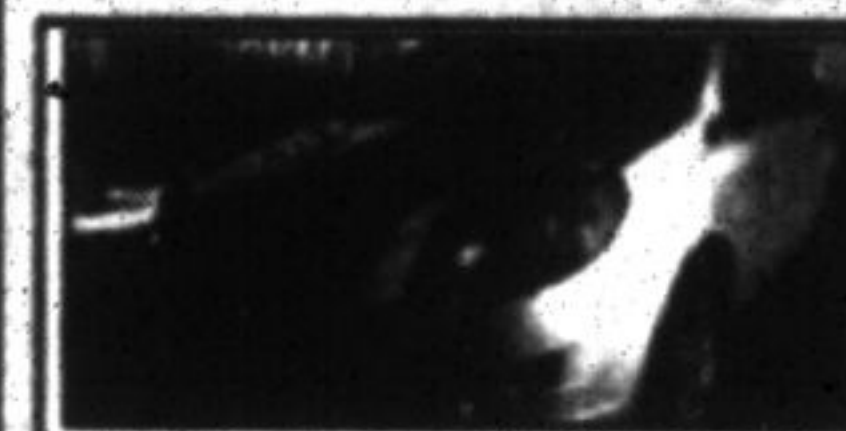
2007 SATURN VUE  
49,800KM. AUTO. AC. PWR WINDOWS & LOCKS. CRUISE CONTROL. CD. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK# P4835  
**\$126 BI WEEKLY/72 MTHS OR \$14,900** + HST



2009 FORD FOCUS SEDAN  
4 DOOR. AUTO. AC. PWR WINDOW & LOCKS. CD. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. PREVIOUS RENTAL. 43,785KM. STK# P4816  
**\$95 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$12,700** + HST



2007 CADILLAC CTS  
WHITE DIAMOND. AUTO. FULLY EQUIPPED. MOON ROOF. ALLOYS. BALANCE OF WARRANTY. 52,130KM. STK# P4790  
**\$150 BI WEEKLY/72 MTHS OR \$17,800** + HST



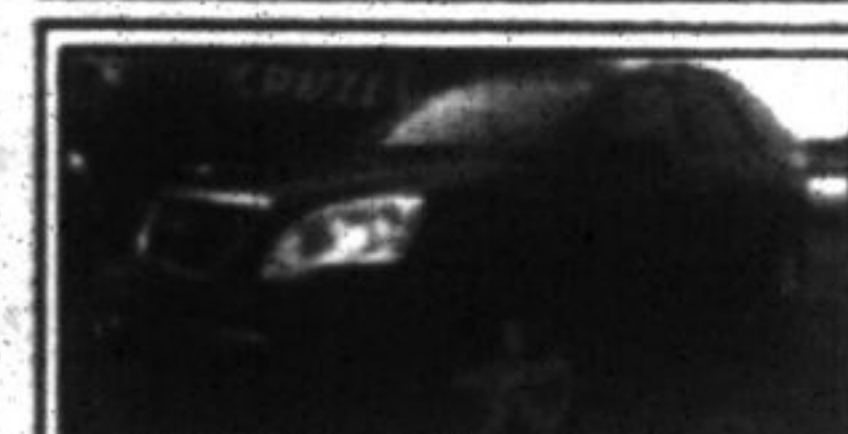
2010 G3 WAVE SE 5 DOOR  
6,750KM. AUTO. AC. MOON ROOF. ANTI-LOCK BRAKES. PWR PL. TILT WHEEL. CRUISE. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK#P484E  
**\$86 BI WEEKLY/86 MTHS OR \$12,900** + HST



2008 CADILLAC SRX 4  
65,130KM. AUTO. AC. PANORAMIC ROOF. FULLY EQUIPPED. LEATHER. ALLOYS. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK#P484D  
**\$199 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$26,900** + HST



2009 TOYOTA COROLLA  
AUTO. AIR CONDITIONING. POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS. CD PLAYER. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. 50,281 KMS. STK# P4721  
**\$96 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$12,900** + HST



2008 GMC ACADIA SLT  
67,300KM. DVD NAVI. MOONROOF. LEATHER. QUAD SEATING. ALLOYS. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK#P484E  
**\$221 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$29,900** + HST



2009 PONTIAC MONTANA  
7 PASS. V6. AUTO. AC. PWR WINDOW & LOCKS. TILT WHEEL. CRUISE. ABS. STABILITY CONTROL. REMOTE START. BALANCE OF WARRANTY. 53,145KM. STK# P4794A  
**\$103 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$13,900** + HST



2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL AWD  
DVD. ULTRAVIEW ROOF. CHROME WHEELS. 7 PASS. LEATHER. OPTIMUM VEHICLE. BALANCE OF FACTORY WARRANTY. STK#P484E  
**\$236 BI WEEKLY/84 MTHS OR \$31,900** + HST

GM Optimum USED VEHICLES

- Manufacturer's warranty
- 30-day 2500 km no-hassle exchange privilege
- 150+ point inspection
- 24-hour roadside assistance
- \$500 student rebate for qualified buyers

## Markville

CHEVROLET • BUICK • GMC

5336 Hwy. 7, Markham  
**905-294-1440**  
Visit our 24 hour Showroom at  
www.markvillechevrolet.com