

Stouffville Sun-Tribune ■ www.yorkregion.com ■ Saturday, April 9, 2011 ■ 4
GOVERNMENT: Project under \$10.15-million budget

New town hall to open in July minus alternative energy

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has abandoned its plan to pursue being a provider of alternative energy at the new town hall.

In December, the town hall committee approved submitting an application to the Ontario government to participate in its Feed-In Tariff program, which would have the town install solar panels on its new building at 111 Sandiford Dr.

A review of the roof has revealed additional supports would be required in the roof

truss, according to Marc Pourvahidi, treasurer and director of finance for the town. One quote received by the town, estimated this work would cost about \$56,000, according to Mr. Pourvahidi's April 5 report to council.

ROOF REQUIRES WORK

If the town's application were to be approved by the government, an agreement would have to be completed within 10 days and be accompanied by a non-refundable \$18,000 security deposit.

This fee, combined with the approximately \$13,000 application fee and potential delay

in the project's delivery due to the additional work, made the rooftop installation of solar panels unattractive.

"While the (Feed-In Tariff) application does not limit the proposal exclusively to rooftop installation(s), there is limited space on the property to install solar panels without impacting the provision of on-site vehicle parking," Mr. Pourvahidi wrote in his report.

Another unattractive aspect to the project is that local electricity distributors have been overwhelmed with the amount of new electricity generated by third parties.

"As such, (the) Ontario Energy Board

(OEB) has now added the Acceptance of the LED as a new condition, before proceeding with any new venture. This measure was introduced because some property owners went ahead and invested in the solar power and/or wind generators only to find out later that the (local electricity distributors) cannot accept their electricity supply," Mr. Pourvahidi wrote.

The new town hall, which is projected to come in under its \$10.15-million budget at \$9,976,970 remains on schedule and is to be completed in the middle of this summer, with occupancy slated for July.

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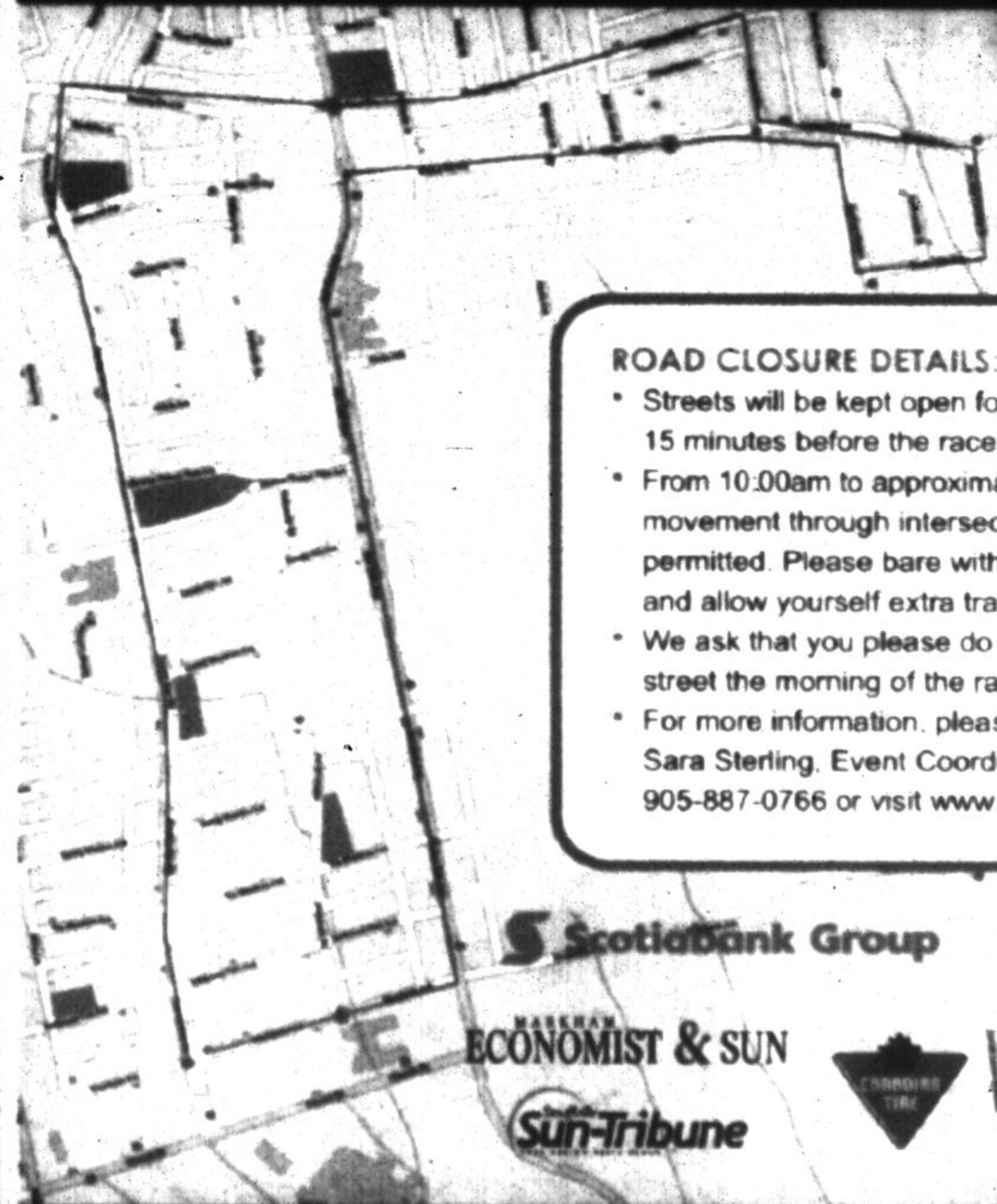
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Road Closures
Sunday, April 17



ROAD CLOSURE DETAILS:

- Streets will be kept open for traffic until 9:45am, 15 minutes before the race starts at 10:00am
- From 10:00am to approximately 10:45am, vehicular movement through intersections will not be permitted. Please bare with us for this duration and allow yourself extra travel time
- We ask that you please do not park on the street the morning of the race.
- For more information, please contact Sara Sterling, Event Coordinator at 905-887-0766 or visit www.mshlegacy5k.ca

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