

# Drive for homeless next for Stouffville Secondary student

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through June 10.

Imran's father, Riaz Bagha, is a chiropodist. Once the shoes are picked up, they will be brought to his office, Archeels Foot and Ankle Clinic on Hwy. 48 in northern Markham, where they will be sanitized and packaged before being shipped to Africa.

The Bagha family is picking up the \$2,000 bill to ship the shoes overseas.

*Imran hopes to hand out the shoes himself when he travels to Tanzania this summer.*

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The group has collected more than 100 pairs already.

You can donate shoes during the next three weeks at Stouffville Secondary, Oscar Peterson Public School,

the Lebovic Leisure Centre, Markham Village Shoes and Boots and Archeels Foot and Ankle Clinic. All still wearable shoes - no holes, please - will be accepted.

"While many people in Tanzania cannot afford even one pair of decent shoes, most of us here have more than we ever need," said Imran, who wants to pursue a career in medicine or human rights law.

He'll be back at SDSS next year with plans to run another shoe or a clothing drive for the homeless in Canada.

The empowered group also created Neon Day to raise awareness for discrimination and a door-decorating contest to bring cyber bullying to the attention of others.

"It's good that we're able to go global and send things to people halfway across the world," said Grade 12 student Aleena Dipede, who has obtained a scholarship through being a part of the group.

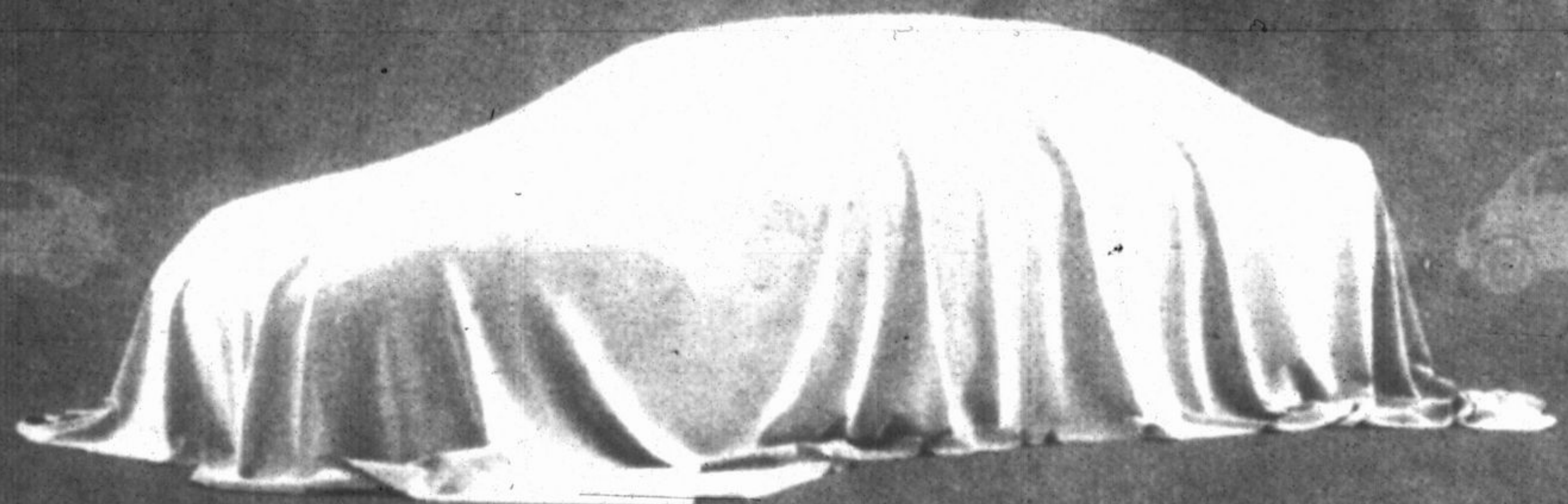
For more information on the shoe drive, e-mail [stomp.outpoverty@gmail.com](mailto:stomp.outpoverty@gmail.com) or call 905-640-1433 ext 4044.



PHOTO/STEPHANIE WEST

Chris Whitworth (from left) of York Regional Police, Stouffville Secondary students Stephanie Kotsopoulos, Imran Bagha, Kathryn Alexandrowich and Kelsey MacCallum and teacher Sandy Bush with shoes collected to date.

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