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WHITCHURCH STOUFFVILLE

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Fall 2011 + Winter 2012

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overnight and you don't know at what stage the business inquiry is," she said.

"We're not sitting on our hands. We're trying to do what we can to bring more business to town," Mayor Wayne Emmerson said in an interview.

So far this year, the town has received more than 20 potential business inquiries.

Of the top private sector employers within York Region last year, Teva Canada was the only Whitchurch-Stouffville company to make the list of 38 companies, with 600 employees.

Part of the problem, according to Ms Mustard, is that Whitchurch-Stouffville does not have a lot of pre-built facilities available, unlike some other municipalities.

"It can be more expensive to build," she said.

One business missing from Whitchurch-Stouffville is a major hotel, which is something the town has been wanting for the past few years.

Not only would it house hockey players and other athletes during tournaments, but also wedding guests and employees from out of town visiting companies such as Teva and Southwire Canada, Mr. Emmerson said.

When the town hosted the Ontario midget A hockey championships this year, teams, families and tournament officials stayed in Markham, where the tournament banquet was held.

Mr. Emmerson did note there has been interest in a hotel expressed from a couple of companies.

"It has a lot to do with development charges and price of land," he said.

Overall employment growth within Whitchurch-Stouffville in 2009-2010 was 1.5 per cent, which was just below the region's overall average of 1.9 per cent.

Whitchurch-Stouffville's share of the region's total employment is 2 per cent, which is just slightly ahead of Georgina, King Township and East Gwillimbury. Markham and Vaughan accounted for 68 per cent of the region's employment, according to the York Region Employment and Industry 2010 report.

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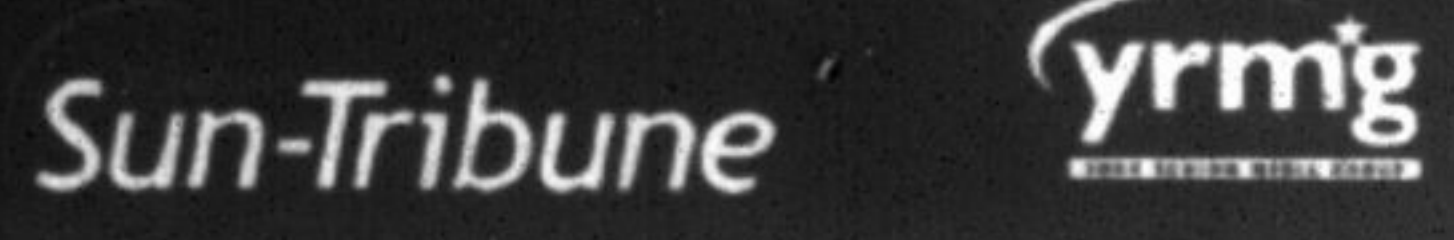
Markham's IBM Canada topped the list with 8,600 employees.

Other major employers within Whitchurch-Stouffville include Stock Transport, architectural and structural metals manufacturer Tam-Kal, the Walmart Supercentre, Parkview Home, Southwire and computer and communications equipment and supplies wholesaler/distributor Strategic Information Technology.

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