

**HAVE YOUR SAY,
STOUFFVILLE**

► What do you think of the issues of the day, Whitchurch-Stouffville? Share your thoughts. Send us a letter to the editor. E-mail jmason@yrmg.com

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You can nominate properties, Stouffville

Your votes won our Main St. a paint job

BY JIM MASON AND SANDRA BOLAN
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You're getting that facelift, Stouffville. Stouffville is one of 20 communities across North America that have been selected to receive revitalizations by Benjamin Moore in its 2013 Main Street Matters campaign. The winners were announced Monday. Nearly half a million votes and an outpouring of stories, viral videos and passionate pleas were registered on paintwhatmatters.com and paintwhatmatters.ca during the spring campaign.

Penticton, B.C. and Halifax, N.S. were the only other Canadian communities selected.

Each town will receive a revitalization package that includes exterior painting and supplies for façades, porches, railings, shutters and other exterior building trims for up to three blocks of downtown businesses. A Benjamin Moore colour expert will consult on colour choices.

Stouffville's area of eligibility is Main Street between Ninth Line and St. James Presbyterian Church.

Potential businesses will be chosen by a panel that includes the Downtown Stouffville Working Group, property owners, residents and town staff "to make sure we're doing it in a fair process", said Anna Rose, the town's downtown co-ordinator.

Permission will be required by the property owner.

"I don't think we're going to get any resistance," Ms Rose said.

"We're thrilled about the enthusiasm and

passion from local businesses and communities around for Main Street Matters," said David Melançon of Benjamin Moore & Co. "The incredible response is a testament to how strongly people feel for their community and we hope this movement continues to drive support for local businesses, as every Main Street has a story."

Throughout the six-week voting period, more than 130 communities took part.

Other towns selected for paint jobs included:

- Attleboro, Massachusetts
- Ellicott City, Maryland
- Flint, Michigan
- Greeley, Colorado
- Hawley, Pennsylvania
- Hilo, Hawaii
- Joplin, Missouri
- Macon, Georgia
- Martinez, California
- Nyack, New York
- Placerville, California
- Sanford, North Carolina
- Sea Bright, New Jersey
- Sheboygan, Wisconsin
- Texarkana, USA
- Westerly, Rhode Island
- Xenia, Ohio

Painting is to begin this summer and continue through early 2014.

For more information, go to paintwhatmatters.ca

To nominate a property, contact Anna Rose at Anna.Rose@townofws.ca or 905-640-0749

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