

# Barber hopes Stouffville Italian social club makes cut

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Un club sociale italiano potrebbe volgere al Stouffville.

(An Italian social club may be coming to Stouffville.)

Frank Frano, owner/operator of Main Street's Frank's and Son Barbershop is spearheading a Stouffville Italian Social Club information session Sept. 5, with the help of fellow Pisan and MP, Paul Calandra.

Mr. Calandra, who has been getting his hair cut at Frank's for about

four years, heard, over the years, Mr. Frano talk about wanting to create the club. So, while the House of Commons was adjourned this summer, Mr. Calandra decided to lend a hand.

Between the local phone book and his personal contacts, Mr. Calandra sent out roughly 800 notices regarding the meeting.

"Even 10 per cent would be wonderful," Mr. Frano said of the response he hopes to get.

The 2011 census revealed there are 640 Italian immigrants who

now call Whitchurch-Stouffville home. That is 1.72 per cent of the municipality's 37,210 population, at the time of the data collection, and 6.08 per cent of the then-immigrant population.

## LANGUAGE LESSONS

Mr. Frano, who was involved with the Caledonia Italian Club in Toronto for 20 years, wants the Stouffville version to be a not-for-profit in a location where people, Italian or not - "as long as (they) behave (themselves) in there" -

can come to watch soccer, drink espresso and play cards.

He said they may also hold monthly youth and adult dinner/dances as well as teach kids how to speak Italian, if that is what people want.

Next month's meeting will help flesh those things out.

"We listen. It's for everybody," Mr. Frano, 69, said.

There is an Italian social club in Unionville, but not everyone wants to drive there, according to Mr. Frano.

There is also one in Oak Ridges, Mr. Calandra said, which hosts dances, picnics and weekly card games. The members also get together once a year to make pasta sauce.

"People don't understand Stouffville has become a pretty diverse place, it's not just Italians," he said.

To RSVP for the meeting, which takes place at Mr. Calandra's office, 6060 Main St., from 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 5, call 905 640 1128.

# sign up

the registration guide

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