

OPINION



PUBLISHER Ian Proudfoot
GENERAL MANAGER John Willems

Stouffville
Sun-Tribune
6290 Main St.
Stouffville, ON, L4A 1G7
www.yorkregion.com

Sun-Tribune

905-640-2612
Fax 905-640-8778
Class 1-800-743-3353

DISTRIBUTION
905-294-8244

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Debora Kelly
dkelly@yrmg.com

DIRECTOR, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Robert Lazurko

DIRECTOR, REGIONAL PRODUCTS AND CLASSIFIED
Debra Weller

DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION
Jackie Smart

DIRECTOR, DISTRIBUTION
Tanya Pacheco

DIRECTOR, MARKETING AND SALES DEVELOPMENT
Gord Paolucci

Editor
Jim Mason
jmason@yrmg.com

Advertising Manager
Dave Williams
dwilliams@yrmg.com

Circulation Co-ordinator
Daphne Laurie
dlaurie@yrmg.com

York Region Media Group community newspapers

The Sun-Tribune, published every Thursday and Saturday, is a division of the Metroland Media Group Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Torstar Corporation.

Delivery issues?
For all your delivery inquiries, please contact
ycustomerservice@yrmg.com

LETTERS POLICY

All submissions must be less than 400 words and include a daytime telephone number, name and address. The Sun-Tribune reserves the right to publish or not publish and to edit for clarity and space. E-mail jmason@yrmg.com

Ontario Press Council
Canadian Circulation Audit Board
Member

SATURDAY FORUM

There's compelling case for transportation investment

There is no such thing as "free transportation". Addressing the unbearable congestion and commute times and giving more commuters a real reason to get out of their cars will cost taxpayers in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).

To be convinced it's worth it, we need to believe the benefits outweigh the extra costs to our pocketbooks.

There are six million of us in the GTHA and we can't lose sight of improving the options and experience for everyone, including the one in five residents who make the 2.4 million trips across a municipal boundary each day.

The province says it will introduce measures in its spring 2014 budget to raise funds specifically for the next wave of projects to better serve local and regional travellers alike. We, as residents, need to show politicians this is critically important and we're ready to see it happen.

The benefits of real investment are massive. Yet without dedicated sources of funding, projects in York Region are nothing more than pipe dreams.

There is so much at stake and to bring those stakes home, CivicAction is launching the next phase of its Your32 campaign.

Every day in November, CivicAction and its broad coalition of partners representing more than one million people from business, labour, academia and the non-profit sector are highlighting another reason why investing in transportation is critical for jobs, our health, environment, neighbourhoods and quality of life.

Among the "32 Reasons to Invest" during the next 20 years:

- tens of thousands of jobs;
- improving access to work, school and health care, especially for those who have no other choice than transit;
- reducing by 29 per cent carbon emissions each of us generates;
- reducing the millions of dollars lost as trucks idle in traffic;
- contributing to the value of build-

ings and property and;

- making the region more attractive for tourists, large employers and talented workers alike.



John Tory



Rob MacIsaac

As the province figures out how to deliver all of these benefits to residents, it must be accountable.

We need to see how the money is raised, where it gets spent and what it actually delivers.

How the government does this has the potential to inspire trust from the public. But a failure to do so will likely mean we never get consensus on investing in regional transportation.

We need specific new measures to safeguard our tax dollars and for those who say a better transportation network can be paid for by eliminating waste in government, let us see the list of specific cuts.

Your voice is needed to encourage rational proposals and break the cycle of political posturing. Go to your32.com to pick the reason to invest that matters to you and join the thousands of residents who have already pledged their support for new investment.

Our political leaders need to deliver a way to invest in better transportation for all GTHA residents.

Our brighter future depends on it.

John Tory is chairperson of CivicAction and Rob MacIsaac is president of Mohawk College and a member of the CivicAction board of directors and CivicAction regional transportation champions council

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Take a moment to remember soldiers

It will soon be time for me to, once again, join my comrades of the Newmarket Veterans to remember and honour the men and women who went forth to defend freedom. Our ranks are thinning and many are frail, but we still go on parade to pay homage to those who never returned.

When I was in the Royal Air Force, stationed in Germany in 1957, four of us one cold November day climbed into a car and drove 30 kilometres to a war cemetery where many Allied servicemen are buried.

We walked along the rows of the fallen and one really stayed with me 57 years later. I don't remember his name, but everything else about him I remember. He was 18 and of the lowest rank, aircraftsman second class, under training wireless operator.

The air force was so short of trained men it had to go to training bases to pull the best men out to make up the 100 aircrews it needed to bomb Berlin Aug. 25, 1940, in retaliation for bombing London.

This young man never made it back, along with the rest of his crew.

Last week, I was at a family gathering chatting to one of my grandsons. He is 18 and it made me think of that fellow in the grave and just how fortunate we are that young men lined up and laid down their lives that we might be free.

In 1939, my family and I were on the beach at Ramsgate, a popular seaside resort in the south of England, when the air raid siren went off.

My father told us to pick up our things because the Germans were coming. That is my earliest recollection of the Second World War. I was 4.

Please take a moment to remember on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month those people who had the courage to stand up and be counted.

ANTHONY OSBORNE
NEWMARKET

Studio artists grateful for support

Artists of the 13th annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Stu-

dio Tour wish to thank all of the visitors who came out to our studios Oct. 19 and 20.

It was very heart-warming to see our friends, neighbours and new visitors showing so much appreciation for our artwork.

It was a great pleasure to share our stories of inspiration and the resulting creative endeavours.

Thank you to all our sponsors who faithfully support us each year; you so graciously help make this event possible. We also are grateful for the coverage and promotion from the Stouffville Sun-Tribune.

To one and all, come see us again next year for our excitingly new work.

LIS SIMPSON
ON BEHALF OF THE
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
STUDIO TOUR,
MOUNT ALBERT

HAVE YOUR SAY, STOUFFVILLE

► What do you think of these issues or any others?
E-mail jmason@yrmg.com

REMEMBRANCE DAY'S ON MONDAY, AND MY GREAT GRANDFATHER DIED IN THE WAR. HE'S IN THIS BOOK ON WORLD WAR ELEVEN.



PAT WHEELER '13 SUN-TRIBUNE