

Seniors, arts mismanaged, candidate charges

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Whitchurch-Stouffville is no longer country close to the city. It's a growing community that has mismanaged its seniors and has a council that does not understand the arts, nor does it have a vision for what the future municipality should like, according to Ward 5 candidate Iain Lovatt.

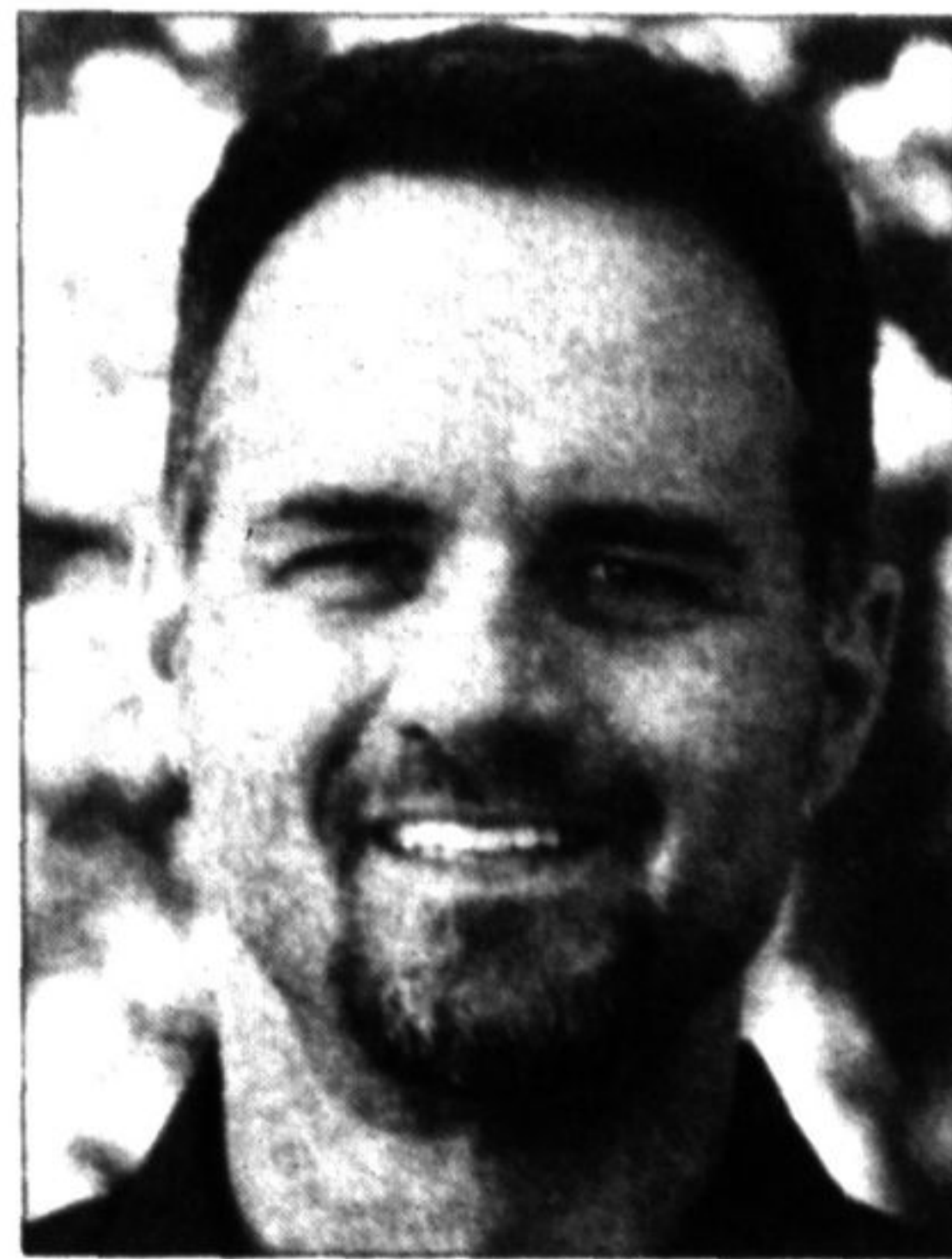
The 43-year-old director of marketing for Muskoka Woods camp is disappointed councillors keep deferring issues to the new regime. He also said it was very shortsighted of council to not even sit down with representatives of York University to discuss the potential of locating a satellite campus here.

"That would not have happened if I was on council," he said.

Mr. Lovatt, a married father of three living in Ward 5, is taking his second run at the council seat. He lost to incumbent Richard Bartley in 2010, which he admitted he knew would happen. Mr. Bartley is running for mayor this year.

"The town has changed over the last four years and I felt it was a great opportunity to build on the momentum I gained last time," Mr. Lovatt said of why he is running again.

The municipality needs economic



IAIN LOVATT: Ward 5 candidate says town should have met with York University about new campus.

development to go along with residential growth.

"I just don't see how they're going to do it," Mr. Lovatt said, adding, the 4,200 jobs a campus could have brought would have been perfect.

The Benjamin Moore paint project is "great, but it's not going to bring business into the downtown core."

Mr. Lovatt is in favour of the leisure centre/library expansion, but it's happening too late and it might not even

be large enough when done.

However, what's missing from the concept drawings, he said, is dedicated space for Whitchurch-Stouffville's youth. Using multipurpose space is "not good enough".

The next phase of residential growth is slated for Ward 5. Mr. Lovatt wants to ensure building permits are not pushed through too fast just so the municipality can collect the development charges.

The town might need another theatre. While Mr. Lovatt, a musician, likes the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park, it only holds 120 people and the ticket prices of \$30 to \$35 are too high.

"You haven't helped the arts' accessibility, butts in seats, by building a venue large enough."

As part of his platform to make council more accessible, Mr. Lovatt wants all meeting times moved to 7 p.m. They are currently split between 3 and 7 p.m. on Tuesdays.

He noted Whitchurch-Stouffville is a bedroom community and meetings should not be held at 3 p.m. "just because it's convenient for public officials."

Mr. Lovatt also wants council meetings webcasted because "body language is everything". Audio recordings began this year.

"If people choose not to listen, that's OK. It's like people have the right not to vote," he said.

If elected, when councillors vote, Mr. Lovatt will tweet out the results and who voted yeah or nay because it's the "next level of accountability".

Votes are currently not recorded unless requested by a member of council.

And speaking of social media, while Mr. Lovatt is a fan of it, he said it only works when you have a community of followers. He said the town's Twitter presence is ineffective because there are only 445 followers, while the population is more than 38,000.

When it comes to its impact during the election, Mr. Lovatt doesn't think it will make or break candidates not using it.

Mr. Lovatt's Twitter feed can be found at @stouffvillepol

Other candidates officially running for office are: Justin Altmann, Phil Bannon and Richard Bartley (mayor); Ken Ferdinands (Ward 1); Maurice Smith (Ward 2); Hugo T. Kroon (Ward 3); Rene de Vries (Ward 4); Michael Humphreys and Tom Winters (Ward 5); Rob Hargrave and Joanne Iannuzzi (Ward 6).

The election takes place Oct. 27.

For more information, go to www.townofws.ca/elections

CLYDE SMITH LEAVING COUNCIL

Clyde Smith is not seeking re-election to the Ward 3 seat he has held for 11 years.

After discussions with his wife, Mr. Smith concluded, "...it is time to move onto other things," he wrote in an e-mail to The Sun-Tribune this week.

Mr. Smith made the announcement now, so anyone interested in running for the Ward 3 seat will have time to put a campaign together.

"My hope is that at least a couple of people may choose to run," he wrote. "Two or more people knocking on doors to discuss issues and get people interested in voting would be a good thing."

So far, only Hugo T. Kroon has filed nomination papers to run in Ward 3, in southwestern Whitchurch-Stouffville. The ward takes in Gormley and Preston Lake.

Mr. Kroon lost to Mr. Smith in 2010 by 24 votes.

Susanne Hilton is the only sitting member of council to not publicly state her intention for the upcoming municipal election. She is the ward 4 councillor.

Mrs. Hilton has not responded to requests from The Sun-Tribune regarding her election intentions.

- Sandra Bolan

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\$260,000	\$987.23	\$455.65
\$280,000	\$1,063.17	\$490.70
\$300,000	\$1,139.11	\$525.74
\$320,000	\$1,215.05	\$560.79
\$340,000	\$1,290.99	\$595.84
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NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

York Region West Nile Virus Mosquito Control Program:



From May 12, 2014 to October 3, 2014, the Regional Municipality of York in conjunction with the York Region District School Board and York Catholic District School Board will be conducting a larvicide program under the authority of the Medical Officer of Health. The purpose of the program is to control larval mosquitoes to prevent their development into carriers of West Nile virus.

The pellet formulation of the larvicide methoprene (product name Altosid) with Registration No. 21809, Altosid XR briquets (methoprene) with Registration No. 27694, or Bacillus sphaericus (product name VectoLex WSP) with Registration No. 28009 under the Pest Control Products Act will be placed into catch basins along Regional and Municipal Roads and in catch basins on private property as required.

In addition, the biological larvicide Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis (product name Vectobac), with Registration No. 18158 or VectoLex CG Registration No. 28008 under the Pest Control Products Act may be placed in ditches and temporary or permanent pools including storm water retention ponds if evidence of mosquito breeding is found.

All larvicide will be applied by Ministry of the Environment licensed applicators or trained technicians.

Larviciding is a low risk and effective measure for the control of West Nile virus when used in accordance with label directions. The slow-release pellet formulation interferes with the mosquito life cycle, preventing the mosquito larvae from reaching maturity. It is not sprayed. The products have been approved by both the provincial and federal governments and are considered low risk for humans, pets and the environment.

For exact locations and dates of larvicide treatment contact: York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933
York Region District School Board at 1-800-268-1660 or visit www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Healthy/Pages/Health-Issues.aspx
York Catholic District School Board 1-800-363-2711 or visit www.ycdsb.ca

Prevention and protection are the best ways to protect yourself and your family from West Nile virus. For simple and common sense precautions that should be taken, contact York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653, TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca/westnile

