

Aurora, Stouffville libraries strike deal

Haven't found that rare book after a thorough inspection of every shelf in the library? It might just be on a shelf in Aurora.

With Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library's new reciprocal borrowing agreement, residents will be able to borrow books from the Aurora Public Library, effective March 1.

Aurora joins East Gwillimbury, Georgina, King

Township, Markham, Newmarket, Pickering and Uxbridge in the list of libraries that maintain borrowing agreements with Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"The Northern Six libraries and municipalities have embarked on several initiatives in a spirit of collaboration and co-operation for the benefit of all," said WSP library CEO Carolyn Nordheimer James.

In the release, Nordheimer James also said the agreement between Whitchurch-Stouffville and Aurora was "certainly another positive step in this direction."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Does sleep trump safety?

Re: Town stopping GO trains from using whistles, March 17.

Many commuters have been using Stouffville GO train service daily ever since it opened in 1982.

It is a great service that allows users to travel into the city without having to worry about parking. Reading the story, I immediately thought that this whistle is used as a warning to insure safety.

Were they installed for a reason? Apparently not, because the shrieking sound of the whistle is an unpleasant wakeup call irritating the morning folks' last few minutes of sleep.

I don't enjoy the sound of an alarm clock any more than the next person. I would much rather spend an extra moment cozy in bed.

Were the residents happy with their property when they moved in? Did they not notice a railroad track? Was it a dream? The article states, "Residents of South Stouffville will soon be able to rest easy and be assured they will not be woken up by loud train whistles," Mayor Justin Altmann said.

So why is it that this part of town, Hoover Park and Reeves Way Boulevard is so different from the Main Street crossing that has listened to a whistle for years?

Railroad crossings are built with red flashing lights, reflecting Xs, and bars that come down to protect the citizens. Attention is often somewhere else when something tragic happens.

It just doesn't make sense to take away a key component of safety because it is too loud. That is the point: what happens when someone dies because they didn't hear a train coming, will they bring the whistles back then?

Hope you sleep well.

HARLEY JOHNSON
STOUFFVILLE

Think more nationally

Predictably the media – from print to TV – are asking Canadians to consider what the budget means to them as individual taxpayers.

Let's not forget that this is a federal budget with vast, national implications.

To paraphrase J. F. Kennedy's famous saying, we should be asking what the budget will do for our country, rather than what it will do for us as individuals.

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