Who do you think should be Whitchurch-Stouffville's 2016 Citizen of the Year?

Nominations are open for this year's award.

We are looking for a person or organization who:

- makes our community a better place to live, work and play
- is involved to benefit more than his or her family or business
- sets a positive example for others in the community

DEADLINE JUNE 10, 2016

Nominations should include nominee's detailed resume and letters of support.

e-mail: jmason@yrmg.com

Include "Stouffville Awards" in subject line

Mail or hand deliver to: Stouffville Sun-Tribune 6290 Main St. Stouffville, Ont. L4A 1G7

Attention: Jim Mason For more information call **905-640-2612 ext. 23** Award to be presented during the opening of the **32nd Annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival**

Sponsored by: Stouffville Tribune

Indian guest at Stouffville church event

he end of the month of May means that summer is quickly approaching and the school year will soon be ending.

I enjoy this time of the year because our community is always filled with activity and I get to see so many of you when I am out and about.

I participated in quite a few community events last month and I wanted to share some of these highlights with you.

On May 3, I participated in the official opening of Fred Varley Public School in Markham. I'd like to thank Principal Lori Hall for inviting me to such a wonderful event.

I'm pleased that our government helped make this special day possible by investing more than \$12 million in the construction of this new school.

As we have about two mil-

lion students in our publicly-funded schools across the province, it is important for these students to have space and equipment for them to learn and grow.

In fact, the Government of Ontario is providing school boards across the province with more than \$11 billion over 10 years to help build new schools in areas of high growth (like ours!), improve the condition of existing schools, and invest in projects to consolidate space where that's appropriate. Since 2003 funding for schools in our community of Oak Ridges – Markham has increased by \$1.1 billion, which represents an increase of 97 per cent, and we have built, retrofitted, consolidated and expanded more than 30 schools.

That evening, I also had the pleasure of attending and speaking at the "Fashion-Able Gala" hosted by Participation House, Markham, in support of there "Let's Build a

Van Campaign."

I was particularly delighted to see the generosity of so many individuals and local community businesses supporting such a great cause.

For the past 30 years, the Canadian Mar Thoma Church in Markham has played an important role in our community, making positive contributions and being an important part of our multi-cultural mosaic.

n On May 7, I was honoured to attend the official cornerstone laying for the new Canadian Mar

Thoma Church in Stouffville. I would like to thank Most Rev. Dr. Joseph

Mar Thoma, the Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church for coming from Kerala, India, to officiate the ceremony and Rev. Shibu Samuel and Matthew Varughese for inviting me to attend.

As always, if you require assistance with any provincial matter feel free to call or email my office at 905-294-4931 or hjaczek.mpp. co@liberal.ola.org.

Funding to our health care system will increase by over \$1 billion this year.

Investing in new and better ways for all Ontarians to get the care they need means:

- 700 new doctors and specialists
- 35 hospitals currently being renewed, modernized or expanded
- \$250 million invested in home and community care
- \$345 million invested to improve wait times and access to care

These investments ensure a strong health care system for both today and tomorrow.



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Paid for by the Government of Ontario

MPP Helena Jaczek Oak Ridges-Markham