

# Roofers set \$400,000 fire

BY ALI RAZA  
aliraza@yrmg.com

A home in rural Whitchurch-Stouffville suffered approximately \$400,000 in damage in a fire Monday night.

The two-storey home at 5288 Bethesda Rd. E. had flames shooting through the roof of the home, witnesses told The Sun-Tribune. Smoke could be seen for several kilometres from the scene, just east of Hwy 48.

"It looks like it's done some heavy damage," said Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire and Emergency Services Chief Rob McKenzie. "Looks like the house is probably pretty much a write-off."

The house was under renovation at the time with contractors on-site doing work. The fire started when a contractor was trying to seal a roof membrane and accidentally set fire to the roof.

No injuries were reported. The contractor alerted a nanny who immediately evacuated the house with a baby. The homeowners were not home.

The size and scale of the fire was particularly challenging for Whitchurch-Stouffville firefighters.

"It's in an area of town where there's no fire hydrants," McKenzie said. "We had to shuttle water in from our tankers and ask for help under the mutual aid system."

*'Looks like the house is probably pretty much a write-off.'*

"We got tanker trucks from Markham, Richmond Hill and Central York (Aurora and Newmarket). It was a little bigger than we're normally used to," he added.

The fire department has passed its damage assessment to the insurance company to determine whether the house will be repaired or torn down.

In March, a repairman tried to put out a fire he accidentally started in a home at Blair Road and Dorman Drive in east-end Stouffville.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Fire caused extensive damage to a home being renovated on Bethesda Road Monday night. Contractors were on-site doing work when the fire started, the fire chief said.

## Some YRT/Viva bus fares jump July 1

While cash fares will remain unchanged, others riding YRT/Viva transit will start paying more to ride the bus beginning Canada Day.

Fares for PRESTO cards, monthly passes and tickets will increase by about 2 per cent as of July 1.

For example, an adult ticket will go to \$3.50, up from \$3.40. A student ticket will increase to \$2.70, up from \$2.60.

A seniors/child ticket will be bumped up to \$2.20, up from \$2.10. An adult pass will climb to \$140, up from \$136. A student pass will increase to \$105, up from \$102. A seniors/child pass will go to \$59, up from \$57.

Bright, high quality, commercial space for rent.  
Is your business expanding, moving to Uxbridge or outgrowing your home? Consider joining our wonderful family of businesses at **Technology Square** (north side of Uxbridge).  
Call 416-717-1202

## NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

WATER FOR BALLANTRAE - LONG-TERM WATER SUPPLY CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

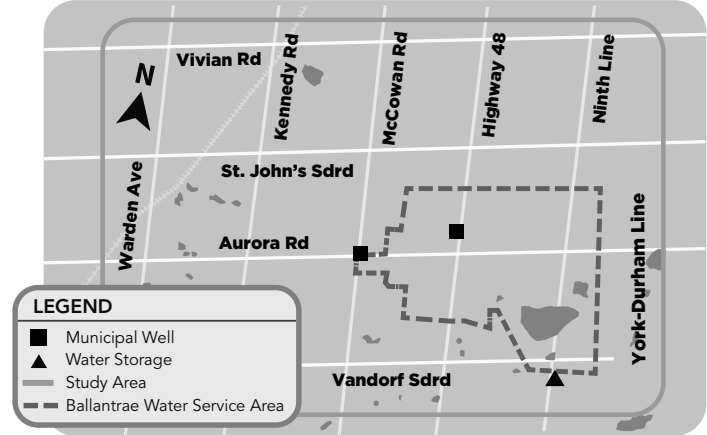
IMPROVEMENTS ARE COMING. LEARN MORE!

York Region has initiated a Schedule 'B' Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) study under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment to better understand if the existing water supply and storage capacity in the Ballantrae-Musselman Lake area will meet the long-term water needs of the community.

In addition, the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Official Plan Amendment No. 136 is currently under review for approval with The Regional Municipality of York (York Region). Servicing future population growth in the Ballantrae-Musselman Lake area contemplated by Amendment No. 136, may require an increase in water supply and storage capacity.

The Study Area and Municipal Water Service Area for this project are shown to the right:

Consultation with and input from the public and government review agencies will be a key component of the Class EA study. Public Consultation Centres (PCCs) will be scheduled this fall to provide further details, answer questions regarding the project and provide an opportunity for residents to provide feedback.



For further information, questions, to submit a comment, or to be added to the mailing list, please contact:

**The Regional Municipality of York**  
17250 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, Ontario, Canada  
L3Y 6Z1

**Shivan Narine, P.Eng., P.M.P.**  
Senior Project Manager  
1-877-464-9675 ext. 75370  
BallantraeWater@york.ca

**Lori Bowers**  
Communications & Community Engagement Specialist  
1-877-464-9675 ext. 75502  
Lori.Bowers@york.ca

Personal information submitted (e.g., name, address and phone number) is collected, maintained and disclosed under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for transparency and consultation purposes. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public, unless you request that your personal information remain confidential.