

Meet the contestants in the Schomberg Idol competition

The hunt is on for the first Schomberg Idol.

The Schomberg Agricultural Society, in co-operation with Arcadia Academy of Music in Nobleton, is sponsoring the contest, which is aimed at promoting community pride and involvement, cultural

environment, youth involvement and youth opportunity.

Andrea Kollo, who is organizing the contest, said the first event will be March 3 at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Schomberg, at which all 13 contestants will be appearing.



Sarah Forestieri

Sarah is studying Grade 4 Conservatory. She has placed first at the Peel Music Festival and the Newmarket Lions Festival; and second at the Arcadia FunFest. Sarah performs at concerts and is a member of her school choir.



Jeffrey Byron Lean

Jeffrey was the musical lead in the Pied Piper and has come in first in 2004 and 2005 at the Alliston Arts Festival. He received Gold and Silver in 2006 at the Lions Arts Festival and was the vocal finalist in 2006 at the Celebration of Arts Newmarket Theatre.



Michala Todd

Michala is in her fourth year training vocally at the Modern Conservatory of Music in Alliston. She has sung at: bluegrass festivals and senior citizen events, and has participated in many competitions and local theatre. She appeared in Bye Bye Birdie and Dig It.

After that, work will start on whittling down the field at subsequent events. They will be April 14 at Kitchen-Breedon Manor in Schomberg and May 21 at the Victoria Day celebrations in Nobleton. The finale of the competition will be at Schomberg Fair later in May.

The winner of the Schomberg Idol will also have the opportunity to represent Schomberg Agricultural Society at local fairs and events throughout the coming year.

The Sentinel will be introducing the contestants in its February editions, with the first three being presented today.

Recommended tax increase is still too high for council

From page 1

was the way to go, which enabled staff to put forth recommendations that, if accepted by council, would increase taxes by a little less than six per cent.

That will just account for the Township's share of the property tax bill. King collects the taxes for itself, as well as York Region and the two local school boards. Township Treasurer Don Young had previously reported that last year King only kept 30.24 per cent of the taxes it collected. Of the rest, 42.16 per cent went to the Region and the remaining 27.6 per cent went to education. Regional council received its first presentation on its budget late last month. At that point, they were looking at a 5.3 per cent increase

Somerville stressed the proposals are still "subject to political input," meaning input from council.

There were hopes expressed from councillors that the tax hike won't be that great.

"We might be able to shave a little bit of that," Mayor Margaret Black remarked.

She did express a desire during the meeting that the road debentures should be taken for 20 years. Director of Operations Jody La

Plante reported this work on the roads should last between 20 and 25 years, and Black thought aiming a debenture term along those lines would be good policy.

Other councillors were hoping for a lower increase too.

"I'd like to see it reduced a little bit further, but I don't see how it's going to be done," Councillor Jane Underhill remarked.

"My personal thought is 5.99 is a little bit high," commented Councillor Jeff Laidlaw, although he added he still hasn't seen all the details.

Councillor Linda Pabst agreed more information is needed, although she seemed pleased with what was presented Monday. "It's getting closer to where it should be," she said.

"It still seems like a lot," remarked Councillor Cleve Mortelliti.

Somerville had said the road debenture costs would not come on this year's tax bill, but starting in 2008, and each \$100,000 in spending amounts to approximately one per cent of taxes. Mortelliti said that will mean three or four per cent per annually for the next several years, added to whatever other tax increases go through. With almost six per cent being discussed now, he wondered if King

taxpayers could be looking at nine per cent increases in a couple of years.

"I think when we go line-by-line, we're going to achieve something closer to the rate of inflation," commented Councillor Bill Cober, "and that's what our target should be; cost of living."

"I, as a taxpayer, only brought home about three per cent more last year," he added. "That's fairly common across the private sector."

"And there will be things that we have to say 'no' to," Cober observed, adding that will be a tough message to deliver to constituents and Township staff. "We can't afford it all."

The capital proposals call for \$20.955 million in spending, but Somerville said the good news is a little more than \$990,000 of that is to be funded by taxes. The other roughly \$18.8 million would come from such sources as reserves, grants, debentures, etc.

In his covering report to council, somerville said there were no specific recommendations regarding storm sewers or repairing ditches in King City. He said that will require political discussions and decisions. Black said they need more information of the costs and engineering issues.



Durham/York Residual Waste Study

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)-605-2007

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Durham/York Regional Waste Study is requesting Expressions of Interest to identify potential sites for a proposed new Thermal Waste Treatment Facility for The Regional Municipalities of Durham and York. The project is proceeding under Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act.

Further information about the Durham/York Residual Waste Study may be obtained through the Study's website: www.durhamyorkwaste.ca.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST, in sealed envelopes, will be received by the Regional Clerk, Region of Durham, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario, until 2:00 p.m. local time on

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2007

The REOI documents will be available on Friday, February 9, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. on the Region of Durham's website www.region.durham.on.ca/purchasing or by attending one of the information sessions noted below:

Information Session #1:
Wednesday February 14th, 2007,
3 to 6 p.m.
Durham Regional Headquarters
Room CLK-1B
Lower Level of Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby ON L1N 6A3
905-668-7711, ext. 2843

Information Session #2:
Thursday February 15th, 2007,
3 to 6 p.m.
York Region Waste Management Centre
Education Room
100 Garfield Wright Boulevard
East Gwillimbury, ON L0G 1V0
905-830-4444, ext. 5724

Attendance at either Information Session is optional.

Written or faxed requests for clarification should be submitted in writing or by fax to the attention of: Bob Gallant, Purchasing Supervisor, Region of Durham Finance Department, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario, L1N 6A3. (Fax: 905-666-6210). All requests should be identified as "Request for Clarification, REOI-605-2007".

Project Manager: David Payne, P.Eng., MacViro Consultants Inc.
Email: dpayne@macviro.com Fax: 905-475-5994

NOTE that the Regional Municipalities of Durham and York reserve the right, at their sole discretion to decide whether to proceed beyond the Expression of Interest stage.

ROGER ANDERSON
Regional Chair
Durham Region

BILL FISCH
Regional Chair and CEO
York Region

Durham Region Finance Department

605 Rossland Road East, 4th Floor, WHITBY ON L1N 6A3
Telephone (905) 668-7711
www.region.durham.on.ca

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Meeting on heritage designation in Kettleby Tuesday

Progress is being made in the work to create a heritage conservation district plan for Kettleby, and the public will be updated on that this coming Tuesday (Feb. 13).

Township planners reported last week the meeting is set to run from 7 until 9 p.m. at the hall at Christ Church on Kettleby Road.

The Township has been looking at developing such a plan for the hamlet, and there was an introductory public meeting in July. Consultants have been working on it, and councillors are scheduled to receive a report when they meet Feb. 26.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

for the
SCHOMBERG COMMUNITY AND AGRICULTURAL ARENA

to be held
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8TH, 2007 AT 7:00 P.M.

in the Arena Auditorium
Everyone welcome to attend!