

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

**REPORT NO. 2
OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND WORKS**

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on April 19, 2007**

**1
NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK 2007**

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council recognize the week of May 20 to 26, 2007 as National Public Works Week.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is twofold, to:

- Request recognition during National Public Works Week 2007, of the contributions made by Transportation and Works staff to the health, safety, comfort and quality of life of Regional residents.
- Provide an overview of the Department's planned activities during this celebratory week.

3. BACKGROUND

National Public Works Week was instituted in 1960 by the American Public Works Association (APWA) as a public education campaign. It is observed each year by the Canadian and Ontario Public Works Associations (CPWA/OPWA) during the same week as their American counterparts; the third full week of May. By coordinating and participating in events, it provides an opportunity to promote an awareness of the

importance of public works in community life and the efforts of Transportation and Works staff.

In 2006, York Region's Transportation and Works Department won the Ontario Public Works Association's 'Bruce Brunton' Award for excellence in their program and calendar of events for National Public Works Week.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

This year National Public Works Week is from May 20 to 26, and the international theme for 2007 is "Public Works: Moving Life Forward". The following is the proposed schedule of events.

4.1 Grade 5 Classes Vie for "Pylon Pete" Trophy

We are hosting a plow painting contest for school children. Regional staff will deliver a clean, newly-refreshed plow by flat-bed truck to participating schools. We will provide paint in a variety of colours. Students may use their creativity, but the painting must have a **Public Works Theme**. The plows will be picked up and placed on display at our Bales Drive facility. During the Department's National Public Works Week Open House on Saturday May 26, 2007, everyone attending will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite plow. Students are encouraged to come and bring their families to vote on their design. The plow with the most votes will be the first to win the "Pylon Pete" trophy which will stay at their school for the year. As well, there will be a prize package for the class.

We anticipate this to be an annual event with the trophy being passed from school to school.

4.2 School Tours – All Week

Every day of National Public Works Week (except Victoria Day), two schools per day will be touring the Department's facilities hosted by Transportation and Works staff. The tours are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday, May 22 – Roads Transportation is hosting tours of its Operation Centre at 90 Bales Drive.
- Wednesday, May 23 – Water and Wastewater is hosting tours of the Georgina Water Treatment Plant and the Sutton Water Pollution Plant.
- Thursday, May 24 – Solid Waste Management is hosting visits to the Waste Management Centre.
- Friday, May 25 – Transit is hosting trips, while advising the benefits of transit use, to the Regional forest for tours and educational discussions.

4.3 Staff Presentations to Grade 10 'Careers' Classes – All Week

Department staff have volunteered to make presentations to grade 10 careers classes during National Public Works Week. This is an opportunity to give high school students an insight to the variety of Public Works careers available to them. It also allows us to promote the Region and public works fields, hopefully ensuring future generations of Regional staff. Human Resources and Transportation and Works staff have worked together to prepare a PowerPoint presentation. All our volunteers will give the same presentation, and then speak about their own position/field, why they chose it, closing with questions from the students.

This is a new venture this year. After these pilot sessions, we will meet with both HR and school staff to evaluate whether this project will be continued on an annual basis.

4.4 Participation in Public Works Challenge – Wednesday, May 23, 2007

The Town of Richmond Hill is once again hosting the municipal challenge. This event features a friendly competition among the Mayors of the various municipalities and the Regional Chair.

The Town also holds a skills competition between staff teams from all ten municipalities (nine local and one Regional). The challenge is made up of a backhoe/ball event, a five-ton event, a one-ton event and a water event. Each municipality is represented by a team of four and once again, the Region will enter a team in this exciting event, competing for the 'Miller Cup', on Wednesday, May 23, 2007.

These events are well-known to staff, politicians and media alike and are always well received.

4.5 Staff Appreciation Meeting and Luncheon – Thursday, May 24, 2007

We are organizing a staff meeting and appreciation lunch to ensure all Transportation and Works personnel are recognized for their important efforts and responsibilities.

4.6 Transportation and Works Open Houses – Saturday, May 26, 2007

The Transportation and Works Department will host Open Houses on the Saturday of National Public Works Week from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (*See Attachment 1*). Three of our operational locations, namely; the Waste Management Centre located at 100 Garfield Wright Blvd., the Operations Centre located at 90 Bales Drive East and the YRT/Viva Centre at 18106 Yonge Street (*See Attachment 2*) will open their doors to the public. This event will consist of the following:

- Vehicles and equipment
- Tours
- York Region Transit interactive display and VIVA information
- Forestry display
- Water for Tomorrow display
- Solid Waste Management video and interactive display

- Traffic safety and pedestrian signs – plus an educational component
- Water and Wastewater display
- Distributing a children’s Public Works Activity Booklet
- Light refreshments

This event could not be held without our Department volunteers who come out to man the displays, show participants how the equipment performs, answer the many questions from young and old and don the new costume of the Transportation and Works National Public Works Week mascot, “Pylon Pete”.

4.7 Relationship to Vision 2026

The Transportation and Works Department supports the Vision 2026 goal of Infrastructure for a Growing Region - to provide effective, efficient and environmentally sensitive transportation, waste management and water systems.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the Department’s participation in National Public Works Week have been included in the approved Transportation and Works 2007 budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Some of our local municipalities are hosting public events throughout National Public Works Week. At the time of writing, Regional staff are participating in the following municipal events:

6.1 Town of Richmond Hill

The Town is hosting its annual Open House on Saturday, May 26 at its Operations facility with displays, interactive events and a Bar-B-Que. Water for Tomorrow and the Health Department have been invited to attend.

6.2 City of Vaughan

The City is planning a “National Public Works Week Day” on Saturday, May 26 inviting our Water for Tomorrow and Solid Waste Management staff to participate.

7. CONCLUSION

The Transportation and Works Department is participating in both Regional and local municipal events scheduled during National Public Works Week (May 20 to 26, 2007). National Public Works Week recognition will raise the public’s awareness of

transportation and works issues and increase confidence in public works employees who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations.

For more information on this report, contact Bonnie Alexander, Projects Assistant, Commissioner's Office at extension 5026 in the Transportation and Works Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachments referred to in this clause are attached to this report.)

Respectfully submitted,

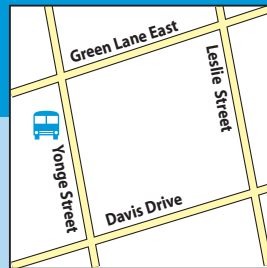
**April 12, 2007
Newmarket, Ontario**







**B. Macgregor
Commissioner of
Transportation and Works**

(Report No. 2 of the Commissioner Transportation and Works was adopted, without amendment, by Regional Council at its meeting held on April 19, 2007.)

TRANSIT

YRT/Viva
18106 Yonge Street,
Newmarket



-  Check out the Kid's Craft Corner
-  Tour the 60' articulated Viva bus
-  Tour the bus maintenance depot
-  Take a ride on a bus through the bus wash
-  Have your child's picture taken in the "Driver's Seat"
-  Ask the "Fare Enforcement Constables" any questions



For more information on
National Public Works Week
please contact Bonnie Alexander at
905-830-4444, or toll free at 1-877-464-9675, ext. 5026
or visit us online at www.york.ca



You are invited to join York Region's
Transportation and Works Department
Saturday, May 26

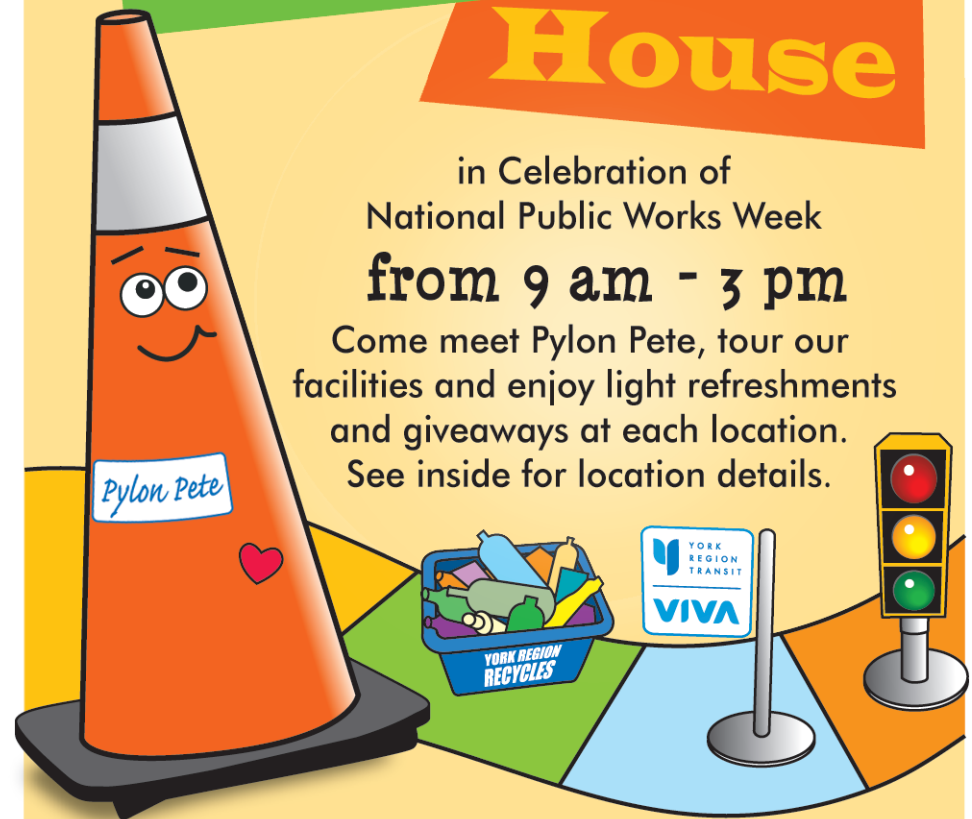
for a **FAMILY FUN DAY**

OPEN

House

in Celebration of
National Public Works Week
from 9 am - 3 pm

Come meet Pylon Pete, tour our facilities and enjoy light refreshments and giveaways at each location.
See inside for location details.

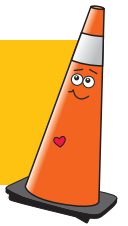


National Public Works Week
May 20-26, 2007



Tour these facilities:

Family Fun Day - OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, May 26, 2007



OPERATIONS CENTRE

90 Bales Drive East,
East Gwillimbury

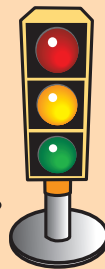


Inside Activities:

- ◆ **Tour** the garage and maintenance facility
- every hour on the hour
- ◆ **Listen** to the traffic signal demonstrations
- ◆ Kids - come **build** a sign in our sign shop
- ◆ **Check out** our displays - greening/forestry,
traffic safety, water for tomorrow
- free landscape audit info

Outside Activities:

- ◆ **Hop in** trucks and maintenance
vehicles
- ◆ **Ask** questions of our licensed operators
- ◆ **Check out** the historic police vehicles
- dating back to 1953!!



WASTE MANAGEMENT

100 Garfield Wright Blvd.,
East Gwillimbury



Inside Activities:

- 🍃 **Attend** a guided tour of York Region's
Waste Management Centre
- No strollers or open-toed shoes permitted
- Children must be accompanied by an adult
- 🍃 **View** the Waste Management Centre video
in the training room
- 🍃 **Kids!** Build your own creative work
of art from recyclable materials



Outside Activities:

- 🍃 **Explore** our garbage & recycling trucks
- 🍃 **Bring your:**
 - Reusable household goods to the Goodwill trailer
 - Used renovation/construction items for Habitat for Humanity
 - Shredded paper for recycling



Create Your Own Nutrient-Rich Compost

Bring this coupon to the Waste Management Centre on
Saturday, May 26 between 9 am and 3 pm and purchase a
Backyard Composter for only **\$10.00**. Regular price \$30.00

