

Friday, April 23, 2010

For Immediate Release

## **Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and York Region open new Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station**

**Stouffville** – The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and The Regional Municipality of York officially celebrated the opening of the new Fire Station 51 for Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire and Emergency Services and new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station at 100 Weldon Road, Stouffville today.



“This is a significant milestone and achievement for our community,” said Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson. “The new Fire Station/EMS facility has been designed to meet the Town’s long term needs – the previous Station 51 served us for 50 years and our new facility will serve us well for 50 plus years.”

“I am delighted to witness the official opening of this state-of-the-art station,” said Paul Calandra, Member of Parliament for Oak Ridges-Markham. “The hard work of firefighters and paramedics is vitally important to our community, as we count on them to be first on the front lines of an emergency. The federal government was pleased to have had a role in providing a grant for the project for the Emergency Power Back-up for the Emergency Operations Centre.”

The new Station 51 replaces the former Main Street station. The total area is 18,795 sq ft which includes 2,168 sq ft of space for York Region Emergency Medical Services. The building was designed to meet the current and future needs of the community. Its architectural features reflect the heritage of the Town, as well as the history of the Stouffville Volunteer Firefighter Brigade, who have served the community for over 100 years. The bell from the roof of former Station 51 has been moved to its new home on Weldon Road.

“I am pleased that my constituents in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will have access to a state of the art Emergency Service facility”, said Dr. Helena Jaczek, MPP, Oak Ridges-Markham. “This facility clearly demonstrates how different levels of government can make a difference to meet the growing needs of our communities.”

“York Region EMS is known for its commitment for serving the community,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. “By combining EMS and Fire Services under one roof, we are creating an even stronger network of emergency responders ready to meet the needs of residents.”

... Continued on Page 2

The new station will feature a plaque in the Heritage Area, recognizing Walter Smith for his long-time service as a Volunteer Fire Chief and as the first full-time Chief of the Stouffville Fire Department.

“We couldn’t be more pleased with this new station” said Fire Chief Chris Powers. “The design and functionality incorporated in the building ensures that residents will be well served both today and in the future. We have had many very favourable comments from both residents and visitors on how impressive this station is and how well it represents the heritage of our community.”

The new Fire Station 51 and York Region EMS station:

- Meets both the current and long term needs of the Town.
- Allows 24/7 service which results in better insurance rates for the Town and for residents.
- Will function as an Emergency Operations Centre utilizing an emergency generator which provides back up power to the Fire Station and the EMS station.
- Is environmentally sustainable, featuring a Heat Recovery System, High Efficiency Lighting, Recycled Steel content and Natural Daylighting.

For more information on The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, please visit [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com)

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

- 30 -

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