

# Go Transit revitalizes rail safety in Simcoe County

GO Transit and safety professionals from Simcoe County will educate the community tomorrow (Thursday) on all aspects of safe all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and snowmobile operation, during the first day of the Royal Distributing tent sale.

The Reduce the Risk event started Sept. 20th at

the Royal Distributing Outlet, 1954 Commerce Park Dr., in Innisfil, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

GO Transit representatives will be on hand to answer community questions and provide information about the dangers associated with operating ATVs and motorized snow vehicles on railway tracks and

trespassing on railway property.

The event is primarily targeted toward recreational vehicle users in South Simcoe, who may not realize that trains will soon begin travelling in the area again.

"As part of GO's planning for the return of rail

service to Barrie, we are partnering with South Simcoe Police and local interest groups to promote railway safety in the community," said Steve Harvey, System Safety Officer, GO Transit. "Working together through education and enforcement campaigns, we can increase community awareness for residents of

all ages, creating a safer environment for everyone."

Other local community groups participating in the event include the Ontario Ministry of Transportation; Innisfil Fire and Rescue; Ontario Provincial Police Snowmobile-ATV-Vessel Enforcement (SAVE) Team; Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit; Simcoe County

Forests; Town of Innisfil; Bonsecour Track & Trail, and Think Clear. The event is supported by Tim Hortons.

Starting tomorrow, Royal Distributing will be holding its annual 10-day tent sale on equipment and merchandise. The retailer expects upwards of 1,000 people on the first day.

## Dollin to chair Source Water protection group

By Rowan Lomas

Cookstown councillor Lynn Dollin is on a mission to protect drinking water from Georgian Bay to Lake Simcoe, and all watersheds between.

Ontario Environment Minister Laurel Broten appointed Dollin to chair the South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Watershed Region Source Water Protection Committee Aug. 20. In short, she will be responsible for overseeing the development of a plan to ensure safe drinking water in the region, which spans over 10,000 square kilometres, from the Oak Ridges Moraine in the

south to the Canadian Shield in the north.

"It is a committee that covers four watersheds in our region. Lake Simcoe, Nottawasaga Valley, Severn Sound and Black-Seyvern," Dollin told The Scope. "My job as chair will be to come up with a plan to protect drinking water."

Dollin is to lead a 21-member committee, which will include representatives from municipalities, business, agriculture, environmental groups and the community at large. Over the next five years the team will set out to improve the government's understand-

ing of water resources, provide stakeholders with the technical information required for better planning, identify potential risks and how to counter them and implement those ideas through municipal official plans.

"The first job is to do an assessment report to collect data. It has to be a justifiable science based plan and we're looking at both ground water and surface water intakes," she said.

A result of Ontario's 2006 Clean Water Act and recommendations from the Walkerton inquiry, it is just one of 19 such regional committees across the province intended to protect water from overuse and contamination.

Dollin was one of three candidates short listed for

the job. She has experience serving on the executive of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, where she also chaired the planning committee.

She announced her resignation from the Lake Simcoe authority at Innisfil's Sept. 19 council meeting, saying it would be a conflict of interest to serve on both bodies. "It was not a decision I wanted to take, but that I had to take," Dollin told her fellow councillors.

Council appointed Deputy Mayor Gord Wauchope to serve the remaining term on the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority as the Town of Innisfil's representative.

## Innisfil to study bike lanes

By Rowan Lomas

Strap on your helmets and hop on your bikes Innisfil, because you could soon have a safe place to ride.

Innisfil Council requested the town's director of planning and development investigate the possibility of building bike lanes on all new arterial and collector roads.

"Looking at our neighbours to the north building more bicycle paths it would make sense that we look at the possibility," Mayor Brian Jackson told council.

Ward 5 Councillor Dan Davidson's recommendation emphasized the importance of bicycle lanes from on the 25th Sideroad from Innisfil Beach Road to Big Bay Point.

## Libertarian in the running in York-Simcoe

By Bill Rea

An Everett resident believes none of the political parties in Ontario have anything to offer the voters, with the exception of the Libertarian party.

That's why Caley McKibbin, 23, is carrying the party's colours in York - Simcoe in the Oct. 10 provincial election, McKibbin, who recently completed an on-line course in mutual funds, explained the party already had a candidate running where he lives, so he agreed to stand in York - Simcoe.

He stated that all of the other parties appear to be the same.

"None of them have real solutions for problems," he declared. "They just have a lot of rhetoric to cover up what they're doing."

The Libertarian movement was founded by an economist in the 1960s. He added it's based on the belief that the believe of "freedom to do anything, as long as you respect person and property."

McKibbin was speaking practically about his chances of being elected to Queen's Park. "I'm not under any illusion that I'm going to win," he said, "but I'll do the best I can."

## Minor Lacrosse AGM Sunday

The Innisfil Minor Lacrosse organization will hold its annual general meeting on Sunday, September 30th at 7 p.m. in the Stroud Banquet Hall

## Organics gets green light

Cont'd from front New Tecumseth mayor Mike MacEachern said that he was quite pleased about the decision to move forward with the program. "I've sat through two terms of county council and I'm glad to see we are making progress on this."

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