

NEWS

York pushing for subway line to campus

by Ed Drass

Tired of the York University 106 bus? Sick of campus traffic? In a couple of years you may be able to stay on the subway at Wilson and keep riding it all the way to school.

On August 30, the "Loop Group" unveiled their proposal

for a subway extension all the way to Steeles with a connection to the Yonge subway line. The group is comprised of York people (the External Relations department as well as the YFS/FEY), the soon-to-be City of Vaughan, various local community groups and local developers. They will try to convince the TTC

and the Ontario government that the plan to loop the subway at Finch should instead be routed under Steeles.

Doug Anderson, a recent graduate of Glendon College, put together the press conference for Vaughan. A temporary (low budget) subway entrance was put up on a vacant lot at Keele and

Steeles, and for some unknown reason a General Motors hot air balloon was floating nearby. University, Metro, York Region and Vaughan officials were around to network, among them York President Harry Arthurs and some YFS executives.

Arthurs and Ian Lithgow (VP for External Relations) spoke for

the school's administration, expressing concern that York needs fewer students (not to mention staff) arriving by private car. They mentioned that the time spent in commuting to school could be better spent at the library or in the lab.

Conspicuous by his absence was North York Mayor Mel Lastman, apparently on holiday. Lastman has been pushing for a Sheppard subway for some time, and the Steeles option would compete for transit funding.

Linking the subway via Steeles not only would allow York's 50,000 strong population to get to school easier; it would also link the university with North York Centre and allows more community access to on-campus cultural events. Avoiding a Finch alignment would also save disrupting residents along the street and spare the environmentally sensitive G. Ross Lord Reservoir at Finch and Dufferin.

In addition, a Steeles loop would cross less developed land and cost less per kilometer, although the total cost would be higher. Unfortunately, a line to York would have to take into account the petroleum tank farm along Keele. Metro taxpayers might also balk at losing subway seats to additional suburban riders.

In any event, the "Loop Group" people will need to solicit local support as well as the support of the TTC and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation. With some luck and hard lobbying, future York students may be able to take the subway to York University's northern campus.



The York University Bookstore and its surrounding corridors have been jam-packed with students during this first week of classes. Bookstore manager Kelly Abraham said the student flow through the store has averaged about 6,000 students per day. He estimates that by the end of the week, over 35,000 students will have made the trek to buy books for their classes.

Jason Schwartz photo

Summer BOG meeting brings Montreal bank to campus

by Peter Merrick
Student Representative, BOG

On June 25, the York Board of Governors met at Glendon College to discuss important matters concerning the university.

The Board of Governors (BOG) is the highest decision-making body at York. In any given meeting, this body can and will deal with issues ranging from university audits to the development of the new academic building, pension funds, university appointments, and student relations. Each decision made at these meetings will eventually affect

every person at York University.

During the last meeting, President Harry Arthurs told the BOG that he had attended a series of meetings with representatives from York Region. Arthurs had joined with York Region in lobbying Metro Toronto and the Ontario provincial governments to build a subway line across Steeles Avenue. Arthurs stated that this subway would help make York more accessible to potential students.

Tony Hampson, Chair of the Audit Committee presented the annual audit. According to this report, all the university's finances

were in order for the 1989-90 academic year. The BOG was satisfied with the audit's findings and a motion was moved to pass it.

The most enlightening report presented was that of Chris Torres, Assistant to the VP (Finance). He told the BOG that over the last few months York had been looking for a new bank with which to do its business. For the past few years, York has done all of its depositing, withdrawals and borrowing from the Toronto Dominion Bank, but was no longer satisfied with TD's performance. Bruce Dougley of Business Operations confirmed that

the Bank of Montreal will be York's main bank effective October 1. The Bank of Montreal will be opening a limited service branch at York Lanes for the use of administration, faculty and students. According to Dougley, BOM banking machines will also be

installed at Glendon, but the TD automated tellers will remain in Central Square in the mean time.

After all the reports were completed, Bruce Bryden the BOG chair adjourned the meeting. The next BOG meeting will be held October 15.

Correction

The Skydiggers concert at Stong will be happening on Thursday, September 13 as will Bethune's Muchmusic Video Dance party.

