

# New dialysis facility to open by end of year

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

When fully operational, the new facility should treat 200 patients and provide 30,000 additional dialysis treatments each year.

"We're opening 24 stations by the end of next year and another nine by 2015-16," Caplan said Thursday during a press conference at the future facility home.

Caplan said the unit will not only reduce hospital wait times and improve access to family health care for all of Ontario, but it will also provide quality care to the hundreds of kidney disease patients in York Region.

One such patient is Diane Cappello.

Cappello has been a patient of the Chronic Kidney Disease Program at York Central for two years. She comes to the hospital for treatment three times a week for three and a half hour sessions. Kidney disease runs in her family. Her father was a dialysis patient 12 years ago, at a time when he had to travel to Wellesley Hospital in downtown Toronto to receive his treatment because no services were offered in Vaughan.

"We were pleased when the unit opened at York Central Hospital, now we're even happier that this service is in our community, making me feel that it is in my own backyard," Cappello said to the crowd on-hand, including Vaughan MPP Greg Sorbara, Richmond Hill MPP Reza Moridi and York Central Hospital President and CEO Bruce Harber.

York Central's kidney disease prevention program has been garnering high praise and recognition. Caplan said

the hospital is well-known and well regarded within health care circles because of its high degree of patient satisfaction.

"They are one of the leaders in the province of Ontario," Caplan told *the Weekly* after the press conference.

Bharat Nathoo is the clinical director of the Kidney Disease Program at York Central Hospital and he said because of the advancements in science on curing and managing kidney diseases, people no longer die from kidney disease.

"There's a problem however in the sense that it is time consuming. People spend time on the machine and then they spend time coming to and going from a dialysis facility, so that creates significant challenges for our patients," Nathoo said.

"Patients come three times a week, that's 156 times a year. The less time someone travels to get their dialysis, the better their outcome and their overall well-being."

The provincial government has infused \$741 million into the prevention and management of chronic kidney disease and \$220 million has already been allotted to kidney disease programs.

"We are pleased the government is enhancing health care services for patients with chronic kidney disease," Harber said. "Our patients will benefit significantly from having this new 33-station dialysis unit closer to home."

The demand for kidney dialysis treatment has grown by more than seven per cent each year.

Some causes of kidney disease are high blood pressure and diabetes.



Dave Caplan, Ontario's Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, officially announced the opening of a new kidney dialysis facility in Vaughan Thursday morning.

photo by Michael McClymont

# Local roads to be reconstructed this Spring

By MICHAEL MCCLYMONT  
WEEKLY STAFF WRITER

The City of Vaughan is planning on reconstructing and

ing roads. The investigation included a visual inspection of the road surface, deflection testing of the roads and bore-hole and soil sampling of the road structure.

What they concluded was the structure of the road pave-

What is being proposed for Pennon Road is improvement from Islington Avenue to its west side limit, which is a total of 250 metres. For Daleview Road, 90 metres will be upgraded from Pennon Road to its Northern limit. so to will



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VOL. 10, NO. 6 TEL. 905-832-1155 [www.VaughanWeekly.com](http://www.VaughanWeekly.com) FAX. 905-832-1151 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009



## Community



### Diverting waste

A new waste management  
facility opened in Vaughan  
Monday.

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## News



Doo Doo the Clown leads a group of local parents in a rendition of "YMCA" at Winterfest this past Sunday in Vaughan. The city celebrated the 20th anniversary of the festival with plenty of rides, attractions and a performance from The Backyardigans. For more photos, see pages 8 and 9. *photo by Michael McClymont*



**Minor scrape**  
A fender bender slowed traffic in the heart of the city Friday. **Pg. 5**

# Minister of Health unveils new Kidney Dialysis facility in Vaughan

By MICHAEL MCCLYMONT  
*WEEKLY STAFF WRITER*

York Central Hospital and its 450 chronic kidney disease patients will be pleased to know that there will be a new kidney dialysis facility opening in Vaughan.

Dave Caplan, Ontario's Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, paid a visit to Vaughan Thursday for the funding announcement.

The satellite dialysis facility will be situated at 9401 Jane Street and co-located with the Vaughan Community Health Centre. Construction is slated to be completed by the summer and the facility will open in the fall.

This \$10.55 million project will give the hospital a 33-station renal dialysis unit and a nephrology out-patient clinic that Caplan said "is going to mean a lot to the residents of York

Region who will no longer have to travel as far from home to receive this essential service".

Richmond Hill's York Central Hospital houses a Regional Chronic Kidney Disease Program that currently treats just over 450 patients on dialysis. Another 1,000 patients with chronic kidney disease are treated at the hospital's clinic.

*CONTINUED ON PAGE 2*

## Sports

**OJHL Playoffs**  
The Vaughan Vipers open the playoffs against Buffalo tonight. **Pg. 10**



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resurfacing a number of local roads this spring.

Members of the city's engineering and project team held a public information forum at the Al Palladini Community Centre this past Monday night to discuss plans to upgrade Pennon Road, Daleview Court and Kipling Avenue in Kleinburg, and Villagewood Court in Woodbridge.

A handful of residents attended the meeting, so did Ward 1 councillor Peter Meffe and Ward 2 councillor Tony Carella.

In May of last year, the city hired a geotechnical engineering company to conduct an investigation on deteriorat-

ments in question were in poor condition, curbs and sidewalks were lacking in specific areas and there were drainage issues.

What the City of Vaughan is now suggesting is a complete reconstruction of Pennon Road, Daleview Court and Kipling Avenue, along with a resurfacing of Villagewood Crescent.

Councillor Meffe said he believes the Kleinburg roads in his ward are due for an upgrade.

"Those two streets have served their life span," he said.

He also said the only kind of feedback he's received from the community was regarding the character of the streets.

"It's up to them to make a recommendation to council. I certainly share their feelings that I would like to keep the rural character of these areas."

There are also some options as to the extent of the repairs for each road.

"There's a couple of things we can do in this instance," said Meffe of the Kleinburg streets. "We can repair the roads as is, but by doing that we would have to dig out serious depths on the shoulders and ditches. It could also cause problems with the underground utilities."

"There is also an option of rolling curbs, similar to what you see in the rest of Kleinburg along the main streets," added Meffe.

560 metres of Kipling Avenue from Highway 7 to Woodbridge Avenue and 230 metres of Villagewood Court from Kipling to its west limits.

The proposal for Pennon Road and Daleview Court is a complete reconstruction, the addition of a sub drainage system, French curbs and new asphalt. The project would cost \$760 per metre of road.

Kipling Avenue was found to be structurally deficient, in need of excavation, grading, better curbs and sub drains. It too would cost \$760 per metre of road.

The city would first close the northbound Kipling lanes and use the southbound lanes for traffic, one lane for each direction. Once the northbound lanes are reconstructed, traffic would then move northbound while southbound lanes underwent repairs.

For Villagewood Crescent, two inches of pavement would be removed, the underlying asphalt would undergo repairs and the area would be repaved, costing about \$660 per metre.

All repair costs would be covered by homeowners' property taxes.

Now that this project has passed by city residents and stakeholders, the city will look for project approval in the 2009 Capital Budget. Upon approval, construction would begin in the spring and last eight to 10 weeks.



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