

INSIDE AURORA: Air Waves

By Scott Johnston

"Good morning and welcome to Aurora's new radio station, CHRA, 101.5 on your FM dial, coming to you live from a small interior room the Town couldn't find another use for in the Aurora Family Leisure Complex.

"While we appreciate the support of the Town, a reminder that its budget only covered the cost of the room itself and a couple of electrical outlets, so if any listeners out there have some spare furniture, lamps, or extension cords they can donate, we'd love to have them.

"Now, on to our programming. Here's what we have lined up for you today.

?First up we have an interview with one of Aurora's oldest residents. In fact, he's lived in Town so long, he can actually remember a time when Aurora's portion of the annual tax increase was kept below the level of inflation.

"Following that we'll turn to the political arena, and look at our new Federal and Provincial riding boundaries. We'll ask a candidate who has chosen to run in the Newmarket-Aurora riding what they have against Aurora residents south of Wellington. Then we'll check in with a representative running in Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill, and see why they don't care about townspeople north of Wellington.

"Then at noon we'll have our regular panel discussion. Today we pose the question; would Canada Post be receiving more complaints about eliminating door-to-door delivery if anyone still received paper-based mail?

?At 2 p.m., join us for 'Community Corner', where each day we showcase one the Town's smaller, lesser known interest groups. Today we speak with the president and lone member of CTRANAC, the Cell Tower in Residential Aurora Neighbourhoods Appreciation Society.

"Later in the day, we'll look at the annual summer water ban. If having an intake pipe connected directly to the Great Lakes currently does not provide enough water to prevent restrictions in a town of 55,000 people, what are our options? And just what are people using all this water for?

?Because we have a full schedule, we'll need to reduce our usual number of local traffic reports throughout the day, so just assume you'll be delayed near the station when the GO trains arrive in the afternoon, and that you'll be held up pretty much any time at the intersection of Yonge and Wellington. That's all you really need to know.

?A reminder that in the event of a power outage, be sure to tune in here for any local emergency updates. Unless, of course, the power outage affects your house, and you're sitting in the dark without electricity, in which case you can hear all about them when everyone's power comes back on.

?And finally, for all you Council fanatics out there, we'll have our usual overnight show, where we read out council meeting minutes from previous decades. Tonight, we bring you the meeting from February 18, 1997.

"I can assure you that it will feel even longer than the 6 hours it actually ran, so not only will this provide insight into our Town's past, but for those not interested in local politics, it's guaranteed to cure your insomnia.

"Well, that's our line-up for today. But before we introduce our first guest, just a reminder that we are a public station, so if you would like to share your views here on Aurora radio, just give us a call. We'd be delighted to welcome you to the studio.

"But please bring your own chair."

Feel free to e-mail Scott at: machellscorners@gmail.com