

Salaries beyond \$200K?abound in York Region

By Mark Pavilons

Many civil servants in government agencies serving York Region have topped the \$200,000 mark.

The "Sunshine List" as it's referred to is released by the provincial government each March, and lists civil servants earning \$100,000 or more annually.

To put things in perspective, Premier Kathleen Wynne earned roughly \$209,000 in 2014.

York Region

The top spot goes to Karim Kurji, medical officer of health, who earned a whopping \$278,691.95.

John Gould, associate medical officer of health, was next with a salary of \$261,818.28.

He was followed by Adelina Urbanski, commissioner of community and health services, who earned \$244,051.26 and \$12,202.36 in taxable benefits.

Lilian Yuan, associate medical officer of health was next, with a salary of \$241,814.89.

Mary-Frances Turner, president of York's Rapid Transit Corp., earned \$234,909.51, with \$12,087.83 in benefits.

Finance Commissioner and Treasurer William Hughes earned \$223,045.29, plus \$12,-087.83 in benefits.

Dino Basso, commissioner of corporate services, pulled in \$221,052.09, plus \$12,087.83.

Daniel Kostopoloulos, commissioner of transportation services, earned \$208,962.44 and \$12,029.72 in benefits.

Regional Solicitor Joy Hulton made \$197,716.

York Regional Police

Many high-ranking officers earn well over \$100,000 at York Regional Police.

Police Chief Eric Jolliffe was the top wage-earner with a salary of \$249,584.66 with \$9,424.22 in benefits.

Deputy Chief Thomas Carrique earned \$217,802.72 and \$10,705.39 in benefits.

Detective Thai Truong earned \$197,086.03, followed by Detective Sergeant Donald Cardwell, \$192,177.91.

Other top-paid officers included Staff Sergeant David Russell, \$191,426.30; Deputy Chief Rudolph Crawford \$188,335.18; Staff Sergeant John Giangrande, \$185,513.83; Sergeant Brian Black, \$185,222.85; Detective Sergeant Cindy Laidlaw, \$184,945.85 and Staff Sergeant Ian Clarke, \$184,177.73.

York District School Board

Ken Thurston, director of education, was the top civil servant at the board, earning \$260,562.21 and \$7,284.50 in taxable benefits.

He was followed by Associate Director Denese Belchetz, who made \$225,269.08. Tied for third place in the top 10 were Associate Directors Leslie Johnstone and Margaret Roberts, who both earned \$214,418.39.

Director of Education Jegan-Philip Parappally pulled in \$195,781.10, followed by Wanda Muirhead, coordinating superintendent of business and chief financial officer, who made \$191,223.38.

Karen Friedman, associate director of leadership and learning, made \$170,962.91, while teacher Dan McHenry pulled in \$169,942.91.

Scott Yake, coordinating superintendent human resources, plant and planning, made \$166,258.43. Superintendent Dianne Hawkins made \$160,557.40.

York Catholic District School Board

Like its counterpart, the York Catholic District School Board had hundreds of staffers on the list.

Patricia Preston, director of education and secretary of the board, earned \$230,610.12 and \$9,105.08 in taxable benefits.

Associate director corporate services and board treasurer John Sabo pulled in \$203,170.24. Normand Vezina, senior manager environmental and office services, earned \$177,630.84.

Jacqueline Porter, coordinating manager of budget and audit services, made \$170,999.56 and Anna Chan, coordinating manager of

business services and assistant board treasurer pulled in \$170,484.87.

Rounding out the top 10, all earning \$162,984.90 were Frances Bagley, coordinating superintendent; Debra Cormier, superintendent of education/curriculum; Lynda Coulter, superintendent of human resources; Bryson Eldridge, superintendent of construction and facility renewal; Dian Murgaski, superintendent of education/curriculum.

The provincial government has already frozen salaries for executives at hospitals, universities, colleges, school boards and provincially owned electricity companies. All aspects of compensation plans are currently frozen and base salaries cannot be increased.

The \$100,000 threshold has remained the same since the Public Sector Salary Disclosure list was introduced in 1996.