

SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP DOWNTOWN • SHOP



Conforming store hours among BIA's goals

Continued from page C6 hindered the attractiveness of the downtown core.

"The awareness of the downtown area noticeably increased," Ms. Barnard commented. "We do get inquiries from people looking to open up a business here."

There are still areas for

improvement in customer service, she acknowledged, stressing the need for downtown merchants to have some conformity of business hours. Hold-outs declining to remain open late during lucrative evenings like Thursday and Friday nights should note the amount of night-time traffic Bi-Way alone

generates, Ms. Barnard said.

"We can't afford to lose credibility with our customers," Ms. Barnard said "and we might without uniform hours. Businesses can be their own worst enemies at times. We want to get as many stores open at night as possible during the

Christmas season."

The town's new official plan, recently endorsed by council, has policies in it which guard against development deemed harmful to the Acton and Georgetown BIAs.

"The official plan strengthens the downtown core," Ms. Barnard said.

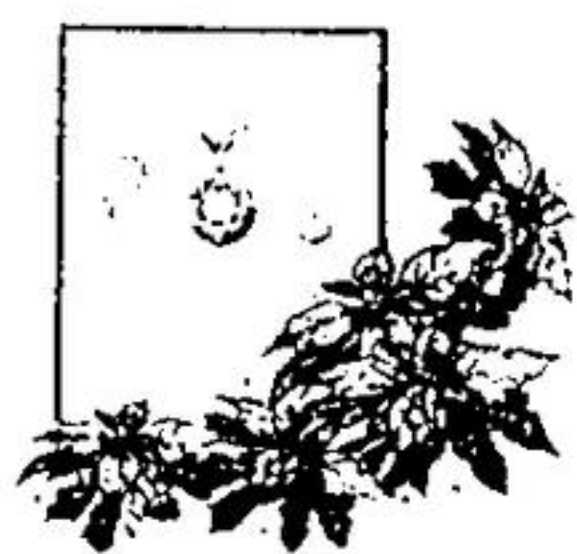
Town's been doing its part for BIA

As well as helping Georgetown merchants negotiate a loan under the province's ministry of housing and municipal affairs Main Street Revitalization program, the town has also contributed about \$70,000 of its own to help improve downtown Georgetown. Among other things, tax dollars were

used to pay for the special lowered curbs at downtown intersections, new traffic lights at the Main and Mill Streets intersection and the purchase of property behind the McGibbon Hotel Bi-Way area to ensure that the BIA has a large amount of parking space for shoppers.

WANTED

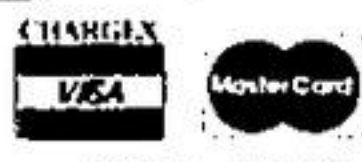
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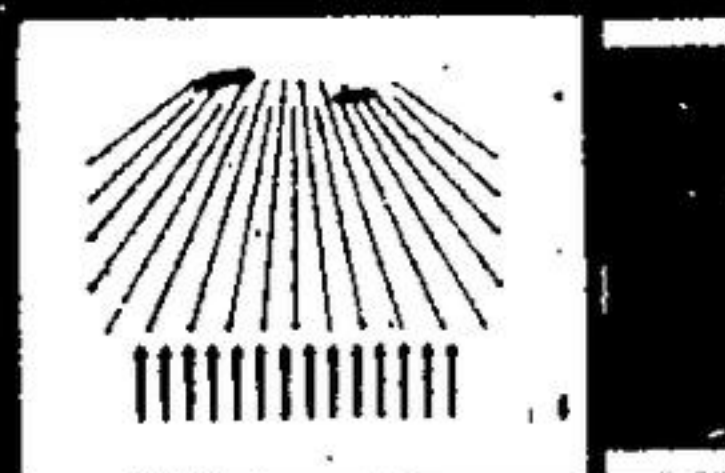
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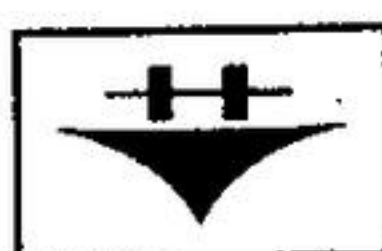
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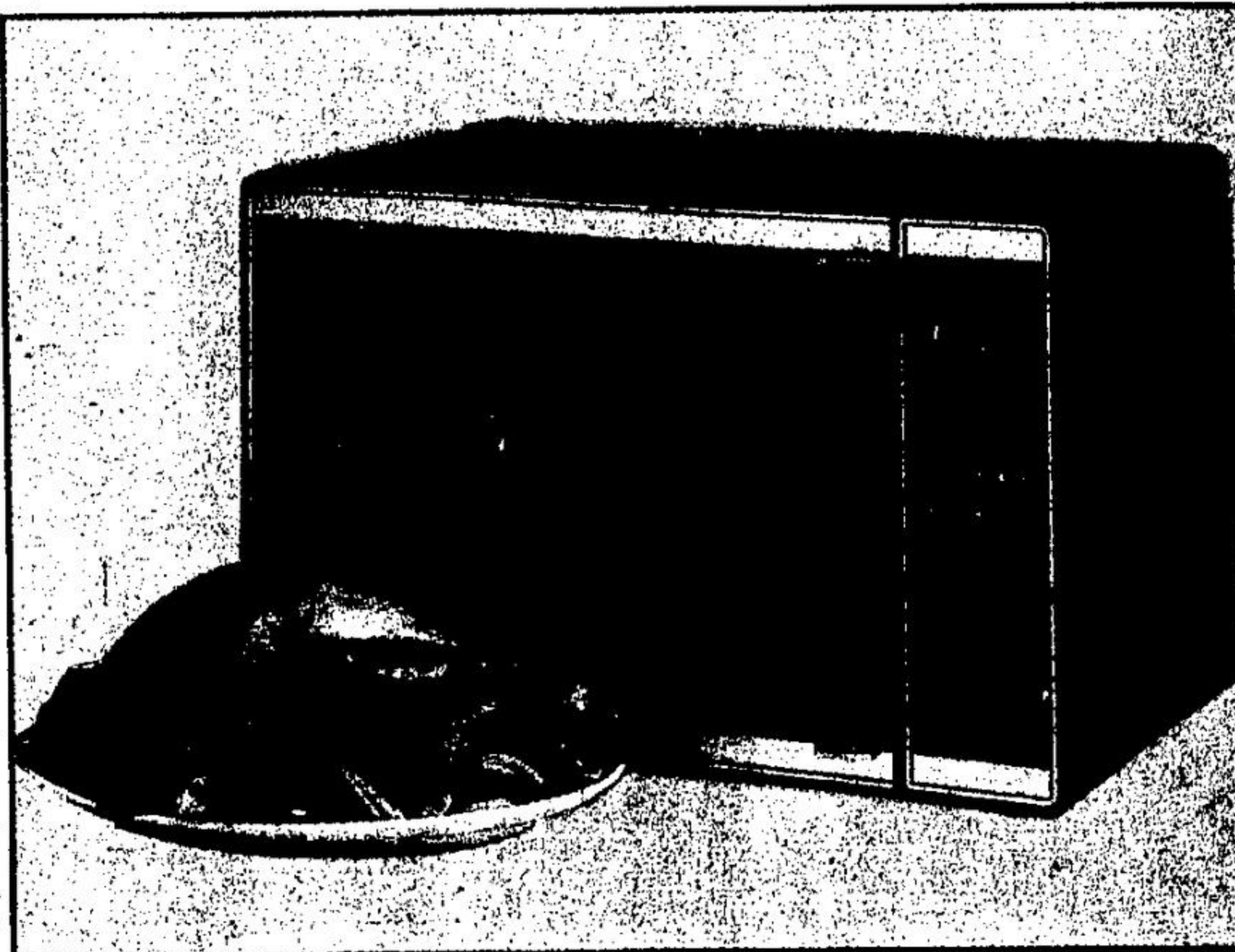
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