

# Kingsmill planner speaks at OMB

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fordable housing, meaning they are priced at \$157,000 or less, he said.

Acton resident Michael Armstrong has appealed Mr. Law's proposal to build 175 townhouses to the OMB because he objects to some of the townhouses' setbacks

for parking spaces and some of the sizes of parking spaces allotted for several of the housing units.

In response to questions asked by Mr. Law's lawyer, Stephen Ledrew, Mr. Smith explained minor revisions to the zoning bylaws of Halton Hills for this

specific development would cause no negative impact on the surrounding area. Mr. Armstrong's objections are in relation to variances (revisions) regarding parking.

One variance relates to the distance residential parking lots should be set back from a public street. Under the Halton Hills zoning bylaws, parking should be set back at least four metres from public streets. Mr. Law is asking for no distance to be required.

Another variance under question relates to the measurement of residential parking spaces. Mr. Law is asking for a measurement of nine-feet by 18-feet for each parking space while the zoning bylaw requires that no residential parking space be smaller than 10-feet by 20-feet.

Mr. Smith, during his final remarks, stated he feels the minor adjustments to the zoning bylaws are appropriate and in keeping with the original intent of the Halton Hills Official Plan.

During cross-examination by Mr. Armstrong's lawyer Dennis Trinaistich, Mr. Smith explained that of the 175 townhouse units, eight would face on to Maple Avenue. Mr. Trinaistich inquired about the distance that visitors would have to walk to get to these eight units. Mr. Smith estimated that the distance could range anywhere from 250 to 500 feet, depending on how many people are visiting on a particular day, but he didn't find a problem with this estimate.

The OMB meeting is scheduled to continue through today (Wednesday) and ends tomorrow (Thursday).

# Layoffs at Seed House to last through summer

Despite being "recession resistant," Georgetown's Dominion Seed House on Guelph Street has been forced to layoff seven people for at least the summer, said company Vice-President Dave Krause during an interview Friday.

Calling the layoffs temporary, Mr. Krause said the employees should be hired back during the late fall.

He explained the company is "recession resistant" because during tough economic times people tend to spend more time at home and thus in the backyard. As a result, they want their gardens to look nice, he said.

Dominion Seed House, which was founded in Georgetown in 1928, is a mail order gardening business, selling flower, vegetable and miscellaneous seeds.

Mr. Krause attributes the layoffs to a restructuring of the company. In the past the company has been run as a year-round operation. However, the truth is, it is a seasonal business, he said.

He explained the company does 75 per cent of its business during the first four months of the year. People order their seeds January, February, March and April so they are ready to do spring planting. Mr. Krause points out.

It's during this time and a few months leading up to it that the business should operate at full capacity and not year-round, he said.

He indicated the need to steer the business in this direction has

been that much greater because its profit margin has steadily decreased during the last four years.

While sales have remained steady during this period, costs have increased significantly, said Mr. Krause.

Pointing out the operation's major expenses include postage and other costs related to printing and mailing out catalogues and seeds across the country, Mr. Krause said his costs will again increase this August when Canada Post raises the cost of postage service.



Happy birthday

Irene McLeod's youngest great-grandson, Cory Yabsley, came from Ottawa to give his great-grandmother a kiss for her 85th birthday Sunday. The Ladies Aid of Acton, which Ms. McLeod is an active member of, hosted the birthday part at Knox Presbyterian Church in Acton. Ms. McLeod has lived in Acton for 50 years and was married to William McLeod who passed away in 1976. (Herald photo)



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