

PROJECT WILL LINE UP WITH JOINT CAPITAL POLICY, SAYS COMMISSIONER HARRIS

THE ISSUE: MANY NORVAL RESIDENTS AGAINST PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR MUSEUM, LIBRARY
LOCAL IMPACT: PROPONENTS CITE CULTURAL BENEFITS, OPPONENTS SAY NOISE, TRAFFIC JAMS AMONG NEGATIVES

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there were voices raised, because people were thrown off guard."

Subsequently, the Town's Let's Talk Platform was opened up to residents willing to speak on the proposed development in Norval.

Kathy Gastle, president of the Norval Community Association, says the meeting in March was held to facilitate the very kind of public consultation being requested of the Norval residents.

"Pauline Gladstone and 60 other residents attended a legal public open house hosted by the Town of Halton Hills on March 22, 2018 at Upper Canada College in Norval," she said, adding that four projects were discussed that evening including changes to Norval Park and the Lucy Maud Montgomery Museum and Literary Centre. "The public meeting had representatives from four local and respected organizations who very clearly identified their role, and the

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purpose of the meeting and identified each project in detail to all the Norval residents in attendance."

Mayor Rick Bonnette says the Town is dedicated to taking a collaborative approach on behalf of the entire community.

"I will say that regardless of the opinion, I am always impressed by the passion that our residents display," he added.

Fraser says the Heritage Foundation of Halton Hills is receiving a seed grant of just over \$74,000 this year (from Jan. 1 until Oct. 31, 2019) to help with the museum and literary centre planning. Five part-time staff members will be hired to conduct research and the grant will be used to design the museum.

"The museum design will present the past in a dynamic learning format, using an interactive educational learning experience. While researching other museums, the Heritage Foundation will learn what types of museums work best for curriculum-based education programs, outreach for researchers, educators, artists, historians, the public and tourists," she said. "The Heritage Foundation is determined to create a facility and a program that will make the Town of Halton Hills, Ontario and Canada proud."

Warren Harris, commissioner of Recreation

and Parks with the Town of Halton Hills, says this year, the groups involved in the project will be working toward both a business plan and feasibility study to give them the framework to move forward on the museum and literary centre.

"The other major consideration is that it would be subject to all planning approval," Harris said. "As part of that, there would be technical studies required for everything from traffic, parking, servicing, (etc.) and public notice is part of that planning application process as well."

Harris says the process for the project will have to line up with the town's Joint Capital Policy, which ensures that groups that have an expectation of the town to either

fund or be a partner in a development, present a formal proposal to committee before the plan can be adopted.

"The benefit of that is committee and council would have a full understanding of what the scope of the project is and what the financial implications to the town are," he said. "Then it also would be available for the public to comment on."

In an effort to improve the public consultation process, Harris says the Town will also be holding annual meetings to check in with residents involved with or affected by the development projects.

"Anyone who has participated in the process to date would continue to be advised and kept abreast of the different initiatives," he said.

STORY BEHIND THE STORY

Petition claims notification of proposed development was not adequately relayed to the residents who would most be affected by the changes. Mayor Rick Bonnette says the town is taking a collaborative approach.



Community Resource & Wellness Family Night

Thursday, January 17th, 2019
 7:00 – 9:00 pm
ACTON HIGH SCHOOL
 21 Cedar Road, Acton
 519-853-2920

Join us for a Keynote/Speaker Panel:

- ADAPT
- Halton Regional Health
- Halton Regional Police

Followed by: -

Community Resource Carousel
 (Families for Families, ROCK/ROPS, COAST/MRT - to name a few)

Plus: -

Child Minding for ages 2 and up
 (Refreshments will be provided)



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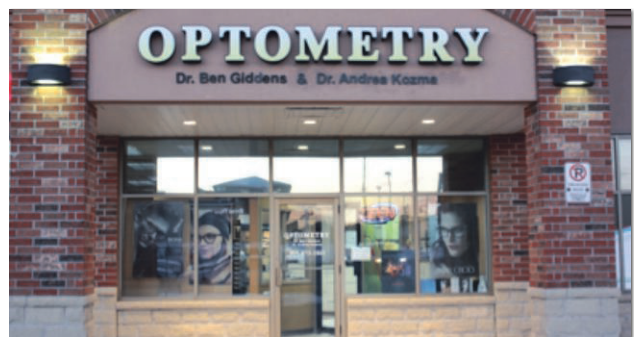
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