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"ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1993

Invisible Empire invades Acton

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

Angry Acton residents "lit up" police switchboards Saturday morning, when seven members of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan showed up in town to recruit members.

The seven — five men and two women — all but one dressed in the Klan's trademark white robes and conical hoods, took up spots on the four corners at Main and Mill Streets to hand out leaflets.

Some curious motorists and passers-by accepted the leaflets, some ignored the Klan members and some just stared in disbelief.

One young Klan member, who said he was from Brampton, refused to answer any questions.

"We're really not here to give any interviews, we're just here to educate people to what's going on."

The Klan member then handed over a leaflet and refused to answer any more questions.

Acton Legion member Sharron Barker refused to take the leaflet.

"I was on my way to get groceries when one of them tried to hand me a piece of paper. I told him he could keep his garbage and get out of our community," Barker said in an interview Sunday.

"They didn't say anything. I was furious that they were in Acton. I really don't think they had any business being in our community. I mean, it took 50 years for this kind

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Acton's future: The ball is finally rolling

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

A clearer view of the Acton of the future emerged last night at a special working session of Halton Hills council.

The future is Acton East — lands east of Churchill Road, straddling Highway 7, earmarked for major residential and commercial development.

Town planning consultant Wendy Knott said it was a big night.

"I think that Council, after long debate and discussion, has finally deliberated and determined its strategic vision for the future of Acton. Clearly, growth has been significantly constrained in Acton over the past 10 to 20 years. We now have some technical solutions to the servicing restrictions and we're providing a future plan for the growth of Acton," explained Knott.

Most of Acton's growth will be a comprehensive neighbourhood on the east side of Churchill Road, north and south of Highway 7.

Growth will include a major plaza and food store, parkland, a future arena and an elementary school site.

Knott said growth will focus on Acton East, but there will also be limited development in other areas.

"There are a number of other sites within Acton, some of which we considered to be in-fill sites, of the total 563 available units we have water for 79 sites.

"There are two particular sites at this point that we are suggesting not be considered due to our servicing limitations and due to their particular geographic or physical constraints. They include the so-called Goose Lands off Elizabeth

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HARBINGER OF HATRED: Acton residents reacted with shock, anger and disbelief when seven Ku Klux Klan members began handing out leaflets at the corners of Main Street and Mill Street Saturday morning. The KKK recruiters were in Acton for 15 minutes before they headed to Georgetown. (Frances Niblock photo)



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