

## Bonnette finds money for repairs at co-op

Persistent problems at Acton's Cobblehill Homes Co-operative may finally be resolved.

It has taken almost two years of prodding by Councillor Rick Bonnette to try to find money to fix a crumbling retaining wall and a security light that keeps neighbours awake at night.

Bonnette said the Town should not have agreed to waive a letter of

credit from the Housing Ministry to cover these kinds of problems.

"It has been very frustrating to try to get these problems fixed, but hopefully, staff is making some headway," Bonnette said following last week's Council meeting.

"I hope we can get some Provincial funding because these problems should have been resolved last year."

### Elgin parking ban lifted?

Town engineering staff are investigating a request by Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette to lift parking restrictions on the east side of Elgin Street between Agnes and Church Streets.

In making the request, Bonnette noted that due to the closure of the Canada Packers factory and warehouse complex, there is no longer a lot of traffic on the street.

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CON-GRADS! These young Acton Co-op Nursery School students form part of the school's final graduating class. With the introduction of Junior Kindergarten this fall, the school was forced to close. From left: Jessy Kuenzig, teacher Reta Phillips, Joe Frechette, Nicole Farnsworth and Carney Bourgeois attended a recent ceremony at M.Z. Bennett. (Lori Frechette photo)

## Ransom tenants miss condo talk

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Acton Tanner

Town staff will likely contact the residents of a Ransom Street apartment building who did not attend an owner-called meeting last week. The meeting was called to discuss the possibility of converting the building into a condominium.

At that meeting, tenants of 18 rental units said they were interested in buying their units, one tenant declined and one asked for more information before making a decision.

That leaves tenants of 18 units unaccounted for on the question of converting the 25-year-old building into a condominium.

Town planner Glenn Wellings said that those people would have to be canvassed for their opinion.

"The concern is taking rental units off the market when there is a lack of rental housing stock in

Acton and surrounding urban communities. I think we have some work to do," Wellings said in an interview on Monday.

Under the Rental Housing Protection Act, Council may impose conditions on, or reject, a condominium application. Wellings said it is too soon to say what conditions, if any, may apply.

Wellings noted that although there had been two previous controversial applications to convert two Acton apartment buildings into condos, the files on those applications are inactive.

On Friday, Bruno Megna, co-owner of the 36-unit Ransom Street building, said it was the tenants who want to own their units.

The owners are offering, among other things, a nothing-down deal with a purchase price five per cent below the appraised value, a 25 per cent refund of rent paid during

the 12 months prior to purchase and secondary financing.

Megna stressed that all tenants who do not wish to purchase their unit will have the option of signing a five-year lease. He also said all units would be upgraded, including new windows, floor coverings, doors and appliances.

Megna said if the tenants and Town do not want the conversion to occur, then "that is fine."

"We're not trying to kick anybody out and won't proceed if there is opposition," Megna said.

Although cost comparisons have not been done, Megna said mortgage payments for the condominiums would "not be much more" than the current monthly rents of approximately \$600.

Council does not have final say on a conversion, as the application can be referred to the Ontario Municipal Board for resolution.



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