

New IGA store expects to be a Manes attraction in Acton

The shopping habits of Acton's residents will likely never be the same, with the official opening of the new Acton IGA Thursday (yesterday) morning.

Owners Dave and Marnie Manes shared ribbon-cutting duties with Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle as they were joined by the Manes' sons Mike and John and their families, local politicians, and representatives from suppliers and Sobey's, IGA's parent company.

The store, which is now called IGA Garden Market, is located at the east end of Acton, on Hwy. 7 at Churchill Road, and boasts a retail space of 30,000 square feet, almost three times the space of the former IGA located at Main and Mill streets. The Garden Market concept is relatively new, and has only been around for the past two years.

In addition to expanded lines and services, including one-hour photo, the store will also be open 24 hours a

day, seven days a week.

"We're quite excited about this store," says owner Dave Manes, "This is the 15th Garden Market store in Ontario, and most of them are going with the 24-hour open trend. There's quite a few shift workers who live in the Acton area, so I'm hopeful they will be able to take advantage of the extended hours to shop for their groceries."

Son Mike Manes shares his dad's enthusiasm.

"We see great potential in Acton," says Mike, "And with all the new houses being built just east of the store, we hope to pick up some support in that area."

The new facility also means a great increase in employment in Acton, with the Manes family increasing their staff from about 60 they had at the old store to between 180 and 200.

The store is continuing the legacy of the IGA in Acton. The first, located at the corner of Main and Mill (where

ReMax is located) was started in 1952, then moved to the second location where Power Video is located in 1954, then into the last location just north of Mill Street in 1988.

Dave Manes started the business with Jim Ledger in 1955, and took over the business in 1963. The family-owned operation kept expanding as eldest son Mike bought into the family firm in 1989, and son John became produce manager in 1991.

Marnie, Dave's wife, is secretary-treasurer for the company.

—By Ted Brown, staff writer



Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle was flanked by Acton IGA Garden Market owners Marnie and Dave Manes (centre) as she performed ribbon cutting duties to officially open the new store Thursday. Representatives from Sobey's (IGA's parent company), various suppliers, local politicians and the Manes family were on hand to launch the opening of the new store.

Photo by Ted Brown



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