

## Province honours mayor for 25 years of service

The Minister of Municipal Affairs recently honoured Mayor Rick Bonnette for his 25 years in public office. Council members congratulated the mayor at a recent council meeting.

Bonnette, who began political life as a local councillor for the Town of Acton, said he is humbled to have

served the public that long.

"Most of the time it's been great, but when GreenCarts don't get picked up on time, it can be tough," he said, chuckling.

"But you have got to take the good with the bad and 90 per cent of the time, it's mainly good."

# Carpet Palace owners turned down in effort to get zoning variances

**LISA TALLYN**  
Staff Writer

The owners of The Carpet Palace struck out at the Town of Halton Hills Committee of Adjustment meeting last week.

Owners of the Norval store— Steve Klintsaris and George Kanichis— who plan to tear down their current building and put up a new building on their property at the corner of Hwy. 7 and Adamson St. were seeking 16 minor variances in regard to their new store.

But the committee unanimously voted to deny the application.

Several Norval residents, including Norval Community Association (NCA) president and former Halton Hills Mayor Kathy Gastle, spoke in opposition to the proposal at the meeting.

Gastle said the "proposed monstrosity" was not in keeping with the policies in the Norval Secondary Plan.

Committee member Erik Kowal, who put forward the motion to deny the application, said he didn't feel the application "met the intent of the Official Plan."

Kowal said under the planning act they apply four tests to an application, and one of the tests is whether the proposal is appropriate development for the area.

Kowal said the committee heard from several residents at the meeting who "said it is not."

"To me, it was not minor in nature," said Kowal.

Clare Riepma, another committee member,

also said it didn't conform to the Official Plan.

"It didn't seem to be a desirable change there," said Riepma, who also didn't consider the application minor.

Among the variances from the Town's zoning bylaw sought by The Carpet Palace owners was a reduction in the lot area, frontage, depth, rear yard, interior and exterior side yard. They were also seeking an increase in allowable lot coverage, a reduction of rear setback and interior side setback, the number of parking spaces required, the size of the planting strip next to a residence and a reduction in parking and loading space setbacks.

Town planning staff had no objection to the application with some revisions to three of the 16 minor variances.

Yesterday (Tuesday) Kanichis declined to comment on the hearing and whether they

would appeal the decision.

Gastle said Tuesday, "we're pleased the Committee of Adjustment listened to our concerns."

"We know the fight isn't over," said Gastle.

She said opposed residents intend to be at the Heritage Halton Hills meeting May 21 when it is to review The Carpet Palace owners' request for a demolition permit and council May 26 speaking against the proposal.

A protest video against The Carpet Palace application can be viewed on-line and a petition in opposition to the demolition of The Carpet Palace building, "one of Norval's oldest buildings and the former Norval post office" can be signed at [www.norval.ca](http://www.norval.ca), said Gastle.

*'We know the fight isn't over.'*

—NCA PRESIDENT  
**KATHY GASTLE**



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