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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ **Out with the old...**

Downtown re-construction got down to the nitty-gritty Wednesday as workers started tearing up the sidewalks. The three-and-a-half month project will see a downtown section of road straightened, with the creation of seven additional on-street parking spaces and improved lighting.

✓ **Adult video store set to open amid zoning dispute**

By **FANNIE SUNSHINE**

The Champion

An adult video store set to open in about a week has Town officials scrambling over whether the establishment is in violation of any bylaws.

Tony Wang, owner of Exxxotica Adult Video, told *The Champion* he's within his legal rights to open the adult video store at 42 Bronte St. because it's a commercially-zoned property. But Town officials say zoning bylaws don't exist for such an establishment.

"I don't want to fight with anybody," Mr. Wang said. "I talked to the Town and asked where I can put the store and they said nowhere. But I'm not in violation of anything. Hopefully we can solve this problem."

Mr. Wang said he applied for a licencing permit and a permit for three employees from the Town several months ago.

The licencing permit was originally approved, he said, and he forked over \$1,300 fee to the Town.

But several days later, he was informed the zoning bylaw doesn't allow for an adult video store anywhere within the municipality, even though a Town bylaw exists for the licencing of such establishments.

He said he hasn't received his money back from the Town.

Until the store opens, the Town can't take action, said Ray Bartlett, zoning bylaw enforcement officer for the Town.

"He (Mr. Wang) hasn't obtained a licence to open. So far, he hasn't done anything illegal until he does business without a licence," he said.

Mr. Bartlett said once the store opens the next step the Town would take would be to review the operation to see if it's indeed in violation of any bylaws and then discuss any concerns with Mr. Wang.

Mel Iovio, the Town's director of planning and development, said there's no provisions in the zoning bylaws allowing for adult video stores.

"We have dialogued with the operator



Businesses surrounding the soon-to-open Exxxotica Adult Video store on Bronte Street are upset about the prominent location.

and told him of our zoning laws. He's still insistent on moving in."

Mr. Iovio said he's in the process of consulting with the Town's solicitor to see if legal action needs to be taken.

"We would want to deal with the owner directly to see if he can comply with the bylaw. We wouldn't immediately take

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INSERTS

• **Friday, March 22** •
• A&P • Loblaws • Shoppers Drug Mart • Zellers •
• Walmart • IGA • Smitty's • Alexanian Carpets • M&M Meats •
• Cristello's Village Market • Food Basics • Canadian Tire •
• No Frills • Lazy Boy • Smart Source • Ikea •
• The Building Box • Acton Garden Market • Sears •
• Radio Shack • White Rose •
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