

## That's My Line



### Bryan MacKell Town planner

Bryan MacKell came to work for the Town of Midland as the town planner in 1980 after 10 years in the planning department of Nepean, near Ottawa. He recently addressed the Midland and District Rotary Club.

MacKell's winning the job of town planner in Midland brought him back to the general area where he was born. His father was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces. When MacKell was born, the family was living at Base Borden.

His first trip back to the area was in 1969 to the cottage of the family of the woman who he eventually married. Through the 1970's MacKell spent part of his vacations applying for a job in the area. He finally found one in Midland, where he had dreamed of working.

While one of 14 planners in the planning department of Nepean, a bedroom community for Ottawa, MacKell had part in the designing of a satellite city for Ottawa, a city which has recently grown to a population of 25,000.

In his spare time, he and other planners working in Nepean designed and supervised the construction of an 18 hole golf course surrounded by summer homes in the Ottawa area.

He came to Midland at a "relatively exciting" time for a planner. The town's official plan has just been approved. MacKell described the plan as "one step toward orderly, func-

tional development."

He spent the first half of 1980 preparing for an Ontario Municipal Board hearing held to hear objections to parts of the zoning bylaw that was the other half of the planning tool represented by the official plan.

MacKell reported that the zoning bylaw was approved with some amendments and that some objections were satisfied, or compromises reached.

MacKell pointed out that approving an official plan for a town before approving the zoning bylaws is like putting the cart before the horse, but that is the way the process is set.

The official plan is the master plan for future development for a town and it is the document that should be "by the people, for the people, and reviewed by the people," but in real life the public has little to say or comment to make about official plans.

People only become concerned about the zoning bylaw, the document that determines what areas will be residential, what areas commercial.

However, a review of the province's Planning Act, underway by the provincial government, may help to clear away some of those situations, MacKell said.

The Planning Act has not been revised since 1970. A revised Planning Act has been promised by the provincial government before the next provincial election.

### Correction

A That's MY Line story on James Meridis in last Friday's newspaper contained the statement that Meridis owns all of the property on the west

side of the block bounded by Dominion Avenue on the south and Bay Street on the north, and Second Street to the west.

It has since been

brought to this newspaper's attention that some property in

that area is owned by people other than Meridis.

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## Lt.-Gov. Aird will be here

For the second time this summer Ontario's Lt.-Gov. John Aird will be in North Simcoe attending a special church anniversary service.

Earlier this year he took part in ceremonies marking Waubaushene Memorial Church's centennial.

Sunday morning he'll be in Penetanguishene at 10 a.m. for 145th anniversary ceremonies at St. James on-the-Lines Church on Church Street.

Preacher will be Most Rev. E.W. Scott., primate

of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Special religious and civic leaders as well as members of the Anglican parish have been invited to attend the morning service of worship which promises to contain a certain amount of pomp and pageantry.

Historic St. James on-the-Lines Church is a popular North Simcoe historic attraction and is by far one of the oldest church of its kind not only in Simcoe County but in the nation.



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