

# FREE!

Fan with the purchase of any Regency wood product or Remote Control or Thermostat with the purchase of any Regency gas product.

Save up to **\$210.00** RETAIL VALUE

LIMITED TIME ONLY.

Cannot be combined with any other offer.

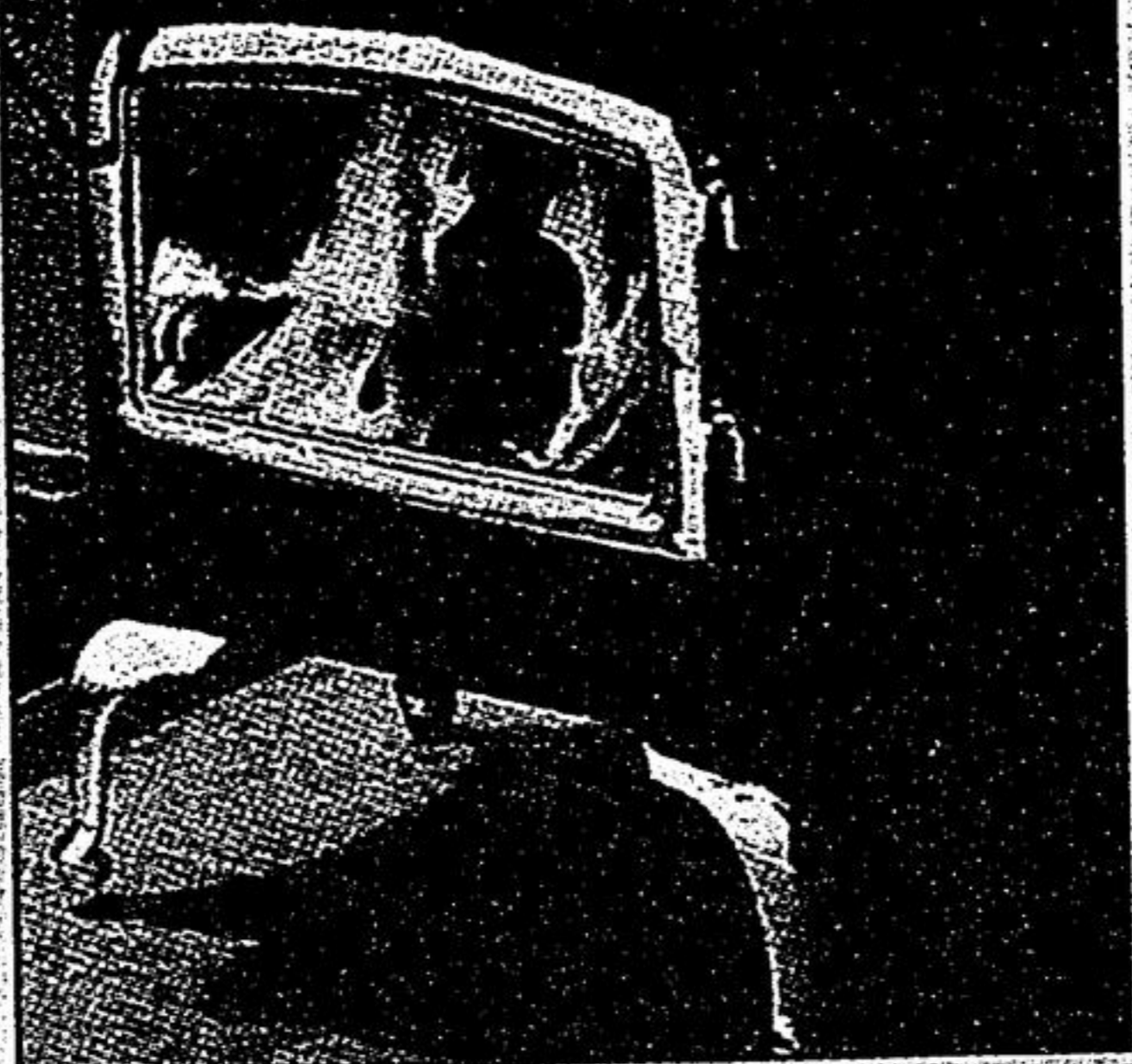


12555 10<sup>TH</sup> Line  
Stouffville  
905-472-9432

VISIT OUR NEW  
SHOWROOM AT  
STOUFFVILLE COUNTRY  
MARKET

1960 Ellesmere, Unit 1  
Scarborough  
416-289-0009

END OF SEASON SALE



## Was Cousens snubbed by not being named to committee?

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN  
Staff Writer

Was he snubbed? Markham Mayor Don Cousens was not named as one of the panelists on the province's new Smart Growth team, announced recently, despite Markham's reputation as a leader in the areas of new urbanism and transit planning.

"I indicated my interest and my willingness to be there," Mayor Cousens said. "But I guess you can't fight city hall."

The 19 members are politicians, developers, business people and academics, including representatives from Save the Oak Ridges Moraine, GO Transit, and Mattamy Homes.

While terms of reference are still being worked out in anticipation of the panel's first meeting today, members are charged with finding solutions to two major issues — solid waste disposal and gridlock.

Chair of the panel, Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, said she wasn't surprised Mayor Cousens was not included — she said if every region and municipality were represented, the panel would be far too cumbersome to accomplish anything.

"If they put all the politicians on the panel who wanted to be on it would be 200 people. If every sector of the private sector was represented it would be another 100 people," she said.

"We can have sub-committees and bring people on board for their expertise, but it's not the case of everyone having one vote.

"We will work out the issues, come up with a consensus and advise the

province." McCallion seems energized by her new responsibility, slamming the ineffectiveness of the former Greater Toronto Services Board and congratulating the province for forming an inter-ministry committee, one that brings together representatives from many ministries to consider municipal challenges.

"That has been a big problem for AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario), that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs have never been given the authority in other areas it should have, so nothing gets done.

"I see it as an indication the province is serious about this," she said. "It's the best thing since sliced bread, in my opinion."

Urban Development Institute president Neil Rodgers, who is not on the panel, agreed that many politicians expressed interest taking part in the process. But when he saw the members' list, he reacted with concern.

"It is not a geographically balanced representation. It's based in the western portion of the GTA and Halton Region isn't represented at all.

"It's still top-heavy with politicians, who are not dispersed around the GTA in a balanced manner."

He pointed out there is now significant pressure on the municipal sector to show they can work as a team — and they must get it right this time.

"Would Markham have been a legitimate choice?" asked Rodgers. "It would have been on my consideration list. If not the mayor, then a senior member of (planning) staff."

# 40% OFF

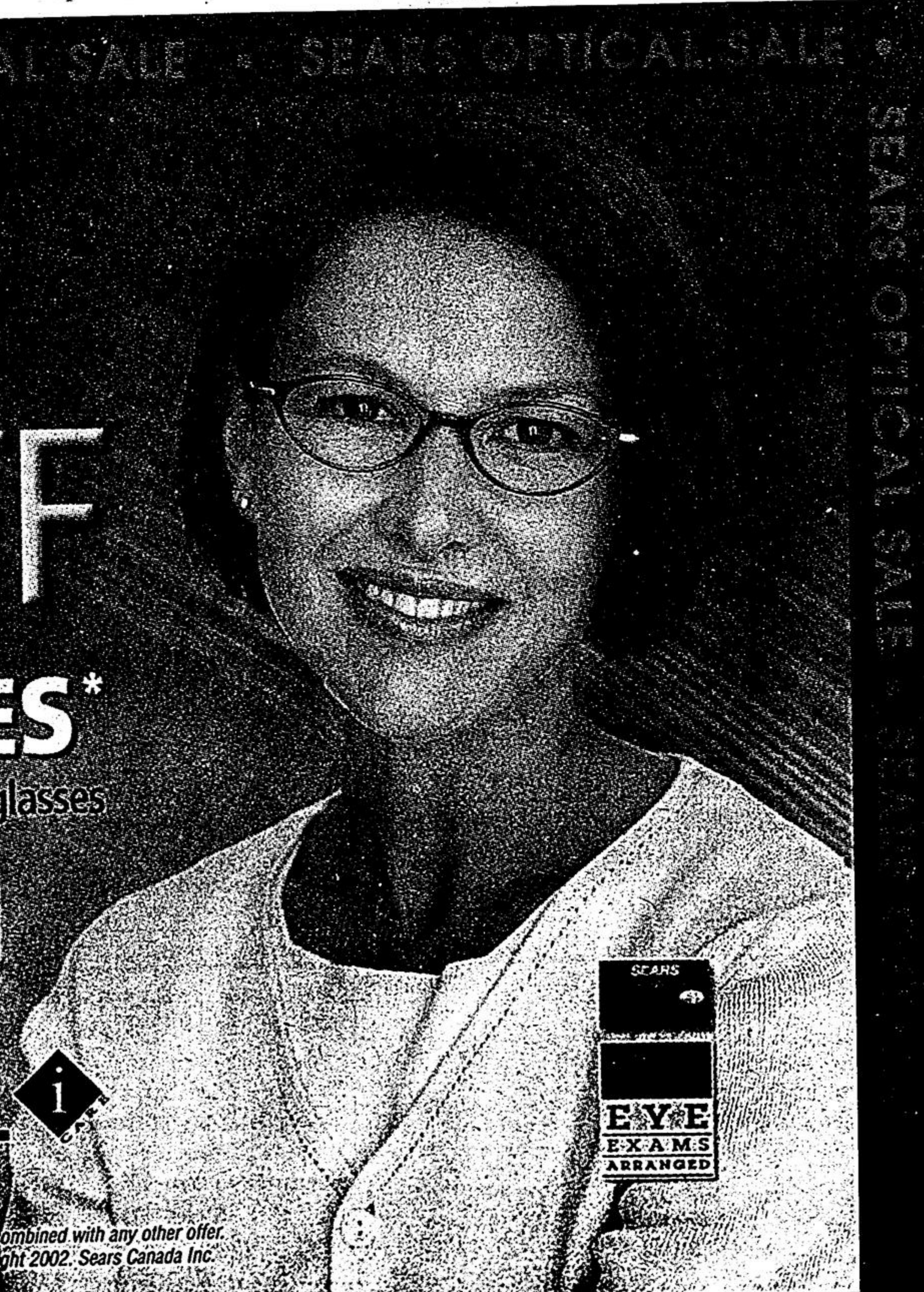
## FRAME AND LENSES\*

With the purchase of a complete pair of prescription glasses

### SALE ENDS SOON!

## SEARS® OPTICAL

EYECare Professionals you can trust



\*Offer expires March 16, 2002. Some restrictions apply. Specialty lenses and lens treatments are extra. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer not valid in the province of Quebec. © Registered trademark of Sears, licensed for use in Canada. Copyright 2002, Sears Canada Inc.