

Downtown Stouffville 'critical' issue

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include facade and streetscape treatment, changing business hours, special events, financial incentives and marketing and promotion.

Councillor Susanne Hilton assured residents at a June 7 council meeting, that the location for a theatre and performing arts centre and a use for the old town hall are still being studied.

Treasurer/administrator Nick Kristoffy recommended at that time that an information package on the charette be brought back to council July 12.

"Dealing with the downtown is a critical issue," Councillor Ken Ferdinands told The Sun-

Tribune.

People are beginning to realize a piecemeal approach isn't working, he added.

The major stakeholders, such as the chamber and BIA, have an important role in helping to revitalize the downtown area. But it is up to council, too, to make a financial commitment, he said.

"All businesses are impacted by whatever is done on Main Street," Mrs. Johnson noted.

Various groups over the past few years have tried to create a vision for Main Street, formed a tourism committee, attempted to launch a theatre in the old town hall and put new facades on the downtown buildings. All have been without success.



KEN FERDINANDS: Council must put money into downtown Stouffville, councillor says.

DVD piracy has closed theatres

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Only one out of 10 movies actually earns a profit and just four out of 10 break even, leaving the industry heavily dependent on DVD, video cassette and pay-per-view sales as major sources of revenue.

"The public sees motion picture companies as making


oodles and oodles of money, it's not Mr. and Mrs. Joe Public losing money," he said.

"What they don't realize is that these DVDs being sold illegally create large losses for motion picture companies, which means they'll be making fewer movies here in Canada and there will be fewer jobs on set. Some theatres have also closed down because of piracy and that means some teenager

won't have a summer job. It has a real effect."

Any DVD of a film still in the theatres is a counterfeit and consumers should avoid deals on DVDs that look too good to be true because they're probably fakes, Mr. Osmond said.

If you see someone selling knockoffs call the CMPDA tip line at 1-800-363-9166. It will investigate and notify local police.




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