

LCBO confirms plans to move

By Tony Pearson

Keeley Rodgers, a media relations spokesperson for the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, confirmed to Bancroft This Week that their Bancroft location is slated to move within the next couple of years. She noted that when this is done, the LCBO often prefers to build a new store rather than just rent the premises.

In December, Bancroft town council passed a resolution approving a change in zoning that would allow the liquor store to move out of the downtown area. However, Mayor Bernice Jenkins noted that before a confirming bylaw was authorized, there would be a public meeting to hear opinion on such a move. If there is opposition, it can be heard at that time. Zoning changes tend to tie in to the adoption of new county plans. This will occur in 2016. The mayor noted that zoning tends to need updating about every five years, so the timeframe is about right.

Jenkins noted that the previous town council had discussed such a move to the north of town, but had not included it in their planning. "There have been many rumours, and several developers have sounded out possibilities," she said. "But we haven't yet had a definite approach. We look forward to hearing proposals and discussing plans."

As previously reported, if the main LCBO store does move to the north end, the town will try to negotiate some continuing presence, such as a speciality store, in the downtown core for at least a few years.