



Preparing the canyas. Artist Angel Larivière gets ready to paint mural at Its Showtime

## Committee plans new mural

The Downtown Revitalization Committee, a subcommittee of H.E.A.R.T., has been having a tremendous impact on the appearance of downtown Bradford.

Not only has it organized the 3rd annual Open Air Market, held every Saturday in the Courthouse parking lot on Holland Street East, but it has installed heritage lighting in the centre of town, hung banners, and, working with the Bond Head Horticultural Society, put up baskets of blooming petunias and geraniums, created the "Courtyard" Park and a parkette beside the Royal Bank - and it's not finished yet.

More heritage light standards have gone up on Barrie Street, and there are plans to transform the small fenced garden area at the Post Office into a more user-friendly parkette, complete with benches. That way, the Post Office will continue to play its traditional role in a small town, as a meeting place for residents.

Work is also underway on the town's second mural. The first, depicting the Holland Marsh, went up last year on the west wall of the Plaza Home Bakery.

The new mural will be painted on the east wall of It's Showtime Videos, on John Street West, facing Highway 11. Called

"Postcards from Bradford", the new design involves transforming a blank, stuccoed wall into a "package", covered in brown paper and wrapped with string, on which are displayed a number of postcards.

The postcards will feature the Old Convent, torn down two years ago; a section titled "The Railroad Comes to Bradford"; the Christian Reformed Church, flooded out during Hurricane Hazel; and a modern depiction of the richness of the Holland Marsh.

In keeping with the theme, artist Angel Larivière, will also be painting "stamps" on the package, and names on the cards - and that's where

community sponsorship comes in.

As with the first mural, the Committee is hoping to raise the funds for the artwork through sponsorships. For a minimum donation of \$300, local businesses and individuals can have their names displayed as part of a work of art, on their own "stamp."

For more information, call Mikki Nanowski, at 663-6666. There are at least three more walls being contemplated for future murals. Artists interested in trying their hand at municipal art, on a grand scale, are invited to submit their designs and estimated costs to the Downtown Revitalization Committee.