

Council approves police move

BRADFORD - The Bradford Police Department is on the move and by September 15, they will be housed in new headquarters in the old Bank of Commerce building at Barrie and Holland St.

Bradford Councillor Roy Gordon told The

Witness Monday that council has approved plans to move the department out of the existing headquarters in the town hall to the bank building.

The decision came at a special meeting held last week to determine the future of the town's administrative offices.

Councillor Gordon said Toronto architect Martin Mendelow presented council with a \$200,000 renovation plan for upgrading facilities in the Holland St. building.

However, council decided the plan was too costly.

Gordon, who acted as a one-man investigating committee for council said the plan included a complete gutting of the current office and council chamber.

In additions, plans were drawn up for renovations in the building's basement where a planning and engineering department was to be located.

The councillor said the entire first floor,

which now houses the police department, clerk's offices, assessment officer's office and courtroom-council chamber would be renovated as solely the clerk's office.

The building's second floor would be remodelled for offices, court and council space.

Commenting on the plan, Gordon said: "They were just too expensive. Besides for an extra \$50,000 to \$100,000 we could probably build a completely new building. But it isn't the right time."

Gordon told The Witness that plans to renovate the office area have not been shelved. Council is still going to study a scaled down renovation project.

"The thing is if we don't do it properly now, we may be throwing money away. Why do partial renovations when we may have to do the whole thing over at some later date. It will take some more study before a decision can be made."