

# He helps plan area growth

Art Kneeshaw was appointed to the Bradford planning board in 1968, just when growth began to surge in town.

The appointment to the Bradford board was between two years later by his being named to head the joint planning board with West Guilford.

"The idea behind joint planning is to make Bradford and West Guilford work together," Mr. Kneeshaw said recently in an interview.

The priority on the town of Bradford to develop never lets up, he said.

"With gas prices so high, commuters to the north are suffering," he said. "People are moving closer to Toronto. Because we're not that far away, we're getting hit by that."

The Stoney-Georgian Task Force has suggested that the population of the town of Bradford should grow to 11,000 by 1991.

"Even at the present rate it's going to be hard to hold it," Mr. Kneeshaw said. "Right now we have enough developed approval to take us up to 7,500 people."

The actual population for Bradford in 1973 was 4,564. "We're still in the process of going from 4,500 to 7,500," he said. "It's going to be busy for the next two or three years anyway."

The main snag to growth right now is the delay in approval of the proposed sewage plant extension. Council asked the Ministry of Housing for approval 18 months ago.

"It appears we're getting in more industry than we should," Mr. Kneeshaw said. "The plan is set up for 75 per cent residential and 25 per cent industrial."

"This town can probably handle 10,000. We're very fortunate that we'll never have to annex for years."

When asked what has been the biggest problem he has faced while sitting on the planning board, Mr. Kneeshaw replied:

"The time element. A developer always feels there is a time delay from the time he makes application until he gets approval to go ahead."

An area resident all his life, Mr. Kneeshaw is the Land Registrar and Master of Titles for the County of Simcoe.

He has worked for the county for 33 years.

He and his wife, Ruth, have two grown children, Brian and Fay.

Mr. Kneeshaw's numerous interests include curling, golf, and the Bradford Lions Club.