

Hotel plan 'difficult decision': Smith

Continued from page 1

Coun. Smith said he has no doubt the hospital has been ignoring the residents, but said the development makes too much sense to not let it go through.

"I voted for it for a number of reasons. First, with the researchers and the medical people, it makes sense to have that facility there. And the hotel is going to pay (their lease) in advance for a number of years, and the money will go into helping finance the Siemens building so it can be built.

"I was concerned by the shadowing, but I was assured we're talking about an hour of shadowing."

Coun. Smith said it was a difficult decision to make, as he has worked with some of the residents who were opposed in the past.

"It's obvious to me that the hospital has been ignoring residents, treating them like they're not part of the community, but I expect that to change from here on in."

HSC's chief administrative officer, Dana Erickson, said the hospital did have an open house in July, but admitted perhaps they haven't been as communicative as they could have been.

"I have personally invited one of the leaders of the resident groups to call me next week, and hopefully a dialogue can start from there."

From the appeal committee, the matter will go before Executive Policy Committee, where it is expected to pass, and from there, to council in December.



Photo by Elisha Cumbers

Elgin Street residents Susan Natynczyk and Harold Martinos say they're worried the new 19-storey hotel, four times the height of the building behind them, will shadow their home permanently during the dark days of winter.

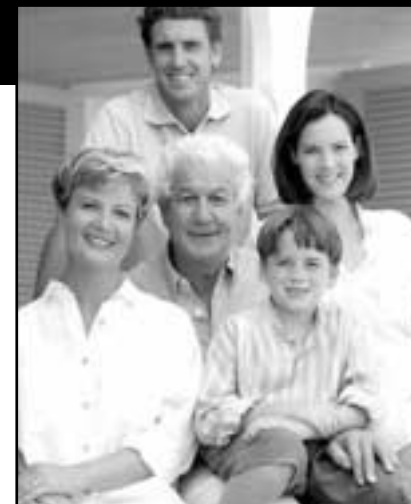
Generations of families depend on us when they need us...

It's all about your future, your concerns for your family's future. We can help you prepare so that you family won't be burdened with your final arrangements during their time of grief.

We provide complete funeral services and cemetery arrangements and will work with you for your immediate needs, or for your advance planning program.

For more information call today...

KLASSEN FUNERAL HOME, 1897 Henderson Highway ~ **338-0331**
or visit us online at klassenfuneralhome.com



231106-190424-mr