



# Telsec Property Corp. breathing new life into prime property on Macleod Trail

**DAVID PARKER • CALGARY HERALD**  
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When the late Jack Carter moved to Calgary from Saskatchewan, he opened a Chevrolet Oldsmobile dealership on the corner of Macleod Trail and Glenmore Trail in a brand-new, well-designed building that set a new standard in automotive structures.

But that was in 1962, and after relocating to newer and bigger premises along 29th Street S.E. in Douglasdale more than a decade ago, the original building on what has to be one of Calgary's busiest corners has only been an occasional outlet for pop-up sellers of Halloween, Christmas, patio and hot-tub seasonal retailers.ustration and rage from the business community."

That's about to change as the 40,000-square-foot building has been purchased by Telsec Property Corp. and owner Dick Van Grieken plans to restore it to be once again an attractive home for permanent quality retailers.

Over the years the dealership expanded onto three sites, but Telsec has completed a transaction to buy only the main showroom and surface parking on both the east and south sides.

It is a prime location with exposure to thousands of motorists every day, right across the street from Chinook Centre.

Van Grieken, who developed Douglasdale Business Park adjacent to the current Jack Carter dealership, was just one of the developers circling the property for a number of years and is thrilled to have now closed the deal, with the help of George Larson, vice-president of Barclay Street Real Estate.

But what to do with the building is open to ideas, and he says he is looking forward to input from commercial realtors and other interested longtime Calgarians as to how best to bring it back to life.

Sean Flathers, responsible for leasing, marketing and development at Telsec, says: "We want the market to tell us what they feel is needed."

The former showroom, he says, will remain as is. Telsec crews are cleaning up the interior and freshening up the exterior and will convert the basement area into indoor parking spaces for use by retail customers.

Founded by Van Grieken in 1976, Telsec Group remains a successful Calgary business with a staff of 24 led by his son and company president, Kris. It owns and manages more than one million square feet of the full spectrum of commercial real estate — from office to showroom, warehouse and retail development, plus several land parcels available for future use.

Most recent developments include Crowfoot 75, a three-storey office building in Crowfoot Crossing N.W., and Shawnessy Station, a 7.4-acre mixed-use development off Macleod Trail.

Telsec has also closed on another site in Forest Lawn.

It has purchased the retail shopping centre on another busy corner of 17th Avenue and 52nd Street S.E., next to the Town & Country Motor Hotel. Anchored by a Sobeys grocery store, on the site is the 100,000-square-foot former Target store.

Flathers says the empty building will be repurposed to support the vibrancy of International Avenue.

David Parker appears regularly in the Herald. Read his columns online at [calgaryherald.com/business](http://calgaryherald.com/business). He can be reached at 403-830-4622 or by email at [info@davidparker.ca](mailto:info@davidparker.ca).



**Sean Flathers, responsible for leasing, marketing and development at Telsec Property Corp., which has purchased the former Jack Carter dealership building at the corner of Glenmore Trail and Macleod Trail. POSTMEDIA**