

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

Pier Group to hold Speakers Night at Capitol Theatre

Forget about your usual Thursday night routine and mark November 19 on your calendar. It's a special evening in which the Pier Group hosts a pair of speakers with plenty of insights into adaptive re-use of industrial sites. Come hear Tim Jones and Gord Hume as they wax poetic on the subjects of urban design, creative use of city spaces and the potential of our very own Pier. At the Capitol Theatre, 7:30 p.m. **For more information, see back page.**



Public asked to have say about the future of Pier Buildings

Here's your chance to have your say about the future of the Pier Buildings. On Saturday, November 21, the Pier Group will host a workshop in which any and all ideas for the ultimate use of the Pier will be discussed. Architects and other professionals will be on hand to discuss possibilities, sketch some concepts and blue-sky some neat ideas. You're invited to add your voice to the fray.

Join us at the Knights of Columbus Hall (behind the Capitol Theatre) at 8:30 a.m. and plan to stay most of the day.

***CNSC hearings confirm that Pier Buildings
DO NOT have to be removed. Clean-up can
proceed with buildings STILL IN PLACE.***



PIER BUILDINGS CAN REMAIN!

JOAN MILLER, Vice President of Decommissioning and Waste Management Atomic Energy Canada Limited (AECL), stated at the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hearing on August 27 that "We can do our clean-up on the Centre Pier with the buildings in place..." And we must assume that the Municipality of Port Hope now supports AECL in this. The Municipality's own submission to the CNSC hearings stated that, "The Municipal Peer Review Team agrees with the CNSC staff conclusion that AECL is qualified to carry out the activities that will be authorized by the license and that AECL has the capability to protect the environment and the health and safety of the public and workers during the Port Hope Project."

Ms. Miller's unequivocal statement corrects a misunderstanding formerly held by the Harbour Commission, whose members have stated publicly

GUARDIAN REPORTER

that the buildings must come down in order to make room for the harbour clean-up work. There are a number of preliminary designs prepared by Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan. These designs show all of the Pier Buildings still standing in the 2005 version, half of them gone in 2006, and all of them gone in the 2008 plan. Chris Wallace of the Pier Group asked the PHAI why the changes had been made. He was

**"...misunderstanding — held by
the Harbour Commission..."**

told that it was not done for engineering or environmental reasons. They advised him that the plans were changed because the Harbour Commission asked the consultants to do so.

LISTEN TO THE EXPERTS THEN VOICE YOUR IDEAS! PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE FOR FULL DETAILS



IS MUNICIPALITY HAMPERING ECONOMIC SUCCESS?

Canada today is discovering the new world of creative thinking. As more traditional manufacturing industries move offshore or close down, the character of "industry" in North America is changing. Communities need to reach out and embrace a different way of thinking or be left behind.

But what does this mean? Creativity goes far beyond what traditionally we have called the creative arts, but includes them; it embraces all forms of inventiveness. It can be found in almost every aspect of our business spectrum rethinking: how we do business, research and development, contribute to the wiki-world of community collaboration, embrace new technology for healthier living and food production; how we entertain ourselves; the form and distribution of new-media, performance and visual arts; as well as how we structure our traditional recreation activities; and how we fuel our lives with new forms of energy, conserve resources and live greener.

Creative thinkers are well educated and imaginative and these folks like an interesting, multi-layered, culturally rich, attractive life in places that are stimulating and inspirational. Re-thinking traditional approaches to urban design and the reuse of historic buildings and sites feeds in a positive way into making creative environments. The natural and heritage attributes of Port Hope already attract creative thinkers and we could do more. A beautiful, attractive, busy, stimulating and creative har-

bour and waterfront will contribute to our quality of life.

All over Ontario many Municipalities large and small are rethinking traditional approaches to economic development and urban design which repurpose and adapt former old style industrial sites and heritage buildings to create wonderful spaces, rich in history, intriguing in form, yet capable of providing shelter for fresh thinking. To this end the Federal and Provincial Government programmes have emerged to encourage Municipalities to rethink their economic and cultural plans. For example, the Ontario Government has initiated the Creative Communities Prosperity Fund to support projects in Municipal Cultural Planning (MCP), encourage innovative organizations and encourage cross cultural (arts, cultural industries, heritage, etc.) partnerships. For communities of less than 20,000 residents this programme will fund up to 80% of a project up to \$100,000. The Federal Government has its Cultural Spaces programme which will contribute to similar initiatives.

Port Hope is ideally placed to take advantage of new creative thinking and programmes designed to encourage it. The Pier Buildings are excellent candidates for just such a focus with their waterfront location and rich heritage attributes, but to succeed we need our Municipal Council to back the initiative of the Pier Group and we need to work with them to find partners for this extraordinary opportunity.

OVER 400 PORT HOPERS CAN'T BE WRONG JOIN THE PIER GROUP TODAY



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THE BUZZ AROUND TOWN

Some pretty knowledgeable people are weighing in on the potential of the Pier. Here's what they're saying:

"The possession of a cleaned-up Pier will present the Municipality of Port Hope with the greatest opportunity in its history."

Don Rungay, heritage advocate and co-owner of the Lantern Inn, in his foreword to NetGain's study

"You'd be nuts to tear down something as unique as the Pier buildings only to replace them with the same boring waterfront park that every other town on Lake Ontario already has."

Doug Simpson, Review of Options for the Revitalization of Port Hope's Centre Pier, NetGain Partners

"The Central Pier buildings are as much a part of Port Hope as any of the buildings that have been the subject of preservation efforts in town. They are simply not yet recognized as such."

Chris Andraea, Heritage Impact Assessment, the Central Pier, Port Hope, Historica Research Ltd.

"The Pier has a proud heritage, not one to be discarded lightly.... The potential for economic renewal of this grand, rare legacy must be explored before it is destroyed"

Ian Montagnes, foreword to "Heritage Assessment of Port Hope Centre Pier", 2009 (first printing)

"There are few treasures worth saving in this world, but surely the lives and history of the working people of Port Hope, or any community, are among those worth preserving."

Mike Wladyka, letter to the editor Nor-thumberland Today March 2009

"The lake and riverfront lands are underdeveloped and underutilized as both an asset for residents and an economic opportunity for tourism. ... Renewing the waterfront will support the downtown, attract new investment and offer new business opportunities."

The Planning Partnership: "Waterfront Master Plan Update" for the Municipality of Port Hope, 2001

LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU THINK!

INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE COMES OF AGE

They aren't the fanciest assembly of bricks and mortar in town, but they can't fail to impress. With their hockey-rink-sized interiors and cavernous ceilings, the Pier Buildings have a colossal scale and the two oldest, in particular, have a timeless, if gritty, appeal about them. They're typical of a new wave among fans of built heritage.



While not in the same league as, say, the Bluestone or St. Mark's church, they are equally legitimate as a reminder of our past.

AND THEY HAVE JUST AS MUCH POTENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE.

WATERFRONT STUDIES SUPPORT PIER REDEVELOPMENT



There has been a long history of Port Hope waterfront studies, which have focused on the creation of a new marina and the East Beach. While some have said that this will be, "the same boring waterfront park that every other town on Lake Ontario already has", it is important to look at the other, positive attributes of these plans. The Dillon report of 1991 recommended that Building 43, at the south end of the Pier, be recognized as a heritage building and that it "be restored to a condition suitable for renovation as a public building". The Planning Partnership Study of 2001 strongly recommended that "the Lower Basin and the Centre Pier have the opportunity to become the centerpieces of a major public sector waterfront redevelopment initiative in Port Hope". They further suggest that Building 40 should remain,

NO DEMOLITION WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

"...we will not accept destructive decisions based on ignorance."

In the recent Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission hearings on the Port Hope clean-up, Pier Group co-chair Chris Wallace pointed out that, in spite of eight years of preliminary work on the Port Hope clean-up, no one had bothered to include the Pier Buildings in the extensive environmental work to date.

CNSC Chairman Mr. Michael Binder stated that "the Commission is disappointed that the Centre Pier buildings have not been included in the Port Hope Project Environmental assessment (EA) or in Cameco's Vision 2010 EA."

Andrew Oliver stated that Cameco is planning to come before the Commission in the fall of 2009 with a request to demolish the buildings, a proposal which according to Chairman Binder would certainly require a new EA.

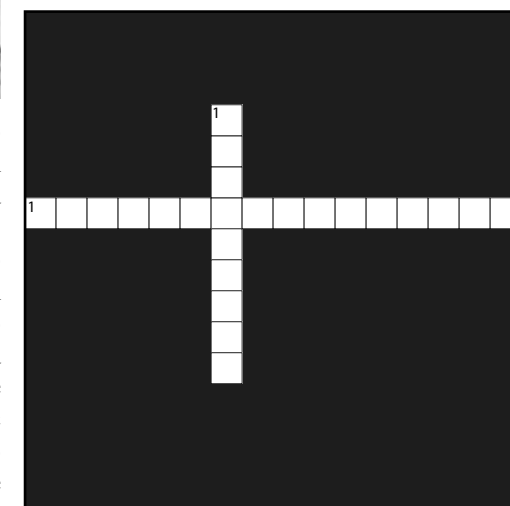
The E.A. process is time consuming, and will ensure that in the initial stages of clean-up work, the Pier Buildings cannot be touched. Chris Wallace, co-chair of the Pier Group, states: "We welcome this E.A. And if this E.A. confirms that the buildings cannot safely be salvaged, the Pier Group will accept that. But we will not accept destructive decisions based on ignorance".

PIER GROUP TO PARTICIPATE IN PIER CLEAN-UP PLANNING

The final report of the CNSC hearings states, "The Commission urges the Harbour Commission, Cameco, the Municipality of Port Hope and the interested citizens to work out the issues related to the Centre Pier in a satisfactory manner".

As the citizens' group who brought the issue of the Centre Pier and its buildings to the attention of the CNSC, the Pier Group welcomes this ruling, and wishes to advise the other three stakeholders of their willingness to be full, equal partners in this important, on-going process.

TODAY'S NO-BRAINER CROSSWORD



ACROSS:
1 Historically significant and economically viable structures on Port Hope waterfront (16)

DOWN:
1 Landmark proclamation from CNSC (9)
*(This could be useful: They said they need not come down!)

PLEASE TURN PAGE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION ▶

TWO MUST-ATTEND EVENTS!

The Pier Group presents a Speakers Night and Community Ideas Workshop to explore ideas for adaptive re-use of the Historic Centre Pier Buildings.

FIRST A CHANCE TO HEAR THE OPINION OF A COUPLE OF EXPERTS: SPEAKERS NIGHT - TIM JONES AND GORD HUME CAMECO CAPITOL ARTS CENTRE THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19th, 7:30pm

Join us and hear guest speakers discuss the potential of the Pier Buildings to enrich our community. Tim Jones, Director of Artscape, Toronto will be our keynote speaker. Artscape is at the forefront of creating creative spaces in creative places. Artscape's many completed projects have successfully reused historic buildings to support creative business while at the same time re-invigorating communities. Also, Gord Hume, chair of the MCPP (Municipal Cultural Planning Partnership), is one of the leading pioneers of the Creative City movement in Canadian municipal government.

THEN A CHANCE TO VOICE A COUPLE OF OPINIONS OF YOUR OWN: PORT HOPE COMMUNITY INPUT WORKSHOP KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, PORT HOPE SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21st, 8:30am - 4:30pm

The Pier Group wants your input. How do you feel about these remarkable historic buildings that are so closely linked to the history of Port Hope? Can they be reused to enliven our future waterfront and bring more excitement to downtown?

We want your ideas.

Our expert panellists will bring their experience to the table and engage in our community discussion about the future of the Pier Buildings.

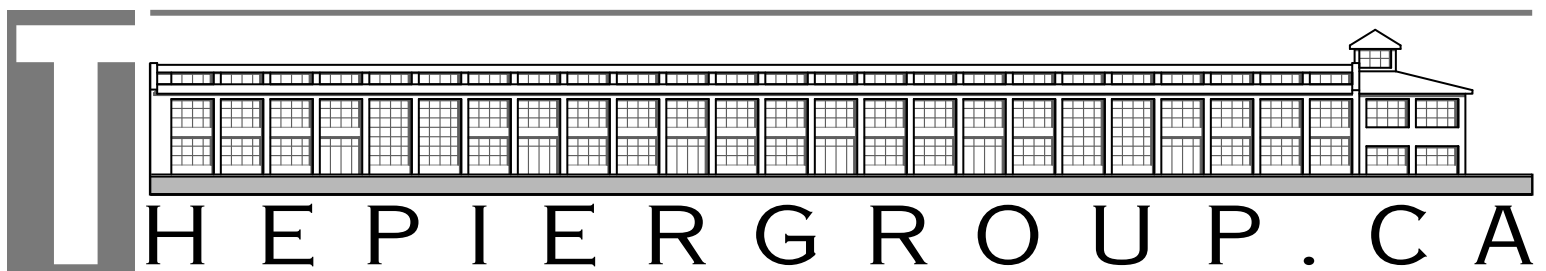
Netgain Partners and Historica Research have prepared reports for The Pier Group on the potential economics of re-use and the historical/heritage aspects of these buildings. These reports will help set the stage for our Community Ideas Workshop.

Please join us to learn more and to share your ideas with the group.

SPACE IS LIMITED

Please RSVP to info@thepiergroup.ca or call 905-753-1122 if you plan to attend the Saturday Workshop.

Both of these events are FREE, however donations will be gratefully accepted.



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