



October 22, 2009

Hello Pier Group Members

It was a quiet summer, but our Pier Group activities are definitely picking up steam. We are having a very busy fall.

- 1) As we let you know in our last newsletter, we made a presentation to the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission at their August 26 hearings on the big Port Hope clean-up. We pointed out that no one, in the previous 8 years of preliminary work, had bothered to include the Pier Buildings in the various Environmental Assessment procedures. The buildings cannot be demolished until such an Environmental Assessment is done. The hearings further concluded that the clean up of the Pier and harbour could be done with the Pier Buildings still in place. This is a major victory for us. We haven't won the war, but we've won an important battle.
- 2) Our first annual Pier Group barbeque on September 20th was a great success, as many of you know. Our Hosts, Bart & Judith Hawkins-Krebbs deserve a big thank you. Their gorgeous property lends itself to a large gathering such as this. This year, about 100 of you attended. Next Year, who knows? And thank you to our many volunteers who put it all together for us. In no particular order: Merron and Ferruccio Gottardi, John Davidson and Irena Orlovski, Tom Cruikshank and Darlene King, Chris Wallace and Carmel Bouzane, Rick and Susan Brooks, Mell Chapple, Jackie Tinson, Frances Clancy and Phil Goldsmith.
- 3) The Pier Group's economic study, titled "Revitalization of Port Hope's Centre Pier" by Doug Simpson of Netgain Partners, is being published this week. It was made possible by a generous grant from the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Port Hope Branch. The Pier Group will be presenting this report to Council (Committee of the Whole), on Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 pm. at Town Hall Council Chambers. Doug Simpson will be presenting an outline of this report, and I think you will find it very informative. All are encouraged to attend.
- 4) Two weeks later, our co-chair Rod Stewart will be making another delegation to Committee of the Whole on November 10th at 7:00 pm. He will formally announce our upcoming events, Speakers Night and Ideas Workshop. Mr. Stewart will be inviting the Mayor and Council members to attend both of these events.
- 5) The Speakers Night will be held at the Capitol Theatre on Thursday, November 19th at 7:30 pm. Our presentation will include a brief recap of our efforts, past and future. Our keynote speakers, Tim Jones of Artscape and Gord Hume of Municipal Cultural Planning Partnership, will speak to their experience in converting derelict, polluted industrial sites into jewels of their communities. Many people, Pier Group members and others, are very supportive of the concept of restoring the Pier Buildings, but remain a bit skeptical about whether the idea can actually be realized. We believe that our speakers will reassure them of the truly great potential at our doorstep.

This is a very important event for all of us, and we encourage all of our members to attend. The recent battle over the Town Hall expansion proved that in this community, there's strength in numbers. And we want our numbers to be heard loud and clear by council.

- 6) The Ideas Workshop will be held on the following Saturday, Nov. 21, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. This all-day event will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, behind the Capitol Theatre, and it will be an opportunity for the entire Port Hope community to ensure that everyone's ideas may be put on the table for discussion. We will start off with a panel discussion by our highly-qualified experts, including the authors of our heritage study and economic study, as well as the leaders of revitalization programs in other small town Ontario communities. The group will then break into teams who will work together to generate their own ideas for the ideal, revitalized Centre Pier. Each team will then summarize its thoughts in a discussion with the entire group and the panel.

You don't need to be a designer or an urban planner to have your say. All you need is an interest in the future of Port Hope. But we do have limited capacity for this event, so if you know in advance that you're coming, we'd appreciate an RSVP.

7) Fundraising is now a fact of life, and it does cost money to put on events like this. Admission to both events is free. However, we will have a donations jar inside. We do want everyone who is interested to be able to attend.

For those of you who can help even more, we do have a fundraising committee, who have been and will be contacting people they know and asking for donations of \$150. each. We have an arrangement with the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (head office) to accept donations on our behalf and issue tax receipts to our donors. Cheques should be written to the ACO, with 'the Pier Group' noted on the memo line and sent to our office at The Canton Mill, 4476 County Road 10, RR1, Port Hope L1A 3V5. Or call / email us and we'll pick it up.

8) Events like this take bodies as well as dollars. If you have time over the next several weeks and would like to help, give us a call or an email. We can use help with organizational skills, layout and graphics skills, and pretty basic stuff like distributing posters or stacking chairs after the event. We welcome you all.

9) We are attaching a copy of our announcement of our November 19th and 21st events to this newsletter.

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.

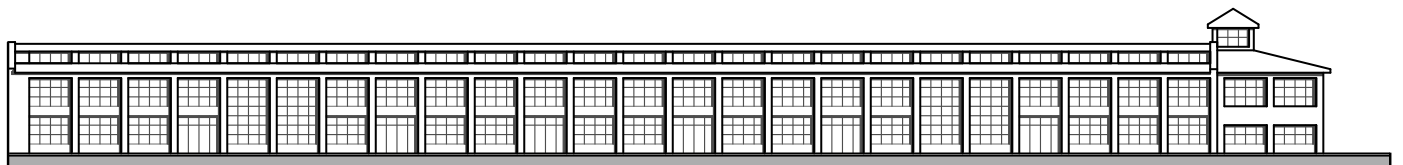
Our expert panelists will bring their experience to the table and engage in our community discussion about the future of the Pier Buildings.

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.

Both of these events are FREE, however donations will be gratefully accepted. There is no obligation, but would you please contact us if you plan to attend. info@thepiergroup.ca or call 905-753-1122



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