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JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2008 ISSUE

OPEN BUDGET MEETING

January 16, 2008 - 8:00am
Room 204, City Hall, 545 Talbot St.

This meeting will allow DDB members to have a chance to see the 2008 draft budget before the Annual General Meeting, and offer any feedback. The Board of Directors will be present to answer any questions regarding the budget for 2008.

The feedback will be reviewed by the board before the budget is approved at the February 6, 2008 board meeting. After it is approved by the board, it will be presented at the Annual General Meeting, and then forward to City Council for final approval in March.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 27, 2008 - 7:00pm
Room 204, City Hall, 545 Talbot St.

Mark your calendars for the 2008 Downtown Development Board Annual General Meeting. This meeting is open to all DDB members (business or property owners within the BIA boundaries) to attend.

At this meeting, we will be reviewing the work of the Board in 2007 and discussing plans for 2008, including the budget.

Copies of the Audited Financial Statements, Annual Report, 2008 budget and 2007 AGM minutes will be available at this meeting, and from the DDB office anytime afterwards.

PLEASE DO YOUR PART IN KEEPING DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFUL!!

Please keep your entranceways shovelled and free of ice. If you happen to see some garbage on the streets, please pick it up and dispose of it in one of the garbage cans that located throughout the downtown area. If we all pitch in, our downtown will stay fresh, and clean and most of all **beautiful!**

KEEP US INFORMED

We're here to communicate the news about our downtown, so we would love to hear what is new at your business: special events, a new staff person, a change in ownership, a new service...Give us a call at 519-633-5248 or email us at info@downtownstthomas.com so that we can share the news.

DDB MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Board Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 8am in room 204, City Hall.

- January 2, 2008
- February 6, 2008
- March 5, 2008
- April 2, 2008
- May 7, 2008

DDB OFFICE

Karen Gordon Administrator

Open Monday to Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

(Unless otherwise posted)

City Hall, Main Level

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St. Thomas downtown

DEVELOPMENT BOARD

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



The St. Thomas Downtown Development Board would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We optimistically look forward to 2008 and the great things to come this year.

This time of year is wonderful time to reflect on the past year, and to look forward to the New Year. 2007 was certainly a great year for the Downtown St. Thomas, with many new, exciting businesses opening, businesses moving to other locations in the downtown and an absolute flurry of work being done to the buildings downtown to make them look great.

In 2007 the Santa Claus Parade held at night returned to the downtown, and had an incredible turnout. Other events in 2007 that brought people downtown were Thomas the Tank which we held a Sidewalk sale, and of course the Iron Horse Festival. The Horton Farmers' Market which was open every Saturday morning brought people from all over to our City.

About the Downtown Development Board

The Downtown Development Board is directed by a volunteer board of management whose mandate is to promote and beautify Downtown St. Thomas.

DDB projects and initiatives include but certainly aren't limited to: murals, downtown parkettes, hanging baskets, planter boxes, seasonal banners, cross street banners, Banner Art Project, Tree Lighting Ceremony, Window Decorating Contest, Sidewalk Sales, Downtown Dollars, Clean Up Day, Directory in Community Centre, Downtown Brochure/Map, DDB website, Information Sessions, Revitalization of the Horton Farmers' Market and this monthly letter.

The DDB also partners with other organizations to bring events and programs to downtown, including Iron Horse Festival, the St. Thomas-Elgin Public Art Centre, The St. Thomas-Elgin Tourist Association

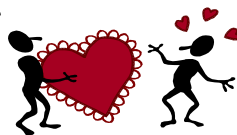
DDB'S WEBSITE

Have you seen our updated website? Please take a moment and take a look. Let us know what you think about it. Also this will be a perfect time to ensure that your business information is accurate. **Please contact our office** at 519-633-5248 or email at info@downtownstthomas.com

Canada Southern Railway Station Wants YOU!!!

As most can tell from simply driving by, the restoration of the Canada Southern Railway Station (CASO) is in full swing and picking up momentum daily. Despite the giant strides the faithful construction crew is making, we are still in need of volunteers willing to help out in a variety of other areas.

As renovations inch closer to completion, more tour inquiries and event bookings are being requested. However, we need of tour guides as well as special event staff (mostly weekends)! If you are interested in donating some time in the name of saving a piece of St. Thomas heritage, please contact Katie Cross via email katiecross@narhf.org, phone 519-633-2535 or stop by our temporary office located at 691 Talbot Street.



Your Board of Directors

Mark Cosens, *Chairman*
Dennis Broome, *Vice-Chairman*
Grant Hughson, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Margaret DeBolt, Terry Ranta-Hall
Kathy Easton, Joe Wiener
Monty Fordham, George Wilson
Charles Gratton, Michael Richardson
Grace Northcott

Council Representatives:
Alderman Lori Baldwin-Sands

Board Advisors:
Bob Allen, *Bob Allen Horticultural*
Sean Dyke, *Economic Development*
Ross Tucker, *Parks Department*