



# Downtown News

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## JULY 2007

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**St. Thomas**  
**downtown**  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

## DDB Meetings

### Board Meetings

Board Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00am in room 204, City Hall.

- July 4, 2007
- August 1, 2007
- September 5 2007
- October 3, 2007

### Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings take place on the last Wednesday of the month at 8:00am in room 309, City Hall.

- July 25, 2007
- August 29, 2007
- September 26, 2007
- October 31, 2007

Extra individual committee meetings are called from time to time.

## DDB Office

Karen Gordon, Administrator  
Open Monday to Friday  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
(Unless otherwise posted)  
City Hall, Main Level  
545 Talbot St. P.O. Box 520  
St. Thomas, Ontario N5P 3V7  
Tel (519) 633-5248  
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[www.downtownstthomas.com](http://www.downtownstthomas.com)  
[info@downtownstthomas.com](mailto:info@downtownstthomas.com)

## DOWNTOWN SIDEWALK SALE

**JULY 20, 21, 22 & 27, 28, 29, 2007**

Thomas the Tank Engine is returning. This year it will be held at the Memorial Arena. The Elgin County Railway Museum is supporting this event for two weekends in July after an overwhelming success last year. This event brought over 20,000 visitors to St. Thomas.

draw on the tourist set and our locals during the week too!

We have already had phone calls from a number of merchants who wish to participate in the Sidewalk Sale, **please call if you are interested too!! 519-633-5248**



The Downtown Development Board Promotions Committee is hard at work planning for a huge Sidewalk Sale. We will be running the Sidewalk Sale for both weekends that Thomas the Tank is in town. The weekends will hopefully

## DOWNTOWN STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

The City of St. Thomas invites you to attend a workshop with business representatives, community stakeholders and residents to provide input on Official Plan policy directions for shaping and enhancing downtown St. Thomas.

The Official Plan review will Guide long-term land use planning and development strategy; Harmonize policies and regulations from existing plans to formulate a new Official Plan; Incorporate the recommendations from technical background studies that are being prepared; and, Ensure land use planning policies are consistent with new Provincial Policies and Legislation.

Discussion topics will include; The community's vision of the future role and function of downtown St. Thomas; How intensification, mix of uses, residential development, railway heritage, tourism etc. can contribute to the downtown being a vibrant people and pedestrian place; Identifying policies that could enhance the downtown; and, Other topics of community interest.

To help coordinate the workshop, **please confirm your attendance by Tuesday July 3rd, 2007** by contacting Jennifer Kirkness, Planning Assistant, City of St. Thomas, and Central Elgin Planning Office at Tel: 519-631-1680 ext 4186 or email to [jkirkness@city.st-thomas.on.ca](mailto:jkirkness@city.st-thomas.on.ca)

**Horton Farmer's Market**

## Parkside 40th School Reunion 1967-2007

Parkside Collegiate Institute will be celebrating their 40th reunion on August 3-5, 2007.

If you haven't already registered you still can by going on-line to [www.parksidealumni.ca](http://www.parksidealumni.ca).



This event will also be bringing in friends and families to the Downtown Area for shopping and the restaurants, so we need to be prepared for this reunion. Lets make this occasion one to remember for everyone.

## HOW SWEET IT WAS.....

Thanks to the local community and the business support, our third annual strawberry social was a huge success. We would like to thank the many downtown stores and local merchants who contributed to this event. Over 500 people visited the railway station and enjoyed strawberries as they viewed the progress of our restoration efforts.

There was a lot to see with entertainment including the Elginaires Barbershop chorus group, Chico Sanchez and Mike Kondrashov. There were also over 25 classic cars on display compliments of the MOCHA classic car unit, the Thunderbird club and Dowler Karn (Thanks to Joe and John). Model railway displays were set up thanks to the Chatham Model Railway Association.

We would like to make a sincere thank-you to those vendors who set up booths at the North side of the building. Over \$7,000.00 was raised at this event and will go towards the station's restoration and completion. The North America Railway Hall of Fame would like to thank everyone for their continued support for our project. If you would like to take a tour, become a member or have any questions, please contact [kellypayne@narhf.org](mailto:kellypayne@narhf.org) or phone 519-633-2535.

## A Warm Welcome Feeling to Downtown St. Thomas

With all the tourists and visitors coming to St. Thomas for Thomas the Tank, the Sidewalk Sales and to the Iron Horse Festival to name a few events. Please ensure that the front of your stores are sparkling clean. Also go out to into your backyards of your business and ensure it is as clean as the front. This will be a warm welcome feeling to the visitors who will be in our Downtown area.

## Radio & Television Advertisement

The Downtown Development Board is now in the process of investigating into the cost of having radio and television advertisement to promote Downtown St. Thomas. We are looking at the radio stations 97.5 fm and 103.1fm.along with Rogers television.

If anyone is interested in participating in the advertisement campaign, getting their business name on the radio and/or television and sharing the cost please contact the Downtown Development Board at 519-633-5248. **More businesses participate the better!!**

**Please contact the DDB office with your email address so we can add you to our e-mailing news list!**

### 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 & initiatives include but certainly aren't limited to : murals, downtown parketts, hanging baskets, planter boxes, seasonal banners, cross street banners, Banner Art Project, Tree Lighting Ceremony, Window Decorating Contest, Sidewalk Sales, Downtown Scavenger Hunt (during Iron Horse), 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 newsletter.

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.



## Your Board of Directors

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

### Council Representatives:

Alderman Heather Chapman  
Alderman Lori Baldwin-Sands

### Board Advisors:

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