



Visit us online at www.downtownstthomas.com

MARCH & APRIL 2008 ISSUE

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES FOR SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK!!

The Downtown Development Board and the Chamber of Commerce are inviting you to participate in the annual Spring Clean Up week.

How can you participate?

It's easy and free. All you need to do is clean-up your neighbourhood or business area. The DDB will be handing out garbage/recycling bags to each business in our BIA area members with a poster advising of the dates.

Please join in by getting a team of your employees, friends or family together and join us for the clean up week of **Sunday April 20 - Saturday April 26.**

Please call the DDB Office at 519-633-5248 if you are interested in participating in the Downtown Clean Up effort with us!

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!**

APRIL IS YELLOW RIBBON & BANNER MONTH

For the month of April we are going to place our yellow banners and our new additions of the yellow banners with poppies in the center.

These banners are in support of the Canadian Troops in Afghanistan. The yellow is a symbol of our appreciation of the work of our troops overseas. It reflects our thoughts and prayers are with them and hoping for a safe return home. We encourage all businesses and residents of St. Thomas to tie a yellow ribbon around a tree, lamp post or a store sign. The banners will stay up from April to June.



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.

St. Thomas downtown

DEVELOPMENT BOARD

DDB MEETINGS

Board Meetings

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

- April 2, 2008
- May 7, 2008
- June 4, 2008
- July 2, 2008

DDB OFFICE

Karen Gordon Administrator

Open Monday to Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

(Unless otherwise posted)

City Hall, Main Level

545 Talbot St. P.O. Box 520

St. Thomas, On N5P 3V7

Tel 519-633-5248

Our Station - Our Heritage - Our Future



Spring will soon be here and as new growth sprouts and blooms so does the many activities and events planned at the Canada Southern Railway Station. This year promises to be the best year yet for the North America Railway Hall of Fame and our efforts to restore the station. The events that are definitely not to be missed are the "2008 Capital Campaign" Gala Kick Off May 1st and the "Heritage Festival" scheduled for June 13-15th. The Heritage Weekend includes our popular Strawberry Social, Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and new this year, the Heritage Hustle—a walk/run ride of heritage sites in St. Thomas. Plan on attending and celebrate our community and rich railway history to ensure its protection. We look forward to seeing everyone there! For more information contact the North America Railway Hall of Fame at 519-633-2535.

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

May 2—Capital Campaign Kick-off

Thursday—Help the North America Railway kick off their much anticipated capital campaign in style at the Canada Southern Railway Station.

This event kicks off at 7pm. The evening includes tours, information, refreshments and special guests. Its Our Station—Our Heritage-Our Future. Be part of it!

May 3 & 4— Canada Southern Hobby Show

Friday & Saturday—St. Thomas—The north America Railway Hall of Fame will be partnering with the Elgin County railway Museum to host a combined model railway and hobby show which will take place at the Canada Southern Railway Station and at the Railway Museum. The event will feature model railway layouts, modeller's corner, gift, hobby and craft tables, vendors and refreshments. Event time 10am—4 pm both days.

DDB'S WEBSITE

www.downtownstthomas.com

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



Your Board of Directors

Mark Cosens, *Chairman*
Dennis Broome, *Vice-Chairman*
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Sean Dyke, *Economic Development*
Ross Tucker, *Parks Department*