

**Clr. Russ Powers' column for the March 27th, 2009
edition of the Dundas Star News**

Congratulations to the Downtown Dundas BIA's BuskerFest and our Dundas Cactus Festival and Parade for their selection to the Top 100 Festivals in 2008 listing compiled by and announced at the recent Festival and Events Ontario conference in Woodstock. Thank you for your efforts and we all look forward to your 2009 events.

Effective March 30th, 2009 until April 2nd, 2010, urban households will be allowed to set out one container/bag (<135 litres and/or weighing <23 kilos) of garbage each week and, if needed, one clear plastic bag of garbage at the curb for pickup. If the clear bag contains a majority of material that should be recycled through the blue box or green bin programs, then it will be left behind. During the week following New Year's Day, Victoria Day and Thanksgiving Day, all households will be permitted to put out up to three (3) containers. If someone has a medical condition or if there are three (3) or more children under the age of five (5) in one household, residents can call Waste Management @ 905.546.2489 for special consideration.

The public consultation period for the Downtown Dundas and Governor's Road Transportation Master Plan ended in November 2008. The city's project team is currently reviewing all of the comments that were received. Public consultation is a vital part of a comprehensive Master Planning process and it takes time to thoroughly consider all of the stakeholder feedback. Based on the feedback, some of the city's proposals are being revisited and re-analyzed resulting in a delay. It's anticipated that a final draft report will be released for public comment within the next couple of months.

The Province of Ontario has announced that a province-wide ban on the sale and use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on lawns, gardens, parks and school yards will take effect on April 22nd, 2009. Over 250 products including herbicides, fungicides and insecticides will be banned for sale and more than 80 pesticide ingredients will be banned for cosmetic uses. The ban takes the place of existing municipal pesticide bylaws where they are in place and establishes one set of rules across the province. The new regulation can be viewed at: http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2009/elaws_src_regs_r09063_e.hm .

The next Dundas Community Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of the Dundas Municipal Service Centre, 60 Main St, Dundas.