

25Sept09-DSN

**Clr. Russ Powers column for inclusion in
the Sept 25th edition of the Dundas Star News.**

Congratulations to the Downtown Dundas BIA and all of their merchant members on another successful Wellness Week which was capped off by a Friday evening performance by the Toronto All-Star Big Band (it was standing room only on Grafton Square!). Thanks are also extended to the Dundas Division of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce for their highly-successful Seniors Day held on Sept 19th.

Dundas, like all communities, has been adversely affected by the economic downturn and its resulting impact. City staff in our community services division have experienced an almost 20% increase in the need for support and services and this is also evidenced locally at the Salvation Army FoodBank in Dundas. Their shelves need to be restocked and the Community of Dundas will attempt to do that through our participation in the annual Dundas Community Food Drive, jointly organized by Dundas Community Services and the Salvation Army. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd and 200 volunteers are required to make it successful. If you are able to assist, please come to the Salvation Army Family Centre, 150 King St West @ John St anytime between 9 am and 12 noon. Donations of non-perishable food items should be left outside your front door or in the lobby of your apartment building by 9:30 am for pickup by volunteers or drop it off yourself at the Salvation Army FoodBank. Monetary donations are also welcomed. For further information, call 905.627.5461.

Have you shopped at the Dundas Farmers Market yet? The 20+ vendors provide a vast selection of local produce and products which will be available until Oct 22nd inclusive. It's located in Municipal Parking Lot 7D on the northwest corner of Hatt St at Miller's Lane and operates every Thursday afternoon from 3 – 7 pm.

The Dundas Transportation Study is being finalized and will be available for public response in the near future. When it complete, I will host an afternoon and evening open house in the auditorium of the Dundas Municipal Service Centre (old town hall) to gauge your reaction.

Over the next few weeks, the Dundas arts community will be hosting a couple of events. The "Dundas Studio Tour" will be held on Saturday, Oct 3rd and Sunday, Oct 4th. For information, visit their website at www.dundasstudiotour.ca. The "Beyond the Valley Studio Tour" will be held on Saturday, Oct 17th and Sunday, Oct 18th. For information, visit their website at www.beyondthevalley.ca.