

## **Clr. Powers' Column – Aug 24, 2007**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> version of the Dundas Cactus Festival has come and gone and I'm sure that we all have memories of an outstanding Parade (can it get any bigger?) and a great three days of wonderful festival activities in downtown Dundas. On behalf of all the residents of Dundas (and the out-of-town visitors) may I extend to Festival Chair, Steve Deighton and Parade Chair, Donna Lavin and the volunteer members of their respective committees, our community's thanks for a job well done and a tremendous experience.

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Renewal of Memorial Square in the core of downtown Dundas is almost complete with only final plantings and installation and activation of the message board and display panels on all sides to be finalized.

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I'm grateful to my Council colleagues for supporting my request to make a formal offer to the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the purchase of the 2.5 acre playfield opposite the Dundas District School which has accommodated both active and passive usage for the western end of Dundas for almost 80 years.

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In last week's DSN, Craig Campbell outlined the plans for the eventual evolution of the former Ben Veldhuis Greenhouses' site into parkland along the length of Desjardins Canal. I and the City fully support the extraordinary efforts of volunteer committee Chair, Brian Baetz and his colleagues and the Hamilton Conservation Authority through their Foundation to rejuvenate this

gateway into our community. Keep tuned for news as events evolve.

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Circle your calendars and start now to accumulate non-perishable goods to donate to the annual Dundas Community Services' Food Drive which will assist the Dundas Food Bank located on John St and operated by the Salvation Army. This year's community outreach will take place on Saturday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>...please have your contributions out by your front door by 9am. If you wish to volunteer to assist, call DCS at 905.627.5461.

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The meetings of the Dundas Community Council resume in September with our first meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the former Council Chambers of the old Dundas Town Hall.

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Shortly, it will be a return to school for our young people. I caution everyone to pay extra attention to your surroundings as our youth return to their routines.