

The Future of the Nobleton Community Hall **... to be demolished or not to be demolished... that is the question?**

February 7th, 2007

Dear Nobleton / Laskay Constituents:

In the second round of budget discussions on Monday (Feb. 5), I brought up the issue of the roof on the Nobleton Lions/Women's Institute Community Hall, the desire of the residents to save this building, the heritage committee review of this building essentially stating that there was no question about its heritage value, and the fact that there was no budget allowance for the roof.

I was informed that there is work scheduled this summer to convert this building to a storage facility for the Township; which I politely suggested was not the intent.

There was considerable discussion about the building and the perceived inability to convert this to an accessible structure; the inadequacy of the kitchen facilities and various other suggested shortcomings and it was quite clear that there was an intent by some members of Council, as well as staff, to make sure the necessary roof repairs didn't get done.

One staff member suggested that the Township sell the building to the Nobleton Lions/Women's Institute for \$ 1 and let them deal with all the accessibility issues. I doubt this person's suggestion will carry much weight in the grander scheme of things.

This structure represents far more than just a building or a challenge to be dealt with. It is obvious when talking to residents from all spectrums, that this building, along with Hambly House, represents the heart and soul of the community. The vast number of parties, weddings, receptions, events, at this hall, and the degree of community interaction both over the years and currently make this building a vital and very meaningful place beyond the simple measures of practicality over cost considerations or engineering concerns.

The Nobleton Women's Institute will be celebrating their 100th anniversary next year. How sad would it be to force the ladies to celebrate this incredible milestone anywhere but in the building they have called their home for decades?

Please relay this information to those people you believe will most actively fight for the building as the time is now. I don't want to lose this battle, but at the moment the odds do not appear to be on our side.

Please encourage people to call, write, or email the Township Council members and attend and speak at the Budget meeting where public input is invited. The Budget meeting will be held on Monday February 19th at 6 pm in the Council Chambers at the Township Offices in King City.

Below are the email addresses for the Mayor and the other Council members and the email addresses for the King Township staff most involved with this issue.

Mayor Margaret Black	mayor@king.ca
Councillor Cleve Mortelliti, Ward 1	cleve@kingcentric.ca
Councillor Linda Pabst, Ward 3	csomerville@king.ca
Councillor Bill Cober, Ward 4	billcober@aol.com
Councillor Jane Underhill, Ward 5	csomerville@king.ca
Councillor Jack Rupke, Ward 6	csomerville@king.ca
Director of Parks and Recreation: Catherine Purcell	cpurcell@king.ca
Director of the Building Department: Brian Grubbe	bgrubbe@king.ca
Chief Administrative Officer: Scott Somerville	ssomerville@king.ca
Clerk of the Township: Chris Somerville	csomerville@king.ca

When emailing these people, please copy me so I am aware of what has been communicated.

Thank you in advance for taking an active role in saving the Community Hall.

Sincerely,

Jeff Laidlaw
Councillor, Ward 2 – Township of King
Jeff@LaidlawListens.com
905-833-6144
www.LaidlawListens.com