



PRESS RELEASE

The Corporation of the County of Hastings

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Cultural Plan for Hastings County & the Cities of Belleville & Quinte West

Hastings County - Culture is playing an increasingly important role in economic development and enhancing the quality of life in our communities. That is why Hastings County, the City of Belleville and City of Quinte West are partnering to complete a Cultural Plan for the entire Hastings/Quinte region. Each municipality has identified this as a key priority.

“I’m excited about this project as it engages community residents, artists, entrepreneurs, municipal staff and stakeholders across our County”, states Hastings County Warden Terry Clemens. “We want to establish a cultural vision for our entire region, in partnership with our City partners, that will stimulate future economic and community development opportunities”.

The project is being supported by an Advisory Committee of key community stakeholders from throughout the region who will offer valuable insights into cultural needs and opportunities. To support the community engagement process, a project website has been established at <http://www.hastingsculturalplan.com>. The website will feature regular updates.

Millier Dickinson Blais Inc. have been engaged to lead the research and planning process. They have completed more than 20 cultural plans for communities of all sizes across Canada. The project is funded by the Province’s Creative Communities Prosperity Fund (CCPF) and the Community Futures Development Corporation in Bancroft.

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We encourage everyone to participate in the community engagement process which includes a *Community Survey* which is available now online at <http://www.hastingsculturalplan.com>. Three *Community Forums* have also been planned and everyone is welcome to attend one of the events listed below:

National Air Force Museum of Canada, City of Quinte West

March 26, 2012 – 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Empire Theatre, City of Belleville

March 27, 2012 – 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Arts Centre (Madoc), Hastings County

March 28, 2012 – 5:00 to 7:00 pm

For more information, please contact:

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