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CULTURAL SUMMIT TO HIGHLIGHT BENEFITS OF CELEBRATING LOCAL CULTURE

HASTINGS COUNTY/QUINTE REGION – The Hastings County and Quinte Region Cultural Roundtable is holding its first ever Cultural Summit in Belleville on October 6, 2015.

The day-long event will bring people involved in cultural activities in the region together with local business owners, educators and municipal officials.

“This Summit will underline how supporting culture makes communities more vibrant and prosperous,” says Andrew Redden, Economic Development Manager for Hastings County.

The Summit is organized by municipal staff from the Cities of Quinte West and Belleville and Hastings County and is one of the recommendations of their shared 10-Year Cultural Plan, released in 2012.

“We want to engage with local residents and give artists, heritage volunteers and others the chance to connect and to listen to exciting culture-driven projects happening in other communities,” says Linda Lisle, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism for the City of Quinte West.

Noel O’Dea, one of the architect’s of Newfoundland and Labrador’s highly acclaimed, culture-based tourism campaign, will be the keynote speaker. There will also be a panel discussion on opportunities and challenges for culture in the region, with municipal officials from Richmond Hill, a leader in the promotion of local culture, sharing their experiences.

The Summit will also serve as the launch of the region’s new online Cultural Portal, designed to gather information on local cultural resources and make it easily available to residents and tourists.

“Ultimately, this is about making the many cities and communities of interest in Hastings County & the Quinte Region great places to visit, to invest and to live,” says organizer Mark Fluhrer, Director of Recreation, Culture & Community Services at City of Belleville.

The Summit runs from 9am to 3pm, October 6, 2015 at the Maranatha Church, 100 College Street West, Belleville. Registration is \$20 for the day and includes lunch. For more information and to register for the Cultural Summit, please visit www.culturalsummit.ca.

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