



NEW NEWS

YMCA of Chatham-Kent Facility Renewal Newsletter

Spring 2009

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter



Mike Walters
Mike Walters
Project Manager

The winter months have been exciting ones. We have been successful in receiving municipal support for our new YMCA; we've selected the location, chosen an architect and confirmed our campaign team leadership. We've also received resounding support from our staff, project volunteers and members of our Board of Directors.

You will receive the "New Y News" every three months. Each edition will highlight our progress and provide you with a Building Our New YMCA update. Enjoy this edition, and thank you for your support of our Chatham-Kent YMCA.

New Campaign Director Named



We are pleased to announce the hiring of a Campaign Director for the Facility Project in Chatham. Siobhan Macleod Tremblay will be responsible for managing the day-to-day progress of our upcoming capital campaign to raise funds for our new facility.

Siobhan brings a wealth of experience to the position, and most recently completed a contract position with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent Cultural Centre as a Marketing Project Officer. Siobhan lives in Chatham, and is married to Ken Tremblay, the CEO of the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance.

Location Announced

The YMCA is excited to announce that we have signed an offer to purchase a property on Grand Avenue West, site of the former Thamesview Lodge, on which to build our new YMCA. The Grand Avenue site is a central location, making it very accessible to the community. Its proximity to the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance, Child and Family Services, the Prism Centre, as well as the skate board park and community soccer fields make this site ideal. This location is ready for development now, ensuring our project is able to proceed according to our timeline, which forecasts opening the doors in December 2010.

Municipality Contributes \$2.4 million

The YMCA of Chatham-Kent is very excited to announce successful confirmation of municipal support for our Chatham-Kent Facility Renewal Project. Council approved the YMCA's request for \$2.4 million from the Municipality February 5th. The motion (shown below) was passed by a vote of 12 to 3:

"Chatham-Kent Council fully endorse the YMCA Facility Renewal Project and council further shows their support by contributing financially the full amount requested."

Details of terms and conditions for this gift are yet to be determined by municipal staff and presented to council for final approval. The Municipality's commitment to the full \$2.4 million requested by the YMCA is an outstanding show of support for the merit and value of the project in our community. This commitment from the Municipality provides strong leverage and endorsement essential to the project's success.

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Architects Announced



Architect Tillmann Ruth Mocellin has been selected to design the new YMCA for Chatham-Kent. The YMCA evaluated proposals for architectural services from four firms and the decision to go with Tillman Ruth Mocellin was based on their experience in designing full service YMCAs, the most competitive proposed fee, demonstrated experience in green design and a commitment to a construction process that invites and supports local participation. "The experience and capability of this firm was central to the YMCA's decision to award them the contract for architectural services," says Jim Janzen, YMCA CEO. "Tillmann Ruth Mocellin's experience with past projects at the YMCA Goderich-Huron Maitland Recreation Centre, the London YMCA Centre Branch, the Peterborough YMCA and the YMCA of Quinte West demonstrates their understanding in designing buildings for use by the larger community."

Volunteer Leadership Recruited



Rocky and Ginette Gaudrault & Family

The Project Office is very excited to introduce our Volunteer Campaign Leadership Team. Rocky and Ginette Gaudrault have agreed to be our Campaign Co-Chairs along with Pat and Elaine Weaver. Rocky is co-owner of TekSavvy Solutions Inc. Ginette is a school teacher, teaching in Tilbury. Rocky and Ginette have two children, Melissa and Matt.

"When Ginette and I were approached to chair this campaign we couldn't help but say yes! It was the right thing to do and the right time to do it in our minds. In order to deliver on the promise of building stronger kids, families and a healthier community, a new YMCA is needed, and the time is now to get involved," says Rocky.



Elaine and Pat Weaver

Pat and Elaine are owner/operators of P.J. Weaver Industries Limited. As long-time Thamesville residents Pat and Elaine are excited to be a part of this community project. "There's no other project we want more to be a part of than building this new YMCA," says Elaine. "It will have an enormous and long-lasting impact on the health and wellness of our community."

We are also pleased to announce that Darcy McKeough will serve as Honourary Chair of the Campaign. Mr. McKeough won a seat in the Ontario legislature representing Chatham-Kent in 1963. He served as Minister of Municipal Affairs in the government of John Robarts and was Minister of Energy and then Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs in the government of William Davis. He left politics in 1978 to enter the private sector and has had a number of positions, particularly in the energy sector.



Darcy McKeough

"The Y has been a very large asset for Chatham-Kent and with a new facility it will be able to do an even better job serving many more people, young and old," says Darcy. "Nearly 50 years ago my father, Grant McKeough, was one of the founders of the Chatham Y. I served many years ago on the Board and so when I was asked to be Honourary Chair of the upcoming campaign, I accepted quickly and with enthusiasm."

Congratulations to the YMCA of Chatham-Kent Family Team!

We have achieved **100% PARTICIPATION** for both the Strong Kids 2009 Campaign and the 'Building Our New Y' Capital Campaign.

This accomplishment is tremendously exciting. The act of giving is incredibly energizing and our YMCA "Family" has demonstrated how engaged and involved they are.

- 182 requests for donations were made of our YMCA "Family" (Staff, Project Volunteers and YMCA Board of Directors)
- 100% of our YMCA "Family" have agreed to participate in both of our campaigns

The annual YMCA Strong Kids Campaign raises funds to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate in YMCA programs and services, regardless of their financial circumstances.

The "Building Our New Y" capital campaign has set a goal to raise \$5 million to ensure that our new YMCA will become a reality.

Imagine how powerful it is to say 100% of our YMCA family has committed and donated to our campaign. It shows our community how much we care, how committed we are to the project and that we understand how important it is to show our commitment first. Congratulations on a job well done!

Questions?

If you have questions about the "Building Our New Y" campaign, we'd love to hear from you. Please send your questions or comments to:

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