

Progress in right direction

It's encouraging to report that some Gravenhurst citizens have met and formed a Heritage Committee.

They are exploring the various ways that the history and heritage of our town can be protected and preserved for future generations.

As it turned out last week a presentation on this topic was presented by Bert Duclos at Grace & Speed. It was very informative. He cleared up many misconceptions concerning heritage designations of districts such as our downtown.

He said there were 81 heritage committees of various sizes at present in Ontario. Some of these towns and cities also designated areas as heritage districts. Some have more than one designation.

Some people in the audience were concerned over restrictions imposed by a designation. He said each heritage designation is

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THE VIEW
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unique.

It varies according to what the community deems suits their particular situation.

I think it is time for our town to determine what we want the place that we live in to be like in the future. We need a strategy and a vision for the future!

It is very encouraging to have received the news that the vacant lot on the main street could be transformed into a park. The Berlets who own the property have generously proposed the land for the use of the people of our town as a downtown park.

Accolades go to Penny Varney who spearheaded this proposal. She had support of the Town and other people who realized

how



Downtown renewal in Gravenhurst includes a yogurt and fudge store that might have the tallest facade on the main street. It opens later this month.

much this would enhance our downtown core.

This is wonderful.

I applaud all of the factions involved.

Also in the works is a parkette on the corner rock outcropping just south of the train tracks before you get to Oliver's (across from **MuskokaTODAY**.)

The first impressions visitors get when arriving into town is very important. This to me is the type of progress I like to see. Steps in the right direction.

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A very important aspect in the life of Muskoka is water. But the well-being of people worldwide depends upon the availability and quality of their water supply. Our water from the tap is safe to drink, but we must not take this for granted. Many people choose to buy bottled water that is more expensive without knowing the source of this water. It seems to me that it is a sounder strategy to put our money in our water system infrastructure to

ensure that the water we drink is safe.

Speaking of water it's time to take the plunge. I was given a wet suit at Christmas so I wouldn't suffer from hypothermia. It seemed like a great idea at the time. Now the time is nigh.

Yikes!