

THE



Old East Village  
London, Ontario

A Voice for the Community



VOICE

Old East Village BIA Newsletter

Fall 2003

## Chairpersons Message

I would like to welcome our new readers to the Old East Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) newsletter. Our newsletter is designed to inform the East London business community and area residents about the revitalization initiative which is underway on the commercial corridor from Adelaide Street to Egerton Street.

On February 15, 2002 the BIA launched the Old East Village Commercial Corridor Transition and Revitalization Study. The goal of the study is to increase the number of people living, shopping and working on the commercial corridor.

Our partners in the initiative include the Ontario Professional Planners Institute-Planners Action Team, London InterCommunity Health Centre, The London Police Services, The City of London's Housing Division, By-Law Enforcement - Planning and Development, and Environmental Services/Parks and Forestry Operations.

In July and August the BIA worked with the City of London's Heritage

Planner to begin the process for the Old East Village neighborhood to be considered for Heritage District designation. The newly formed Community Association will undertake this work.

A development initiative, of the scope of our revitalization plan, would not be possible without the support and participation of area businesses, property owners, residents and community groups. The BIA is grateful to members of the Convert to Rent Affordable Housing Planning Committee, the Business Mentoring Group, the newly formed Community Association and the Municipality of the City of London for their enthusiastic work and support of the Old East Village.

I look forward to continuing the work of the revitalization initiative with our partners, the business community and area residents.

Sincerely,

Philip. A. Singeris,  
Chairperson,  
Old East Village BIA.

## Announcements

The BIA is pleased to welcome the following staff to the team: Heather Chapman, Administrative Assistant, Anthony Guidolin, Web Developer and Mike Turcott, Business Development Coordinator.

Congratulations and thanks to Mark Burrows of Eyes of East London and his team of supporting businesses and area residents for a successful graffiti removal day. On Saturday August 23 they removed graffiti in the area from Adelaide Street to Highbury Ave between the train tracks.

### History Byte

*The first brick house in what was then called East Village was constructed at 470 English Street. It was the home of Murray Anderson- founder and first mayor of east London.*

### Food for Thought

*"A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

*Margaret Meade*

## Upcoming Events

### London Community Players

Palace Theatre  
710 Dundas Street  
for tickets call 672-8800

### Jupiter in July

September 19-27, 2003  
by Norm Foster

### The Hollow

December 5-13, 2003  
by Agatha Christie

### Aeolian Hall

795 Dundas Street  
for tickets call 668-6940

### London Community Orchestra

November 2, 2003 3:00 pm

### The No Music Festival Forest City Gallery

September 25 - 27, 2003

## **Convert to Rent Pilot Program (CTR)**

As you may recall, the Old East Village BIA successfully applied to the City of London Affordable Housing Initiative, in September of 2002, for \$150,000 to begin a CTR pilot program. As a result, property owners maybe eligible to receive up to \$15,000 per rental unit from the City to assist in creating affordable housing in the area of Dundas Street from Adelaide Street to Egerton St. On August 25, 2003 informational brochures outlining the program were mailed to property owners along the OEV corridor.

If you would like more details about the program or a copy of the brochure please contact Mike Turcott at the BIA office (645-7662).

---

## **Planners Action Team (PACT) Report goes before Board of Control**

The Planners Action Team Report for the revitalization of the Dundas Street corridor between Adelaide Street and Egerton Street was presented to the Board of Control on June 11, 2003. On June 16, 2003 the Municipal Council received the report for information. Council referred the report to the appropriate committees and organizations with a request that they consider if the City can implement the priorities for action which the report identified. The committees and organizations have been asked to report back to the Board of Control at the end of September 2003 with costs and estimates and sources of funding where applicable. For further information please refer to our web site or contact the BIA office.

## **Heritage Designation for the Old East Village Neighbourhood**

Acting on a recommendation from the Planners Action Team Plan for the revitalization of the Dundas Street commercial corridor, the Old East Village BIA organized a meeting, which took place on June 25th, to establish support for having the Old East Village neighbourhood designated by the City as a Heritage District. Over one hundred neighbourhood residents attended the meeting. Chris Nelson, Heritage Planner with the City of London and members of the Bishop Helmuth Community Association answered questions about the process of creating heritage districts. There was a unanimous vote to begin the heritage designation process. As a result, on August 25th the Municipal Council Planning Committee recommended that the Planning Division assist the Old East Village neighbourhood to begin the process. The newly formed Old East Village Community Association has struck a Heritage Committee to work with the Heritage Planner. For more information please contact Greg Thompson at 679-3844.

---

## **Business Police Academy**

If you are a business owner or work for a business in the area and would like to learn more about protecting your business you can register for the Business Police Academy. This partnership program between the London Police Service and the Old East Village BIA will begin on Tuesday October 14, 2003. Six sessions will be held in the London Police Service Headquarters at 601 Dundas Street from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

## **About the Business Police Academy**

The Business Police Academy is a crime prevention initiative for the business community. It offers the business community a chance to learn more about business related crime prevention strategies. Program topics were developed by the London Police Service in consultation with the business community and will address the most commonly identified concerns. Information will be presented through classroom lectures, guest speakers, facilitated discussion groups and community site visits. Participants will also have the opportunity to observe the police working in the community.

*Program topics will include:*

### **Shoplifting and Robbery Prevention**

### **Crime Prevention through Environmental Design**

### **Fraud and Counterfeit Prevention**

### **Personal Safety**

### **Drug Awareness**

### **Police Procedures and Communications**

### **Vandalism**

By addressing crime prevention issues in the corridor this program is a major step forward in reaching the Old East Village BIA goal of creating a safe and vibrant commercial corridor where more people shop, work, live and have fun.

Please contact the Old East Village BIA at 645-7662 for a registration Form. Sessions are free of charge