

CIVIC DISTRICT VISIONING PROJECT

Public invited to “imagine the possibilities”

The Civic District has a “diverse synergy. We’re opening up the dialogue: what could this area be? We’re hoping to formulate ideas based on feedback.”

*Jamie Grant, General Manager
Centre In The Square*

BY LAURA JOHNSTON

The public is invited to “imagine the possibilities” for a key cultural area of Kitchener known as the Civic District.

Some 40 years ago, there were big plans for the area. With the decision that the Kitchener Public Library would not be relocating to Centre Block, the time came to resurrect the Civic District plan.

“In the 1960s, there was a real vision for this area,” explained Jamie Grant, General Manager of the Centre In The Square.

In fact, even the orientation of the front doors of The Centre was an intentional design and part of the plan, he added. While it may

seen odd that the front doors of the building don’t face Queen Street, in the original plan the main entrance was going to open to a central square. The vision was an all-encompassing people space.

This is the perfect time, Grant said, to open up the “dialogue about what this area could be. It’s a unique place and if we don’t do something, we’ve lost a great opportunity,” he said.

The Civic District is the area framed by Ellen, Frederick, Queen and Weber streets. The District encompasses key city landmarks: the Centre In The Square, the main branch of the Kitchener Public Library, the

provincial court house, the Registry Theatre, Regional headquarters and the police station.

Grant believes that the combination of government and public service offices and arts and culture facilities makes for fascinating and diverse neighbours.

“You don’t get to choose your neighbours,” he said, but added that a unique opportunity lies in combining the diversity of government, arts, culture and business.

“This is a great place where people come to work and to play. The District is a destination,” he said, adding that the hope is that the vision allows for expansion on culture, art and commerce.

Ongoing public consultation will play a key role in developing a plan to revitalize the area. To this end, the public is invited to complete a short survey that explores the current uses and considers future options for this area.



Civic District is bordered by Queen, Frederick, Ellen and Weber streets. Graphic courtesy of The City of Kitchener.

An Open House will be held on October 16 at the Registry Theatre from 6:30-8:30 pm for further public input.

More information and a link to

the survey is on each of the partners’ websites: www.kpl.org; www.centre-square.com; www.registrytheatre.com; and www.kwag.on.ca.

Welcome home!



Chicopee - \$274,900

Attractive end unit executive townhouse in sought after adult oriented Chicopee complex! Sunning newer maple flooring in vaulted ceiling great room with fireplace and separate formal dining room, fully finished walk out basement backing onto greenbelt with private patio. Complex pool. Not to be missed. MLS.



Eastbridge, Waterloo - \$349,900

Wonderful family home in desirable Eastbridge. Large open concept main floor with hardwood flooring, oversized kitchen with island, 3 large bedrooms and a bonus loft for play or media room. Short distance to RIM park, great schools, and all the amenities. MLS.



Buerkle Court, Doon Mills - \$489,900

Outstanding! This truly is one of the best bungalows in South Kitchener. Located on an exclusive and quiet court this home boasts a beautiful rear yard that backs onto protected greenspace and farmland. At almost 4000 sq ft with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths this home was made for entertaining! Stunning maple hardwood throughout the main floor, gourmet kitchen with granite, a soaring Great Room and completely finished walk out basement with recreation and games room are just some of the reasons this home is so special. Pre-inspected & ready to move in. MLS.



Quail Hollow, Wyldwoods - \$629,900

This stunning home and property resides on one of Wyldwoods’ most exclusive court locations. With a 75 x134 completely private yard it has been featured on several garden tours and will leave you breathless! Beautiful maple hardwood throughout the main floor, gorgeous french country island kitchen with granite counter tops and all appliances, a fully finished basement . . . this home is truly special! MLS.



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