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September 29, 2014

Open Letter from the Town of Oakville

Earlier this month, a number of decisions were made by Town Council regarding the future of the Bronte marina building, formerly known as the Metro Marine building, located at 2508 Lakeshore Road West.

Based on its long history and role in the boating and fishing heritage of the harbour, the more than 70-year-old building has now been designated a heritage structure.

Town Council also recognized the need for repairs to save the building from further deterioration. As a first step, roof work was approved to repair damage caused by a severe summer storm last August. That work has now been completed.

Looking ahead, a substantial amount of refurbishment is required to bring the building to a state of good repair as a heritage structure, and to comply with modern building code. Additional renovations may be required once the future use of the building is determined by Town Council.

In order to complete the state-of-good-repair work in a safe and timely manner, the town needs vacant possession of the building. To provide current tenants with a reasonable amount of time to wind up operations and relocate, existing leases will continue until June 30, 2015.

The future use of the building will meet the town's commitment to supporting a vibrant community and honouring the marine heritage of Bronte. Input will be gathered from the boating community, local residents and other interested parties to help determine the preferred use of the building.

The impact on the Harbours Business Plan will also be reviewed and discussed with interested members of the public.

Based on the consultation results and associated costs, town staff will report to Town Council in 2015 on the recommended use and needed renovations for the building.

You are encouraged to add your thoughts and ideas to the conversation. Information on public meetings and other involvement opportunities will be posted on oakville.ca

Sincerely,



Gord Lalonde
Commissioner
Corporate Services and Treasurer



Colleen Bell
Commissioner
Community Services Commission