



NORTHUMBERLAND CENTRAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TOWN OF COBOURG · HAMILTON TOWNSHIP · ALNWICK/HALDIMAND TOWNSHIP

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For immediate release

Chamber Gets Nod From Heritage Committee

Cobourg – June 18, 2010 - The Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce's newly acquired building at 278 George Street in Cobourg is one step closer to getting a fresh, new look. At a recent meeting of the Cobourg Heritage Committee, a comprehensive proposal submitted by the Chamber was met with unanimous approval.

"The application and approval process was fast and efficient" observed Chamber President Bonnie Thrasher. "The Chamber building is a mid-century addition to a primarily Victorian streetscape" explained Thrasher, "so we did our research and submitted a proposal that will be both sympathetic to the architecture of the building and appropriate for the heritage district streetscape."

Proposed improvements to the building's façade include the addition of an awning, paneled shutters, heritage inspired lighting and a new cornice in a contrasting dark graphite colour. The Chamber's plans also include planters and a custom designed bench at the front of the building, as well as replacement windows and a redesigned service entrance at the rear.

An important part of the Town's strategy has been to visit property owners as part of the pre-consultation process when developing plans. Town Planning Services' Stephen Ashton met Chamber General Manager on-site where a strategy was formulated. Ashton commented, *"The Chamber has developed a renovation plan that is simple and effective. Following the principles of heritage conservation, the proposed changes will greatly improve the existing building. We are happy the Chamber is relocating to one of our Heritage Districts"*.

The Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce announced the purchase of the property at 278 George Street in early May, and is renovating the main floor for occupancy in September of this year. The Chamber will continue to operate the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Office in the lower level of the Northumberland Mall until November 29, 2010.

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