



niagara heritage alliance

HERITAGE ADVOCATES FORM REGION-WIDE ALLIANCE

Will Hold OUR HERITAGE IN CRISIS: DO YOU CARE? Educational Conference

August 5, 2010. Volunteers from across the Niagara Region announced today the formation of the Niagara Heritage Alliance (NHA). *“We have been working for months to form and organize this alliance, and we are pleased to announce that representatives from 19 separate communities, representing all municipalities which comprise Regional Niagara, have come together to form the NHA”,* stated NHA President Val O’Donnell. *“Our built and natural heritage is under constant and severe threat. We are committed to heritage preservation and enhancement, and this alliance allows us to speak with a strong, unified voice and communicate our concerns to all levels of government and the OMB. Once a piece of our heritage is gone, it is gone forever”* she added.

“One of the major objectives of NHA is to educate members, municipal government and the general public on what actions can be taken or tools used to help preserve and enhance our heritage and, to this end, we will be holding the “OUR HERITAGE IN CRISIS: DO YOU CARE?” educational conference on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at Navy Hall in NOTL” Ms. O’Donnell continued. The conference will feature individual seminars/Q&A sessions conducted by leading experts in their fields, including:

- Cultural and Natural Heritage and the Importance of Preserving Both
- Architect Julian Smith, Willowbank School of Restoration Arts;
- The Ontario Heritage Act: What It Will and Will Not Do
- Lawyers Jane Pepino and Eileen Costello of Aird & Berlis, LLP. and;
- Resolving Heritage Disputes before the Ontario Municipal Board & the Conservation Review Board - Executive Chair Michael Gottheil; Environment & Land Tribunals Ontario
- THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Can Re-Development Retain Heritage Character and Feel?
- Architect Jill Taylor, Principal, Taylor Hazell Architects, who will share her extensive expertise in the re-development, restoration and conservation of heritage properties.

Our heritage encompasses the legacy of natural heritage - landscapes, vistas, agricultural lands, etc., and built heritage - buildings, structures, sites, etc., individually or in groups, which are considered to be of cultural, environmental, historical and/or architectural significance. NHA agrees with good planning practices which call for development that respects and works in harmony with surrounding heritage sites. Heritage tourism is one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism market and provides major economic benefits for our communities.

For more information contact:
Val O’Donnell, President at (905) 468-2058
email: niagaraheritagealliance@gmail.com
or visit www.niagaraheritagealliance.org

Beamsville
Crystal Beach
Fort Erie
Grimsby
Niagara Falls
Niagara-on-the-Lake
Pelham
Port Colborne
Port Dalhousie
Ridgeway
Queenston
St. Catharines
Stevensville
Thorold
Vineland
Wainfleet
Welland
West Lincoln