



Media Release

BEST USE STUDY – RVCA BUILDINGS IN DICKINSON SQUARE

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) is looking for your input regarding the future use of buildings in Dickinson Square. The Authority has commissioned a study to examine alternative uses for the land and buildings it currently owns. A Steering Committee has been established to help with the study and securing community input. The study is being undertaken by Commonwealth Historic Resource Management Inc., specialists in the assessment and re-use of historic structures, and TCI Management Consultants.

The area under consideration in this review is referred to as Dickinson Square and includes the five buildings owned by the RVCA (Watson's Mill, Dickinson House, Carriage Shed, Ayers Building and the Weavers House). This study is being done in anticipation of the RVCA moving its headquarters off the Square to a new office in Beryl Gaffney Park (move anticipated to take place in the summer of 2007).

The consultants have already met with key stakeholder groups in the Manotick area. We would also like to invite residents of Manotick, the rest of the City of Ottawa and the larger watershed to voice their opinion. A questionnaire form is available on the RVCA website (www.rideauvalley.on.ca). Click on the link referring to the "Best Use Study". A copy of the Terms of Reference for the study is also available on the website. **An Open House will also be held on April 11, 2006 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Manotick Arena.**

We anticipate that a number of scenarios will be developed during the study and a preferred scenario will emerge at the end of the exercise. The RVCA expects to have a Draft Report sometime in May 2006 and a Final Report sometime in June 2006.

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority is a partnership of municipalities created under the Conservation Authorities Act to deliver a range of programs in natural resource conservation within the Rideau Valley watershed.

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