

Stouffville artists team up for show

A pair of Whitchurch-Stouffville artists are being featured in an show in Aurora.


Painter Josie Schwarzli and wood sculptor Bob Staley have an exhibition of their latest works at the Wellington Gallery, 32 Wellington St. W. in Aurora until

July 10.

The gallery is open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Elevator 'unique' or eyesore?

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what to do with the historic building. If the building were demolished, 25 more parking spots could be created, Ms. Sorensen explained.

"We don't have the resources to maintain heritage buildings in all our areas," she said, adding GO Transit can't use the building.

Some councillors believe the town would lose little if the grain elevator were torn down.

'It is not a pretty building, but communities aren't built on pretty things, but on hard work. And this is a symbol of the hard work of the farmers and railway workers.'

Wayne Kelly,
chairperson, Whitchurch-Stouffville
heritage advisory committee

Councillor Phil Bannon called the building an eyesore, adding that no private interests have come forward to renovate it or use it for a business.

But preserving history isn't always about protecting attrac-

tive architecture, Mr. Kelly said.

"It is not a pretty building," Mr. Kelly said, "but communities aren't built on pretty things, but on hard work. And this is a symbol of the hard work of the farmers and railway workers."

"It is a symbol for the entire municipality."

Councillor Susanne Hilton supports a heritage designation for the grain elevator, saying it is "the last agricultural building we have in town."

Ms. Hilton and Councillor Rob Hargrave, along with Mayor Sue Sherban, supported the designation.

"A lot of people in the community look on (the building) as unique," Councillor Hargrave said.

The new Ontario Heritage Act passed in April gives council the ability to prevent demolition of the building, Mr. Kelly said. It will give council leverage to work with other levels of government in their quest to preserve the building.

"This building has symbolic value to the community," Mr. Kelly said. "We hope there will be an opportunity to re-use the building."

GO Transit does not want to provide parking for any commercial or private enterprises that might come into the build-



ROB HARGRAVE: Councillor supports granting elevator heritage designation, calling it unique.

ing, he said.

Heritage committee members, particularly Mark Carroll, have been working with GO Transit and other government agencies for the past several months to save the structure.

If the building can be saved, the heritage advisory committee wants to pursue grants and other funds to restore the building.

The grain elevator dates from the early years of the twentieth century, when it was the hub of the agricultural community in Stouffville. It is one of a few grain elevators left in the GTA.

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