

RAIL DAY Special The Spareboard Ottawa Central Railway



Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008

Rail Day Special Edition

Welcome Aboard!

SHARING A DREAM

By Dave Watts

In addition to the development of a light rail transit network within the city of Ottawa, wheels are in motion to bring commuters into the city by rail.

With interest in commuter rail surfacing from all corners of the region, groups from the Pontiac and Renfrew Counties are among the most proactive. The SADC (Société d'aide au développement de la collectivité) has been leading the initiative.

"The time is right and there is a need," says SADC executive director Louise Donaldson, "but there is a tremendous amount of work to be done before the first commuter train can ever leave the station."

With the cooperation of Ottawa Central Railway, the SADC and municipalities the Pontiac and Renfrew County are interested in getting a sense of rail service on the line.

The October 5th pilot train is not necessarily indicative of the kind of equipment envisioned – it's more an opportunity for area policy makers, elected officials and media to enjoy a day on the train in a casual environment; a chance to talk commuter rail service and to share a dream in a casual setting.



SADC Economic Development officer Brittany Morin (L) and Executive Director Louise Donaldson are hosting today's "Pilot Train"

Developing effective Commuter Rail service a massive undertaking

While today's "Rail Day" presents a unique opportunity to tour the route of a proposed Commuter Rail service connecting the Pontiac and Upper Ottawa Valley to the City of Ottawa, the project development process has barely scratched the surface.

"There will be tremendous costs to launch and maintain a viable service," says Ottawa Central Railway general manager, James Allen.

Continued other side

RAIL DAY

Boarding Walkley Yard
9:45 AM

Depart Walkley Yard
10:00 AM

Arrive Norway Bay Golf Club:
11:20AM

Depart Norway Bay Golf Club:
12:15PM

Arrive Beachburg, ON:
1:00PM

Depart Beachburg, ON:
1:45PM

Arrive Norway Bay Golf Club:
2:30 PM

Depart Norway Bay Golf Club:
3:00PM

Arrive Walkley Yard:
4:15PM



Ottawa Central Railway is committed to Safety in all aspects of railway operation. "Make every day a Safe Day."

Massive Undertaking Continued

“It’s a massive undertaking.”

In addition to market and feasibility studies, some of the obvious costs include the availability, type and efficiency of the ultimate rail equipment to be used, fuel, boarding platforms, park and ride lots, staffing, maintenance, rail upgrades, promotion and marketing. The Business Plan development process continues.

Thanks for the generous hospitality!



NORWAY BAY
GOLF CLUB

#3 Second Line
Bristol, Quebec

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SADC and the County of Renfrew wish to thank the dozens of supporters of the “Rail Day” Pilot Train and a future Commuter Rail initiative.

Special thanks to: Mayors’ Scott Wilson from Bristol, Sandy Heins from Renfrew, Terry Gibeau from Arnprior, Don Rathwell from the Whitewater Region, Edward McCann and warden Mike McCrank from Pontiac.

About the partners...

SADC

www.commercepontiac.ca

The SADC (Société d’aide au développement de la collectivité) Pontiac Community Futures Development Corporation works with business, industry and local communities to help create local employment, to support economic growth and to encourage business development. The small team of 5 professionals brings more than 135 years of experience to community development, finance, business and management.



RENFREW COUNTY

www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca/

The County encompasses 17 municipalities and has an area of 7,645.68 sq. kms.

We do business with an eye on the future while remembering the gains of our past. Innovative small manufacturing plants,

accommodating tourism and hospitality operations, a progressive service sector and several advanced digital-based industries have come to recognize the benefits of doing business in the County of Renfrew.



OTTAWA CENTRAL RAILWAY

www.cfqc.com

Ottawa Central Railway (OCR) is a shortline freight carrier operating west from Ottawa to Pembroke, ON and east from Ottawa to Coteau, QC. OCR also serves clients in the Hawkesbury and L’Original areas. Headquartered at Walkley Yard, OCR operates over 225 KM of track accessing the Ottawa market and international connections through its Ottawa transload facility. Ottawa Central Railway is in its tenth year of operation.



Ottawa Central Railway



The Spareboard

is a regular monthly publication by Ottawa Central Railway. For more info, email: dave.watts@cfqc.com. Back issues can be found online at: www.railways.incanada.net

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