

Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association

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Councillor Peter Meffe
City of Vaughan

November 20, 2009

Dear Peter:

Re: Location of Pierre Berton Discovery Centre at Kleinburg United Church Site

I am writing on behalf of the Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association (KARA®) to express our strong support for the Pierre Berton Discovery Centre (PBDC) being located within Kleinburg at the Kleinburg United Church site. KARA believes that the proposed Centre will be a welcome addition to the Kleinburg village core and a way for each of us to share Pierre Berton's great love of Canada and our history.

One of the goals of our Association is to undertake and support initiatives that will enliven our historic village cores of Kleinburg and Nashville. We believe that the Pierre Berton Discovery Centre will be of local, provincial and national prominence, and there could be no more suitable a location than the village he called home.

The proposed Centre will provide an interactive space where residents and visitors alike can explore and be immersed in our rich Canadian history, and it will complement the McMichael Canadian Art Collection as another significant anchor for Kleinburg as an educational and heritage destination.

Locating the PBDC at the United Church site will preserve the historic church building within our heritage conservation district streetscape, and the building can continue to provide much-needed community space for community groups and clubs.

We trust that the municipal planning process for this project will involve an opportunity for public consultation so that our members and local residents may give input on the specifics of the PBDC development. We look forward to working with the Pierre Berton Artifacts and Memorabilia Steering Committee, the City of Vaughan and our local residents to make this vision become a reality in Kleinburg to commemorate Kleinburg's own, Pierre Berton.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Schwenger, President KARA

cc: Mayor and Members of Council, Angela Palermo-City of Vaughan, Marlon Kallideen-Commissioner of Community Services, Peter Berton – Chair Pierre Berton Artifacts and Memorabilia Steering Committee