

GREEN BINS

The city's new green bin organic waste program officially began during the week of April 6. Downtown residents over commercial storefronts are part of the program in buildings with 6 units or less. The majority of these units have received the smaller sized (46 litre) bins and are to put them out at curbside before 6:00am on their regular garbage pickup day. We would ask all landlords to work with their tenants to ensure that they understand the program – what goes into the bins and when to set them out. Please refer them to the written instructions that were inside the bins when they were dropped off. The city will leave behind any bin that does not comply with the instructions so it is important that all tenants understand the requirements.

Further information can be found at www.cityofkingston.ca/greenbin or general information on garbage and recycling programs at www.cityofkingston.ca/residents/waste/index.asp

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Want to be in on the action for downtown's best events? We're always looking for some great volunteers to help out! It's a great way to gain valuable experience individually or team-build as a staff! Meet new people and have fun! Email Alex at alex@downtownkingston.ca for more information.

POLICE VOLUNTEER OFFICE

A big welcome to the Kingston Police Community Volunteers! The KPCV has set up shop at 324 Princess St. as part of our ongoing efforts to maintain a clean, safe and inviting downtown. The storefront location is made possible by the generosity of downtown property owners who have donated the space temporarily. The office will move locations quarterly (or sooner if the space they occupy becomes leased). If you've got a property that you'd like to donate for a few months please contact Rob at the DK! office for details.

The storefront space is staffed totally by volunteers and provides a location for citizens, tourists and merchants to ask questions, get directions or to drop off found property. It also contains displays showing the activities of the KPCV in the community as well as a display of the Kingston Police "Cold Cases".

**DOWNTOWN KINGSTON!
IT'S THE REAL DEAL**

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The office will be staffed part-time, and the volunteers will continue to do foot patrols in the downtown core, maintaining a security presence and acting as ambassadors for the city. Make sure you stop by the office and say hello!

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES!

14 THEORIES, 298 Bagot St., 536-7192. Web design, web development and web marketing; that's what we're about. 14 Theories strives to ensure that the site we create meets your needs, and more importantly, your customer's needs. We specialize in complex sites with e-commerce and database management tools but can also deliver a clean and simplistic site if that is what makes the most sense for your business. www.14theories.com

RELATE CLOTHING, 156 Division St., 531-3443. RELATE Clothing located between Princess and Brock Street carries name brand clothing, footwear and accessories such as French Connection, Applebottoms, Emu Australia and Juicy Couture. Open 1:30 to 5pm 7 days a week. Shop online at www.relategear.com

RENAISSANCE EVENT VENUE, 285 Queen St., 530-2550. Renaissance is a unique event and wedding venue housed in Kingston's oldest surviving church structure. The stone structure was built in 1837 as the Catholic Apostolic Church. Two salons with exterior patio and courtyard can accommodate single groups of up to 200 guests with on-site catering and limited parking. www.foodandheritage.com

THOMAS MARLAY, LAWYER, 306 - 275 Ontario St., 507-1309. Tom has years of experience in franchising, commercial leasing, technology law and the purchase and sale of businesses. He has done licensing deals with many Fortune 500 companies, handled hundreds of leasing transactions and advised a range of clients from major franchisors to first-time franchisees. All Tom's clients benefit from his experience and judgment—a lawyer's greatest assets. www.marlay.ca

THE JUNGLE has moved to 107 Princess St.

CONTACT

**DOWNTOWN KINGSTON!
IT'S THE REAL DEAL****SPRING GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday May 27th, Confederation Place Hotel. Mix and mingle begins at 6:30pm and the business meeting gets underway at 7pm. If you have any items you'd like to see on the agenda, please pass them along to Rob at the Downtown Kingston! office. Keep watching for your official invitation to be delivered to your door in May.

DOWNTOWN KINGSTON! WINS AWARD!

You are reading an award winning newsletter! On March 31, we won the award for Organization Communications at the Ontario Business Improvement Area Association (OBIAA) annual conference in Toronto for our new newsletter and website. "The BIA Achievement Awards celebrate and communicate the most successful and innovative efforts in Ontario BIA development," said OBIAA President, Susan Nicholson in a press release.

And, speaking of our website, we invite you to check out the Members Only section – we're adding to it all the time. Take a look at the new section on co-op advertising, as well as past Board of Directors meeting notes and the latest notes from our DK! Connections meetings.

SNOWBIRDS IN KINGSTON!

May 27 is also the day that the Snowbirds visit Kingston – that show starts at 6pm. Plan to come early and take in the breathtaking acrobatics of these legendary Canadian pilots. There will be fantastic vantage points from all along the area of Confederation Park. When the show's over, we'll see you at the Confederation Place Hotel for the Spring General Meeting!

DK! CONNECTIONS

We've hosted 2 member networking sessions so far with great feedback from those in attendance. Each session is held on the fourth Monday of every month from 4 to 6 p.m. at a location TBA. Please send us your email address and we'll be sure to get you on the list of future meeting notices. Please note that the next meeting is on Monday April 27th upstairs at the Brew Pub.

As mentioned above, the notes taken at these meetings are posted on our website – these notes are also sent to the Board and referred to the appropriate committee for action. Not only are these sessions an opportunity for our members to provide feedback directly to the office, they are also a great chance to meet fellow downtown businesses. If you're interested in attending our April meeting, please RSVP to Arden by calling the office (542-8677) or email arden@downtownkingston.ca.



UPCOMING DATES

MOVING DAY RACE WEEKEND

Kingstonians know Moving Day occurs each spring as students pack their belongings to move home for the summer. Moving Day Race Weekend, April 25 & 26, celebrates this flurry of activity in the city by getting Kingstonians, and our visitors, outside and moving as well. Run, walk or cheer in the area's most scenic races. For more information or to sign up visit www.krra.org.

VICTORIA DAY - MONDAY MAY 18

This is the first statutory holiday of the year falling within the City of Kingston's By-Law that exempts Kingston's businesses from the Ontario government's Retail Holidays Act. This means that all businesses can be opened on this day.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO K-TOWN?

May 22 - Leonard Cohen, K-Rock Centre
 May 23 - Tragically Hip with the Trews, K-Rock Centre
 May 26 - John Fogerty, K-Rock Centre

QUEEN'S SPRING REUNION

May 22 - 24. With the cancellation of the traditional Homecoming Weekend in the fall, Queen's alumni are being welcomed back to Kingston on the weekend after the Victoria Day holiday. This weekend includes class reunions, faculty receptions, the Tricolour Guard dinner, plus Queen's MiniU (www.queensu.ca/alumni or call 1.800.267.7837 for details), and other events. This is a great opportunity for alumni to rediscover the beauty of our city in the spring - so, start making plans now to entice them with your unbelievable offers as they stroll through the streets of our wonderful downtown!

ART AFTER DARK

After a very successful first run last fall, downtown's amazing galleries are once again opening up their doors for a great evening of art. From 6pm - 9pm on Thursday, May 28th discover what Kingston has to offer. Information on participating galleries is available at www.downtownkingston.ca

KINGSTON BUSKERS RENDEZVOUS

Now in its 21st exciting season, Buskers will be coming to the streets of downtown this summer from July 9 to 12. Look forward to seeing your old favorites as well as great new talent!

Watch for information arriving soon about how you can help make the Kingston Buskers Rendezvous the best ever by becoming a Friend or Feeder sponsor. We truly need and appreciate your help. www.kingstonbuskers.com



K-ROCK CENTRE WINS AWARD!

Congratulations to the K-Rock Centre for being recognized as the "Major Facility of the Year" for venues under 8,000 person capacity by the Canadian Music & Broadcast Industry awards! With just one year of operation under its belt, the K-Rock Centre beat out established venues (Brandt Centre, Regina; Save-On Foods Memorial Centre, Victoria and last year's winner Ricoh Coliseum, Toronto) to take home the hardware.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

We have met several times with city staff on the Princess St. reconstruction project - updates will be available soon. The project is still a 'go' for the first 2 blocks (Holiday Inn up to and including the King St. intersection) for the spring of 2010. Investigative test holes have been dug and city staff are using the information from those digs to prepare the tender documents. We still do not know the number of weeks involved in the project, but will get that information out as soon as we know.

Utilities Kingston plans on doing some work in the sidewalk area on either side of the King St. intersection this spring - there is a large vault and a manhole that they would like to replace now to save time in 2010. We are waiting to hear how they plan to proceed.

MOVIES IN THE SQUARE

We are accepting ideas for the 2009 Movies in the Square lineup! Email movies@downtownkingston.ca with your suggestions! Please put "Movies" in the subject line.



PITCH-IN KINGSTON DAY - APRIL 24

Join the Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce, presenting sponsor Tim Hortons and their partners to help clean up our community! Stop by ANY TIM HORTONS in Kingston on Pitch-In Day ONLY, to pick up your pitch in bag from 7am to 9am while supplies last. This is a great opportunity for you, your staff and your neighbouring businesses to get together, choose a spot downtown and get cleaning! Make sure you visit the Chamber's website, www.kingstonchamber.on.ca to register.

GENERAL CLEANLINESS

Spring is always a difficult time when it comes to cleanliness downtown - the snow has melted revealing all the nastiness that winter has left behind - the city street sweeper and sidewalk sweeper aren't yet out, and our summer crew hasn't started full time. This is the time when we need to rely on each other the most to look after the area directly in front of our businesses. So, please take some time each morning before you open to do a quick sweep out front. On garbage day, please make sure that your garbage is properly secured so that it doesn't leak or blow all over. We all benefit from a clean and inviting downtown and we all need to do our part to make sure it happens.



NO POSTERING BY-LAW

A gentle reminder to all downtown businesses that there is a City of Kingston By-Law in effect that prohibits putting any type of posters, stickers, etc. on the lamp posts and grey utility boxes downtown. It does not matter who puts the posters up (you, your staff, a band playing inside your business, etc.) - if your business name/address are on the poster, you can face a large fine. Our street crew and city bylaw officers remove any posters found on a regular basis and turn them over to the city to process the fine. All posters are to be placed at the two poster kiosks available downtown - one in Confederation Basin and the other at the corner of Princess and Wellington. So, please ensure any posters are properly placed. If you regularly book bands to play at your business, please make sure that they are aware of this bylaw. Again, it is the business who will be fined, not the band.

CIGARETTE BUTTS

Know of an area that could use a receptacle for cigarette butts? Interested in contributing some money to purchase one for that area? If so, please contact the office. We're contemplating a proposal to the city that would allow us to purchase multiple units for problematic areas in a three-way partnership between DK! the city and our businesses. Pooling our money would enable us to address this issue, and get more receptacles on the street in a relatively short amount of time. We're now in the process of pricing larger units, similar to what is located in Springer Market Square. Please let us know if you would be willing to participate in this cost sharing initiative.

DOWNTOWN KINGSTON! GREEN TEAM

This spring we'll be relaunching our downtown Street Ambassadors as our downtown Green Team. We'll have four students out on a daily basis working on street sweeping, deliveries, poster removal, weeding and responding to customer inquiries on things like shopping, events and promotions. Make sure you say 'Hi' when you see them!

