



THE GOLDEN HORSESHOE POST CARD CLUB

South Central Ontario, Canada

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Here are the date, time and location of our next meeting. The room should be open at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.
The Canadian Football Hall of Fame and Museum, Auditorium
58 Jackson Street West
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1L4

The Hall of Fame is located just east of Hamilton City Hall. There is plenty of parking available in the adjacent lot behind City Hall. Payment is required until 9 p.m. An elevator is available for those who need it. It is located left of the base of the stairs to the main entrance, past the free-standing, upright burgundy-coloured sign. Visit www.ghpcc.ca and see the Meetings-Location page for more details.

Upcoming Meetings: Meeting dates for the rest of 2015 are April 22, May 27, and June 24, September 23, October 28, and November 25. There are no meetings in July, August or December.

Agenda for the Meeting of March 25, 2015 **(although not necessarily in this order)**

- (1) General Discussion:** Bring any information that you'd like to share with the group.
- (2) The Book(s):** There will be a discussion of the progress made with sales of the club's book, "This is a Beautiful City".
- (3) Location of Future Meetings:** We're on the lookout for a permanent location for our meetings. We'll need to evaluate any proposed location and possibly try it out for future use. Several sites have been discussed, and many in the Hamilton/Burlington area have already been investigated by Jon Soyka and Ron Sinclair. A list of considerations, although by no means a complete list, is presented at the end of the newsletter, under the heading "**Factors to Consider in Evaluating Locations for Meetings**". We may add to the list as we discover more desirable and undesirable features. No place will be perfect!

If you have ideas about any other potential meeting place(s), please provide as many details as possible about the site(s) at the monthly meeting, or check it out yourself. We may bounce around to a few locations before deciding upon a permanent-until-we-have-to-move meeting room. As well as the increase in the rental cost at the Burlington Red Cross, we are looking at increasingly crowded conditions in the meeting room, as the number of members attending increases, and also proposed parking restrictions on the street. A larger facility would allow the club to increase its membership.

- (4) Presentation – "Then and Now":** Jon Soyka will provide a short piece on "Then and Now" - a look at some cards that have been identified, and what the sites look like now.

(5) Show and Tell: We will continue the Show & Tell session which was started at February's meeting. "My THREE Favourite post card finds since our last meeting in November". Anyone who wants to show the group his/her 3 cards should scan them at high resolution and either e-mail the files to Jon at jonsoyka@shaw.ca, or put the files on a USB/flash/thumb drive and bring them to the meeting.

Would Anyone Care to do a Presentation at an Upcoming Meeting?

If you would like to give a presentation to the club members at one of our meetings, please advise us of the subject of your talk and the meeting date at which you'd like to present. Everyone has something interesting to offer so have a look at your collection and share some of it with us!

Also Consider Contributing to the Newsletter!

If you have an article or an idea for one, and would like to contribute to the newsletter, please feel free to do so. If you have any questions about how to submit an article, just ask!

Minutes of the Meeting of February 25, 2015

Number of Attendees: 12

Chaired by: Jon Soyka

Club Members in Attendance (alphabetically):

Marg Brown, Larry Cherns, Wayne Curtis, Joyce Farnell, Alan Hebb, Wilf Lowry, Peggy MacLeod, Bill Nancekivell, Carl Schlosser, Ron Sinclair, Jon Soyka, John Thompson.

Jon and those of us who had attended the Toronto Postcard Club's Show and Sale on the previous Sunday, noted that many of the club members had not attended. The Ancaster show was also discussed. A fellow was there selling his own collection of real photo and other Hamilton cards, and a few cards from other locations. He will not be selling at the post card shows, but will be selling at the Woodstock Nostalgia show on March 8th.

The link to the video of Jon's appearance promoting the book on the CHCH Morning Live TV show works well for some club members but not others. Internet and computer speeds are the likely problems. A presentation was made to the West Lincoln Heritage Society, which 33 people attended, many of whom brought cards. One woman brought an album into which all of the cards had been glued. A presentation is scheduled for Beamsville (80-90 people), and a presentation may be made in Grimsby as well. 3 books were sold at a Friends of Battlefield House meeting, from their stock of the book. Jon Soyka and Ron Sinclair will present to the Stoney Creek Heritage Society next week.

Jon showed us the PowerPoint presentation that he has been showing to the various organizations. It is entitled "The Post Card from Then Till Now". John P. Charlton of Philadelphia created the first commercially produced post card in 1861, when it was patented and trademarked. A Victorian eccentric, Theodore Hook later showed that he had sent the first post card to himself in 1840, with a penny black stamp, a very pricey stamp in today's market. The card sent by Theodore Hook Esq. was purchased in 2002 for \$55,000 (31,750 pounds Sterling). In 1865 a German postal official Hansel von Stephan proposed the "open post sheet", with one side for the address and the other for the message. Canada's first post cards were introduced in 1871, Great Britain's first PCs were introduced in 1870. Canada eventually issued pre-stamped post cards. In 1903, printed pictures were allowed in Canada, and post cards enjoyed a real boom. Jon noted that casualty post cards were issued by the Canadian army for use by hospitals for sending information about patients to their families. These cards had edges which were patterned like the edges of air mail letters.

[For more information about post cards and their history in Canada and elsewhere, visit the following web sites. Wikipedia: www.wikipedia.com. Enter “postcard” in the search box. The “Postcard” page has a very informative glossary of post card terms, as well as many references and links to other useful web pages. Canadian Museum of History: <http://www.historymuseum.ca/cmhc/exhibitions/cpm/chrono/chsmene.shtml> British North American Philatelic Society: <http://www.bnaps.org/ore/willson-post-cards.pdf>.]

We moved on to the show and tell session. Jon showed a number of post cards, the most amusing of which was one of Jon, dressed up as villainous character Oil Can Harry (long black moustache and all), working as a bouncer at Oil Can Harry’s, a club in Vancouver, an unspecified number of years ago (best guess – many, many years ago!!!). Carl brought some military photo cards which were previously not known to exist. He cited Jonathan Vance, who is a historian at the University of Western Ontario, and has a very interesting web site of Canadian military history. <http://jonathanvance.com>. Carl showed us a real photo card of The Canadian Mounted Rifles Hamilton Barracks, which was near Scott Park Secondary School; a real photo card of Armament School, Cadet Barracks, which was in a building which was part of the old Westinghouse complex in West Hamilton. The identification of the building in question was the subject of a lengthy discussion. There were also 2 cards showing a Victory Bond Parade, which showed a change in uniform between the two cards, for one member of the company, despite the photographs having been taken during the same parade, in front of the same buildings, and with very little time having elapsed between photo opportunities!

Some Louis James Pesha post cards were shown. Pesha, a photographer, was born in Euphemia, Ontario and had studios in Ontario before moving to Michigan, where he owned the Pesha Postcard Company in Marine City. He travelled the Great Lakes Basin, photographing railway stations and buildings in many villages and towns in the U.S. and Canada. He printed the photographs as post cards, selling them to stores. In 1910, Pesha bought a White (brand name – not colour) steam powered automobile, seen in the post cards which were shown on screen. He died as a result of a skull fracture received when the car overturned while he was visiting his parents’ farm in Euphemia. Pesha’s real photo post cards are highly sought after and quite pricey. [For more information about Pesha, visit Wikipedia at www.wikipedia.com and enter Pesha in the search box.]

We saw a West Hamilton post card, and a West Hamilton postmark. We discussed the House Built in a Day post cards. One post card showed the house raised on supports in preparation for transport. The house had been built on city property as a publicity stunt during Hamilton’s centennial celebrations, and was later moved. Post cards of the house and its construction are seen frequently, but the house on stilts – not so much!

We moved on to a lengthy discussion of the location of our next meeting. Alan Hebb has looked into 10 or 12 places, which have been unavailable, unsuitable or too costly (\$300 at the Holiday Inn). Fortinos on Plains Road (in the same complex as IKEA) has a community room which is available free of charge, but any food or beverages would need to be purchased at Fortinos. It can hold up to 30 people, and tables and chairs are available, as well as a kitchen and screen. Jon and Ron looked at East Plains United Church. There are 2 rooms, kitchen facilities and a screen, and also a larger gathering place just inside the entrance to the church. The rent would be \$50 per night, and there is free parking. There are 7 or 8 stairs to manoeuvre to get into the church. There is a Brownies group meeting the same night. The space is not ideal because it is not a closed room, which would allow others to walk through during meetings. Noise from the Brownies group, and the occasional bouts of organ music and choir practice would be a consideration as well. Extraneous noise would be a consideration at any church – choir or organ practices may coincide with meetings, sometimes with no advance notice. Jon pointed out that the lights cannot be turned off at the Fortinos community room, there is no projection screen, and there is no suitable light coloured wall on which to project images, even if the lights could be turned off. Also, there is noise from the scanners and cash registers, which are quite near the room. There is no community room at the Dundurn Fortinos. John Thompson suggested a United church on West Plains Road near the Royal Botanical Gardens. Ron will check into it. Jon will check into a room at the Spectator building. Other possibilities are the Burlington Seniors Centre and the Library. Jon was asked about the rent increases at the Red Cross. The rent rose from \$30 to \$35 last May, and will increase to \$72 in March. Anyone who has an idea of a place which might accommodate our meetings is asked to check it out and get back to the group, or make a suggestion to the executive. Alan will look into booking the community room at the Plains Road Fortinos for the March meeting.

A web site was mentioned named PostSecret. PostSecret claims to be an ongoing community art project where people mail in their secrets anonymously on one side of a post card. Most posts seem to be farcical and satirical comments, but you can take a look for yourself at www.postsecret.com. It's better than what's on TV!

Alan Hebb asked if we could have an updated membership list. This will be prepared as soon as possible. Carl Schlosser, our Treasurer, has volunteered to do quarterly reports to the club.

Jon Soyka and Ron Sinclair attended the Hamilton Heritage Awards as vendors. They saw the opportunity to set up a table and show the book to the city council and the Mayor. 3 books were sold, and one copy was given to Mayor Fred Eisenberger. Who knows? This might prompt the idea of using the book as a gift for some visitors to Hamilton. Some post cards were also sold. Another organization at the event was selling reprints of post cards for \$10.

We adjourned for the evening.

Upcoming Shows

Here is a list of shows taking place for at least the next two months. Recurring shows have been included too. Save your copy for reference, since these will not be included in the newsletter again, until next year's dates are announced. An exclamation mark ! before the show entry indicates a post card, philatelic or paper show.

Don't forget to check the Golden Horseshoe Post Card Club Web Site for other antique shows:
<http://www.ghpcc.ca>.

Note that the dates of some shows have changed. Gadsdens Promotions swapped the dates for the Old Paper Show and the Vintage Clothing Show after the shows were first posted on Gadsden's web site. The dates posted below are correct. Both shows take place at Wychwood Barns.

March 2015

Winter Antique Glass Lover's Show and Sale: Thursday-Saturday, March 26-28, 2015. Thursday-Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m, Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bradford Room, Lawrence Park Community Church, 2180 Bayview Ave. (Just South of Lawrence), Toronto Ont. M4N 3K7. Free admission and free parking in the Church parking lot adjoining the Church on Dawlish Ave. Information: <http://www.pressedglassandgoblets.com>.

! NYPEX Stamp Show (North York Philatelic Society): Saturday, March 28, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Carnegie Centennial Centre, 580 Finch Avenue West, (1 ½ blocks west of Bathurst). Free admission & parking. Dealers, door prizes, silent auction, raffle. Snack bar available. Information: Lev Levner, (647) 859-9993, levatnyps@gmail.com, <http://sites.google.com/site/northyorkphilatelicsociety>.

64th Huttonville Craft and Antique Show: Saturday-Sunday, March 28-29, 2015. 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days. Huttonville Community School, 2322 Embleton Road, Huttonville ON (Brampton). Between Heritage Road and Mississauga Road, north of Steeles, south of Hwy 7. 120 artisans and antique dealers. Snack bar. Admission \$6 per adult (both days). Information: Huttonville Lions Club web site at www.huttonvillelions.ca.

! Old Book and Paper Show: Sunday, March 29, 2015. Artscape Wychwood Barns, 601 Christie Street, Toronto ON. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., admission \$8. 12 & under free. On-street parking only. TTC information, show information and discount coupons available at: www.antiqueshowscanada.com. Gadsden Promotions. 1-800-667-0619.

Delaware Nostalgia Show and Sale: Sunday, March 29, 2015, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Delaware Community Centre, 2652 Gideon Drive, Delaware ON (10.5 km west of London). Free parking, admission \$4 (children under 12 free with adult), over 60 vendor tables. Information: (519) 426-8875, www.collectorshow.ca.

April 2015

41st Annual Woodstock Antique Show & Sale: Friday-Saturday, April 3, 4, 2015. Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Oxford Auditorium, Woodstock Fairgrounds, 875 Nellis Street, Woodstock ON. Admission \$5, good for the weekend. Refreshments available. Information: Bill Gerbrandt (519) 442-2006, (519) 717-3072. Show is always on Good Friday & Saturday.

! Kitchener-Waterloo Stampfest: Saturday, April 11, 2015, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society 64th Annual Stamp Show & Bourse, Community Christian Reformed Church, RR2 - 1275 Bleams Road, Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 3W5. Free admission, 18 dealers, children's table. Information: Scott at stampfest@kwstampclub.org. Web: www.KWStampClub.org.

Gadsden's Toronto Vintage Clothing Show: Sunday, April 12, 2015, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Wychwood Barns, 601 Christie Street, Toronto ON. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., admission \$8, 12 and under free. On-street parking only. TTC information, show information and discount coupons available at: www.antiqueshowscanada.com. Gadsden Promotions. 1-800-667-0619.

Kitchener Collectibles Expo: Sunday, April 12, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Bingeman's (Conference Centre - Marshall Hall), 425 Bingeman's Centre Drive, Kitchener ON. Admission \$5, children under 12 free with adult. 170+ vendor tables. Free parking. Information: (519) 426-8875, www.collectorshows.ca.

! National Postage Stamp Show (Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, CSDA): Friday, April 17 - Sunday, April 19, 2015, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto ON. Friday 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission, draw prizes. Information: www.csdaonline.com/shows.

The Vintage Marketplace: Saturday-Sunday, April 18-19, Hamilton Convention Centre, 1 Summers Lane, Hamilton ON L8P 1H6. Saturday VIP Shopping Hour 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. \$10; Regular Shopping Hours Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$6. Clothing, jewellery, furniture, antiques, housewares, collectibles, textiles, wedding inspiration. Information: www.thevintagemarketplace.ca.

24th Annual Elora Spring Antique Show: Saturday, April 18 - Sunday, April 19, 2015. Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Elora Community Centre, 29 David Street West, Elora, ON. 15 minutes north of Guelph, off Hwy. 6. Admission \$7, children free. 55 dealers. Information: Gadsden Promotions, 1-800-677-0619, www.antiqueshowscanada.com.

22nd Annual Toronto Bottle Show and Sale: Sunday, April 19, 2015, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Pickering Recreational Center, 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering ON L1V 3Y7. Admission: \$5. Free parking. Over 70 tables. Information: George Miller, (905) 427-7297, www.canadianbottlecollectors.com.

Mitchell Toy Show: Sunday, April 19, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mitchell Community Centre, Mitchell ON. Admission \$3; under 10 free. Farm toys, trucks, construction equipment, banks, etc. Information: Darrell & Jo-Anne Sykes, (519) 348-4976 or djsykes@quadro.net.

! SPRINGPEX, Hamilton Stamp Club's Stamp Show: Friday-Saturday, April 24-25, 2015. Friday 5 p.m. - 10 p.m., silent auction at 7:30 p.m. (viewing 5-7:30 p.m.), voice auction 8 p.m. (viewing 5-8 p.m.), sales circuits 5-10 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 20 dealers, at the new Bishop Ryan Secondary School, 1824 Rymal Road East, Hamilton ON. Information: www.hamiltonstampclub.com/springpex.html

! Ajax-Pickering Stamp Coin Show: Sunday, April 26, 2015, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Pickering Recreation Centre, 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering ON. Free admission & parking; lunch available. Stamp & coin dealers, club & youth tables. Information: donbeaumont@yahoo.com.

Woodstock Toy & Collectibles Expo: Sunday, April 26, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Woodstock Fairgrounds, 875 Nellis Street, Woodstock. Admission \$4, children under 12 free with adult. 180+ tables. Information: Ian, call Monday-Friday before 8 p.m., (519) 426-8875, toyshow@kwic.com, www.collectorshows.ca.

May 2015

57th Greensville Antique Show & Sale: Friday-Saturday, May 1-2. Friday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christ Church Hall, 92 Highway #8, Greensville ON. Lace, linens, sewing accessories, needlework, clothing, jewellery, accents of silver, china, ephemera, books, etc. Free admission, free parking, wheelchair accessible. Information: j-jantiques@sympatico.ca, (905) 869-7876.

! 33rd Annual Mayday Stamp Show, Stratford Stamp Club: Sunday, May 3, 2015, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Drive, Stratford ON Exhibits, Mayday covers, bourse, door prizes. Free admission. Contact: Lutzen Riedstra, lhriedstra@rogers.com.

Ancaster Nostalgia Show and Sale: Sunday, May 3, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Marritt Hall, Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Road, Ancaster. Admission \$5, children under 12 free with adult, free parking, over 150 vendor tables. Information:(519) 426-8875, www.collectorshows.ca.

Aberfoyle Saturday Special Antique Show: Saturday, May 9, 2015, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Aberfoyle Antique Market, 57 Brock Road S., Guelph ON. From Hamilton, take Highway 6 north to 1 mile north past the 401. If taking the 401, use exit 299. Admission \$5. Information: 1-877-763-1077, www.aberfoyleantiquemarket.com.

! Royal 2015 Royale – Annual Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada: Friday-Sunday, May 22-24, 2015. London Convention Centre, 300 York, London ON. Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 9-3. Information: royal15@royal2015.com, www.royal2015.com.

Christie Antique Show: Saturday, May 23, 2015, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., Christie Conservation Area, Hwy 5, 9 km. West of Hwy. 6. Admission \$10. Free parking. Information: 905-525-2181, ext. 147, www.christieantiqueshow.ca.

Ancaster Collectorfest: Sunday, May 31, 2015, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Marritt Hall & Concession Building, Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Road, Ancaster. Admission \$5, children under 12 free with adult, free parking, featuring model trains, toys & collectibles, the area's largest collectibles event this year, filling two buildings with over 25,000 sq. ft. of collectibles. Information:(519) 426-8875, www.collectorshows.ca.

Recurring Area Markets and Sales

! Burloak Stamp Fair: Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 3rd Saturday of the month, all year. Burlington Senior Centre, 2285 New Street, Burlington. Free parking. Information: Steve Simon, (905) 575-2950, basd6@bell.net

Heritage Antique Market: April 5, May 18, July 1, September 7, October 12. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Canadian holidays only; day of week varies. Location: Centerpoint Mall, 6464 Yonge Street at Steeles, Toronto. Free admission and parking. Information: (416) 483-6471 or 1-866-285-5515, www.heritageantiqueshows.com.

Heritage Monthly Antique Market: April 26, May 10, June 7, September 27, October 18, November 1. All dates are Sundays. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cloverdale Mall, Dundas Street & Hwy. 427, Etobicoke, Ontario. Free admission and parking. Information: (416) 483-6471 or 1-866-285-5515, www.heritageantiqueshows.com.

Monthly Militaria Show & Sale (2015), sponsored by CSMMI: Held at monthly club meeting. Dates: April 19, May 17, September 20, October 18, November 15. Burlington Seniors' Centre, 2285 New Street, Burlington ON. 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Information Tim Burt (226) 383-0695. Web: <http://www.thecsmmi.com>.

! Scarborough Stamp Club 2015 Postage Stamp Shows: March 28, April 18, May 9, May 30, June 13, June 27. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., 2 lights south of Lawrence off Markham Road. Free parking, free admission. 4-8 dealers per show. Information: Rick at (416) 778-4175.

Saturday Postage Stamp, Coin & Postcard Fairs: April 18, May 23, June 20, July 18, August 22, September 5, October 3, November 7. 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Brighton Community Centre/Hockey Rink Complex, 75 Elizabeth St., Hwy #2, Brighton ON. Exit 401 at Brighton interchange #509, City Rd. #30., Southbound on Cty. Rd. 30 / Young St. Turn left at 2nd set of traffic lights onto Elizabeth St. /Hwy #2 eastbound. Community Centre Complex is on the corner of Pinnacle St., first set of traffic lights on your right. Free admission, free parking.

Since 1985, so it's our....

30th

Annual

Golden Horseshoe Post Card Club

ANTIQUÉ POST CARDS

Show & Sale

Sunday, September 27th, 2015



The Golden Horseshoe Post Card Club
BURLINGTON, ONTARIO, CANADA

**PRIVATE
POSTCARD**

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

LOCATION FOR 2015

Dundas Lions Memorial
Community Centre
10 Market St. South
DUNDAS, Ontario, Canada
At the corner of Market St & King St



To: _____

Sunday September 27th, 2015

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

For more information contact -
www.ghpcc.ca

Jon Soyka 905-388-5840

Free Parking
Free Admission
Valuations on Collections
Postcards Bought, Sold & Traded
Food Available

Factors to Consider in Evaluating Locations for Meetings

There are many considerations to keep in mind when investigating a GHPCC meeting location. Please feel free to investigate any location that seems promising, and get as much information as you can. Please try not to bother the proprietors of sites that we have already checked (read this page first, and also see the minutes of the last meeting or meetings, depending upon how long the search goes on). We'll discuss more possibilities at the March meeting. Note that this is a wish list! We're looking for the best fit for the club's meetings. No site will likely be close to being perfect.

Location and Access:

- (1) easy access from major highways and/or public transit**
- (2) rental rate should be in our ballpark** – free would suit us, or failing that, really inexpensive
- (3) central location** – we have members attending meetings who drive from St. Catharines and Mississauga, so the Hamilton/Burlington area is central
- (4) parking** – free parking at the facility would be ideal, but parking should be readily available at the facility or in a lot or on a street nearby, and be free or inexpensive
- (5) easy access to building** – how to gain entrance -- key, key card, security code, accompaniment by staff? If staff need to be there, will that increase rental rate or will they be there anyway?
- (6) accessibility** – ramps and/or elevator access for those who need them; there's no point having an elevator that is inaccessible without a key which is in the hands of someone who isn't there; doors should allow proper access for everyone (button/switch to open and hold door to allow wheelchair entry)
- (7) hours available** – do we have to leave by a specific time? will we have enough time for our meeting?
- (8) security considerations** – high visibility; parking close to facility; good outside lighting; mode of entry to building (see 5, above); sign-in or sign-out requirements
- (9) emergency procedures** – must be clearly posted, including contact information; location of fire extinguishers/alarm pull/switches, etc.; first aid kit, defibrillator on site?
- (10) rules of use** -- i.e. are food & beverages allowed? if so, must they be bought on site/from the proprietor?; are there noise or other restrictions?
- (11) occupancy limit** – number of people allowed in the room (as per fire department's posted occupancy limit)

Other Considerations:

- (1) lighting** – important to be able to use projector/video equipment; some newer projection systems will display even if room is fully lit; otherwise, must be able to turn off lights for use of projector/video equipment; dimmer switch or choice of lighting might be OK; for instance, bright overhead lights and recessed pot-lights operating separately, but ability to turn completely off would be best in the absence of projection system which will work in regular light; street or parking lot lighting might prove to be troublesome to light reduction for projector use so blinds/drapes must be able to shield windows if outside lighting is present
- (2) tables and chairs** – which may be set up for meeting purposes, preferably with no charge for use
- (3) projection screen** – or a plain, undecorated, light-coloured wall should be available
- (4) enclosed room** – It would be best to meet in a room, rather than an open space where others might have occasion to walk through, and into which noise/light could travel
- (5) outside or ambient noise and light should be minimal** - activities in adjacent rooms, nearby traffic, trains, cash registers/scanners or other equipment, etc. would be a concern (a church might have a children's group, choir practice, organ practice in adjacent areas; ventilation systems can sometimes be noisy, location near a brightly lit parking lot or sports facility could introduce undesirable light, etc.)
- (6) kitchen facilities** – would be wonderful to have available (coffee maker, kettle, microwave)
- (7) audio-visual equipment** – equipment available on site (free) would be wonderful; we should be able to bring in equipment if needed, and electrical outlets should be available to accommodate additional A/V equipment
- (8) availability of wi-fi for internet access** (Reaching for the moon with this one! Not necessary but might be a minor factor in our decision.)
- (9) restrooms – Not optional! There must be restroom facilities!**
- (10) food/beverages** – if there is no kitchen, then beverages, snacks should be available nearby or on site

Some Fortinos stores make community rooms available free of charge to Non-Profit organizations such as ours (noted under individual store listings on Fortinos' web site). Alan and Jon have looked at these. Some Sobeys stores have such rooms. Jon is awaiting the return from vacation of the person at Sobeys who books the rooms.