



City of Peterborough

Media Release

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Peterborough, ON --

New Designs Unveiled for the Wall of Honour

The Wall of Honour Working Group met today to receive an update on the plans to construct a memorial to Peterborough's veterans of foreign wars. Brian Basterfield of Basterfield and Associates, the firm providing design services for the project, presented two concepts for a modified wall design. Originally designed as a 135 foot long wall centered behind the Cenotaph, Council requested the re-visioning of the design when the Province denied the City's request to build it in the Square- also the City's earliest pioneer cemetery.

Mr. Basterfield's designs use the space in the right of way between the Square and the streets bordering the park. These areas are outside the boundaries of the cemetery and not subject to provincial review. They will however still be subject to an archaeological investigation to determine if there are any graves in the area. Both of the designs are comprised of matching pairs of wall sections placed on the north and south sides of the Square and connected by a walkway passing behind the Cenotaph. Mr. Basterfield highlighted the way in which the landscaping of the new walkway, as it passes behind the Cenotaph, harkens back to the original landscape plan that sculptor Walter Alward –who also designed the Vimy Memorial - envisioned for the Peterborough monument.

The new Wall of Honour design would be a combination of granite supports and stainless steel panels with the names of every service person from Peterborough who fought in World War One, Two or Korea. The first design, which was the one favoured by the group, is charged with symbolism with a gently curving base that represents the ocean crossing which was the one event common to all veterans who served overseas. Mr. Basterfield noted that the wave also symbolizes "the wave of emotions every service person must have felt as they headed into war".

Following a lively discussion the group endorsed the first of the two designs asking that it be presented to veterans and the broader community in a public information session for comment on the design. The committee plans to reconvene in mid November to hear the results of the public meeting and formalize a recommendation to Council.

This information is also available on our City of Peterborough website at:
www.peterborough.ca

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