

Announcement:

Regarding the relocation of Festival of Friends

Preliminary statement announcing the establishment of a new festival in Ward 3

Hamilton, Ontario (Wednesday, January 5, 2010) For Immediate Release –

The official announcement regarding the relocation of the Festival of Friends has dealt another blow to Ward 3. Many residents both young and old have been able to attend the Festival over the last 35 years. It's strength for the residents was its accessibility, whether on foot, by public transit or by car, thousands of people converged on Gage Park and shared a common musical experience in an urban setting second to none. It is regrettable that the reasons, as expressed by the organizers and our City government, for the relocation could not be addressed and overcome. There will be a financial loss suffered by the businesses in Ward 3 and throughout the lower city. The money that was spent in our Ward will leave with the Festival. A group of committed Hamiltonians has come together to address this loss. The group, lead by The Pearl Company has begun to undertake the development of a new multi-disciplinary festival that will have its beginning in August of this year. The proposed festival will be presented at several locations throughout Ward 3, both in public and private venues. Entrance to the festival will be a blend of free and paid admission keeping the festival accessible to all in the tradition of Festival of Friends.

Press Conference to be announced shortly.

To join the team or for more information, contact Gary Santucci at 905 524-0606 or garysantucci@gmail.com