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City of St. Catharines

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News Release

For immediate release

Conceptual designs for Performing Arts Centre unveiled

Sept. 21, 2011 – St. Catharines residents and arts groups got a glimpse of what's in store for downtown when the conceptual designs for the Performing Arts Centre were revealed at an open house Wednesday.

The designs, created by Diamond and Schmitt Architects Inc., reflect the character of St. Paul Street, combining existing elements, such as the height of surrounding buildings, with a modern feel. A mixture of building materials used in the design also creates a sense of more than one venue in the centre.

The open house at the site of this future grand dame of buildings also provided an opportunity for residents to give feedback. Public input will be considered when finalizing designs, which will be presented to council later this year.

"The excitement generated by having the event on site has been phenomenal," said Steve Solski, arts centre executive director. "It has really helped people visualize what's to come and provided an opportunity to have residents and downtown businesses come together again to celebrate yet another milestone in what's really a transformative project for this city."

The conceptual designs are available for viewing by clicking the Arts Centre button at www.stcatharines.ca. Residents are encouraged to submit comments about the designs via Twitter, using the hashtag #StCathPAC, on the Performing Arts Centre's Facebook page or by emailing artscentrefeedback@stcatharines.ca.

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