

## Lord Mayor's Message to NOTL ~ for 15 Jan 09

Good News: Football equipment will cost around \$400 per player instead of the estimated \$1000. Let the fund-raising begin as we work towards NDSS Football for September 2009!

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Last May, Coun. Andrea Kaiser introduced the idea of developing a Vision and Secondary Plan for the Old Town and the Dock area: from Fort George and the Commons to Chautauqua, and from Lake Ontario and the Niagara River to the agricultural area.

Council has approved Urban Strategies as the consultants and the process is about to begin. I hope you will take the time to read the "Citizens' Bulletin" outlining the study, the study team, the process and how you can get involved. [www.notl.org](http://www.notl.org)

The purpose is to guide future development and infrastructure decisions and assist Council on making decision based on a community vision and defined directions.

A very interesting Speakers Series is planned for February. Plans include a walking tour, a day-long visioning workshop, meeting with you the resident, property owner, business persons, farmer, and young person.

The first part is establishing a Vision for the Old Town. From there, a more detailed Secondary Plan for the Dock Area will be developed.

I believe we have a fabulous Quality of Life in NOTL and that there are many challenges maintaining it and keeping it affordable. Do people come here because our Quality of Life is "development-driven" or "resident-driven"? I believe people want to live here because it's a nice place to live.

I hope you will be part of our process – the future of NOTL will be better for it!

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Bussing to Eden: Free bussing to Eden from NOTL is being discontinued in September 2009. This is a DSBN decision in response to the Ministry of Education directing all Ontario boards to provide transportation that is effective and efficient. The Ministry is also expecting Public and Catholic boards to work together on this. DSBN was \$1.2M over budget on transportation.

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A lot of people have been jumping through hoops, over hurdles and through gauntlets on the rough road to having NDSS declared an IB Candidate school. Our most sincere thanks to all, and our pledge of continued support in the pursuit of bringing a higher level of excellence in education to our community. [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) NDSS: all we need is YOU!