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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Trent Hills Propose to Reuse Former Town Hall/Post Office in Campbellford

The former Campbellford Town Hall and Post Office at 36 Front Street South is a community landmark that has been vacant for past few years. As an asset to downtown Campbellford, the Municipality has considered options for the building that would allow it to be restored for continued use by both the municipal Council and community organizations/groups. In 2007, the Municipality put out a call to determine possible tenant interest in the building. As a result Westben Arts Festival Theatre expressed an interest in utilizing a portion of the building for box office, administration, storage, and rehearsal space. The Municipality has been determined that the Westben proposal is worthy of further consideration, as an opportunity to revive this historic property for community, arts, and cultural purposes

In 2008 Council agreed to assess how the building could be reused for a long term tenant like Westben that has a community service focus, as well as for public meetings and other community purposes. A funding application was submitted to the Northumberland Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) - Eastern Ontario Development Program to assist with the cost of preparing a feasibility study and business plan that would include a building assessment, proposed uses and needs of partners, market analysis, impact on the community, and project costs. The funds were recently approved by the Northumberland CFDC and the project is about to begin. The Municipality has retained the services of Crawford Building Consultants from Lakefield Ontario to complete the feasibility study and business planning process and building assessment by the end of 2009.

The intention of the Municipality is to determine if the Westben proposal would provide the most effective use of the Old Town Hall building and if so, what improvements would be required for the building to properly support this use. The process will involve input from a broad range of key community stakeholders.

The results of this review process will be presented to Council to determine next steps in the planning process.

For more information regarding the Old Campbellford Town Hall/Post Office project please contact:

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