

Newmarket's Historic Main Street a winner in Great Places in Canada contest

Canadian Institute of Planners makes announcement on World Town Planning Day

NEWMARKET, Ontario, November 8, 2016 – Earlier today, in recognition of [World Town Planning Day](#), the [Canadian Institute of Planners](#) (CIP) announced the winners of its annual [Great Places in Canada contest](#) in the categories of Great Street, Great Neighbourhood and Great Public Space. Newmarket's Historic Main Street – which was nominated by Town of Newmarket Planning staff this past summer – was named People's Choice winner in the Great Street category.

"We are excited and honoured to receive national recognition for the tremendous value that our Historic Main Street brings to the Newmarket community and our many visitors," said Mayor Tony Van Bynen. "We have taken great pride and effort in revitalizing Main Street and our downtown core in order to create and maintain the type of vibrant, livable and dynamic community that we can all enjoy. A People's Choice award is a vote of confidence directly from Canadians and is proof that what we're doing is working."

In August, CIP invited Canadians to nominate a place in their community for the contest. The panel of jurors reviewed the 37 Great Place submissions from across Canada against criteria of planning best practices. They selected Water Street in St. Andrews, New Brunswick as the winner of Great Street, Woodfield in London, Ontario as the winner of Great Neighbourhood and St. Patrick's Island in Calgary, Alberta as the winner of Great Public Space.

The second element of the competition asked Canadians to share their thoughts and saw more than 30,000 votes cast from people across the country. Based on popular vote, Newmarket's Historic Main Street was recognized as the People's Choice Street, Downtown Antigonish in Nova Scotia was named the People's Choice Neighbourhood and Rothesay Common in New Brunswick was recognized as the People's Choice Public Space.

About Newmarket's Historic Main Street

In 1801, Timothy Rogers – ancestor of Ted Rogers of Rogers Communications Inc. – settled in Newmarket. Instead of developing along Yonge Street, Newmarket established its own Main Street allowing the heart of the community to grow in a more serene and peaceful environment. William Lyon Mackenzie gave his famous speech from a hotel balcony on Main Street, inspiring local farmers to organize the Rebellion of 1837 and the Street is the location of the first store of Robert Simpson, founder of the Simpson's department store chain. The Toronto and York Radial Railway tracks can still be seen embedded amongst the stones underfoot within the Market Square on Main Street, and in 2013, it was designated as a Heritage Conservation District. Recently, the historic Old Town Hall located just off Main Street underwent a significant renaissance to become the cultural hub for the arts and new shops and restaurants are continuing to add to the Street's vibrancy.

About the Town of Newmarket

The Town of Newmarket is located in southern Ontario and is home to almost 90,000 residents. Newmarket has consistently been named one of the Best Places to Live in Canada by *MoneySense Magazine* and has garnered an international reputation for being one of the country's most dynamic, diverse and desirable towns in which to live and work. Newmarket is also widely considered a progressive place with a reputation for collaboration, creativity and innovation. For more information on The Town of Newmarket, visit [newmarket.ca](#)

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TOWN OF NEWMARKET