Future of Market Meeting - Sunday Oct. 23rd - 3.00 p.m. Market Square. Public and Media Invited.

Presented by "Best Option" Committee for the Laurentian University School of Architecture

A "best option" location would satisfy all parties to the greatest degree possible. This would include Laurentian University, downtown merchants, market vendors, city council and most importantly the citizens of The City of Greater Sudbury.

The committee has no connection with the owner of the Ledo Hotel the proposed "best option". The committee is concerned with the best use of taxpayer dollars from whatever source - Municipal, Provincial or Federal (there is only one taxpayer). The committee is concerned about dollar availability, about potential cost overruns for projected solutions and value for tax dollars.

The committee is concerned with what is best for Sudbury. The committee believes the market is a valuable asset and can be better utilized and improved where and as it now exists. The committee recognizes the new school of Architecture may well be an asset to downtown Sudbury but its location is important for maximum benefit. The committee believes that parking space is an important consideration and any plan must not result in any loss of parking availability. More thoughts below from Gord Drysdale, who developed the Ledo-Elgin location plan.

I am pleased that the "Best Option" committee has endorsed the Ledo/Elgin location as the preferred downtown choice for the new Laurentian School of Architecture. The hotel itself may or may not be incorporated into the final design, but leaving it intact will not jeopardize the total 75,000 square footage needed for the school. The entire block could be leveled and a fresh start to design could begin almost immediately with construction to follow in due course, without need to adapt to an existing structure. Also with the realignment of Elgin Street an additional site can be created for a student residence or lower rental apartment block plus other possible parking opportunities.

A total change in the social dynamics of this area will be initiated with the new architecture and presence of a larger population including staff and students which will benefit all of downtown.

The most obvious advantage of this location is the strategic visual and emotional effect it will have at the entry point to downtown via Paris, Van Horne and Brady Street. The beauty of new stunning and long overdue architecture and greenscaping at this location will be a source of municipal pride.

Gord Drysdale

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