



STRATFORD/PERTH COUNTY

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GTR Shops Site

Named One of the Ten Most Endangered Places in Canada

Heritage Canada the National Trust has placed Stratford's Grand Trunk Railway/Cooper Site on its 2014 Top Ten Endangered Places and Worst Losses List from across Canada.

Under the patronage of the Governor General of Canada, His Excellency, the Right Honourable David Johnson, the National Trust has a long track record of raising awareness for heritage conservation, saving heritage properties across Canada and engaging Canadians and governments at all levels to adopt programs, policies and legislation for the protection and stewardship of historic places, heritage buildings and cultural landscapes.

Published each year, the Trust's Ten Most Endangered Places List, draws attention to historic places in Canada either threatened or already lost as part of its mission to raise national awareness of the value that historic places bring to quality of life, local identity and cultural vitality.

The list is compiled from nominations received, as well as from news items the National Trust has been following and reporting on throughout the year from across the country.

In addition to Stratford's GTR Site, this year's list includes Endangered Places in Yellowknife, Vancouver, Edmonton, Notre-Dame-du-Bel-Air, Lac Simon, Quebec, Victoria Mines, Nova Scotia, Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador and Federally owned lighthouses across Canada. The only other sites in Ontario to make the list are in Guelph and Neening.

The three main criteria used by the Trust to select the Ten Most Endangered Places List are the significance of the site, urgency of the threat to the community, and community support for its preservation.

Rick Huband, President of the Stratford-Perth County Branch of the Architectural Conservancy Ontario (ACO) said “Because of the perceived national significance of the GTR site, and with the help of our Provincial ACO, we were encouraged to submit an application for consideration for this year’s list.”

“On behalf of other heritage groups in the City who have worked so hard on this, we very much appreciate the support of the Heritage Canada the Heritage Trust in recognizing the industrial, social and cultural significance of the GTR site not only to the history of Stratford but beyond”

“Because the site is now nationally recognized we hope it will elevate the discussion on the future of the shops building and the property overall.” Huband added.

The complete list and information on each Endangered Place is available at the Heritage Trust’s website: NationalTrust@heritagecanada.org.

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