



PHOTOS BY GUY PALMER

**SPEAKERS AT CLARKE MEMORIAL HALL...**from left to right: Al Hills (City of Mississauga), Boran Hrelja (Executive Member, Port Credit Village Project), Jim Danahy (Co-President of TOPCA).

## EVOLVING THE URBAN VILLAGE: COMMUNITY MEETING AT CLARKE HALL

At a well-attended Annual General Meeting of TOPCA (Town of Port Credit Association), the theme was "Developing Our Public Spaces."

In particular, the topic referred to the Port Credit Library and the Post Office. The PCVP (Port Credit Village Project) asked members and the public to contribute in order for the Project to assess community response generated by public meetings and evaluate the effectiveness of them. They handed out a question & answer form which you can still pick up and fill out at the Library.

The meeting began, however, with Al Hills describing the "Strategic Pillars for Change" of Mississauga's plan for the future. From public transit to ecosystems, the vision and long term goals of the city were described. "A place where people choose to be." is one of the slogans.

The City of Mississauga has been publishing and highlighting future opportunities through its Strategic Plan and features key action items which can be looked at in detail online at [www.ourfuturemississauga.ca](http://www.ourfuturemississauga.ca).

Following Mr. Hills, Boran Hrelja addressed the plans for the library. Awarded \$2.5 million for renovations, almost half of that will go to architects and planners, which means there is not as much money as people think going toward improvements and upgrades.

Mr. Hrelja spoke about the library becoming a landmark and being situated as a central destination for the town. A completely new building, however, is not in the immediate plans. Instead, renovations such as window replacements, improvements to floorspace and accessibility, reconfiguration and

addition of study rooms and workspace are more in tune with the amount of funding that will be available. A new roof and water/sewer upgrades would also be made.

The PCVP is a community group of citizens working to "link Port Credit's storied past with the present and future." The project draws "support from creative, caring, community-centred people willing to help design and undertake projects addressing key issues such as buildings and landscapes. They are incorporated as a non-profit organization of volunteers who live and work in the town.

The Post Office was also a topic, but the City has said it is holding off heritage designation until it is no longer owned and run by the federal government.

There were also artist renderings of the architectural concept renovations for the arena available. Other topics included the 175th Anniversary in 2010.

The next meeting of the PCVP will be held at the Port Credit Library in the Texaco Room on November 24.