



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Museum Finally Starts Display Barn Construction

Milton, ON, September 15, 2008 – After over 20 years of planning and fundraising, the Halton County Radial Railway (HCRR) has begun construction on its new display barn – *the Sir Adam Beck Centre*. On June 10, 2008 the Ontario Electric Railway Historical Association (OERHA) approved construction of its fourth barn. This new building will provide a permanent indoor home for more than 20 historic railcars.

Construction has been delayed for the past two years due to negotiations with the Town of Milton and Halton Region regarding the development charges applicable to the project. The OERHA appreciates the opportunity the Town gave the Association to defer payment of their portion of the charges over the next ten years. Including the deferred Town portion, the Association paid \$100,800 in development charges to the Town of Milton, Region of Halton and the school boards. The capital cost of the project is \$350,000.

“We are very excited that this project is underway,” commented Tom Twigge–Molecey, General Manager of the HCRR and lead on the Sir Adam Beck Centre project. “It has been a long–time coming and a goal for many of us for many years. This building will help the Association continue its mission in preserving, restoring and presenting significant railway cars from Canadian transportation history for generations to come.”

A need for a new display barn was identified in the early 1980s because of the growing historic railcar collection and the lack of indoor storage space available. However, fundraising has taken quite some time and other obstacles that have arisen along the way. Once complete, the new barn will ensure that many of the railcars that are currently outside can be preserved indoors.

Concurrent with the construction work, the OERHA continues to fundraise. The financing for the development charges will severely hamper the museum’s finances in the foreseeable future. All contributions to the project are appreciated. Amounts over \$20 are eligible for a tax receipt and acknowledgement on the building plaque.

Located at 13629 Guelph Line in Milton, the Halton County Radial Railway is a full–size operating electric railway and museum, which features historic electric railcars operating on two kilometres of scenic track. The museum has more than 12,000 visitors per year. The HCRR is owned and operated by the OERHA, a non–profit, educational organization. The HCRR is Canada’s first and largest electric railway museum.

For more information visit www.hcry.org or hcr.blogspot.com, or call 519–856–9802.

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