

## **Gail Rayment**

Notes for Public Meeting April 8, 2019

Performance arts both benefit residents and attract visitors

The Capitol Theatre in Port Hope has just announced an expansion.

It is not a coincidence that Port Hope, with a theatre that offers a wide variety of entertainment year round, seems to have - and I am sorry to say this - a more vibrant downtown than Cobourg.

Theatres bring patrons to attend shows, and also to dine and shop.

They also attract out of town visitors who often stay for a night or two.

Our main travel activity during the summer months is visiting towns that offer theatre - we stay, dine and shop. We usually make four or five such trips a year.

During the short period when the Park Theatre was active during the last few years the restaurants at that end of King St. were doing much better.

When there is a show on at the Firehall Theatre or Victoria Hall business in local restaurants picks up.

People eat at Craft House before going upstairs to see a movie at The Loft.

It is well worth doing what it takes to help create a vibrant downtown.