

High-speed rail plan will help Windsor diversify

Windsor Star

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Author and urbanist Richard Florida was on CBC recently and I listened for a message of hope for Windsor-Essex. The high-speed rail he spoke of, that would connect Windsor with the rest of Ontario, seemed like that beacon of hope. It would allow people to stay planted in their city while being able to travel to a job outside, make commuting to universities and colleges easier.

In the Feb. 6 Windsor Star, Mr. Florida also discussed what's needed to sustain our arts community: "Lawyers, scientists, technologists, artists, entertainers, managers, analysts, electricians, doctors and chefs are all mentioned in the report as some of the most creative and desirable professions in the new order."

It is imperative we diversify. Mr. Florida also mentioned the success of Nashville, Tenn., with its notable music industry. When a small town is known worldwide for its music scene, it makes it plausible for Windsor to become known for its vibrant arts community. I hope the development of a high-speed rail takes precedence with our politicians as a viable way to spur to economic growth in our area.

"A high-speed rail network knitting Ontario's cities together could revolutionize the province's role within the continental and global economic systems," according to the Globe & Mail.

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