

Port Burwell lands sub

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Port Burwell has won the battle to be the site for the HMCS Ojibwa submarine.

“I feel sublime,” said Bayham Mayor Lynn Acre following the decision Saturday by the Elgin Military Museum board to locate the Cold-war era Canadian submarine in the village.

Acre said the submarine will make Port Burwell a destination for tourists, benefiting area businesses.

“It will change everything,” she said.

Both Port Burwell and Port Stanley were in the running for the decommissioned submarine.

Central Elgin Mayor Tom Marks said he was disappointed in the board’s decision, but wished Port Burwell all the best with the project.

At least the submarine will still be located in Elgin County, he said.

The proposed site for Port Stanley wasn’t owned by the municipality and would have required remediation before it could be used, Marks said.

The museum is receiving \$1.9 million from the federal government to mount the submarine.

The submarine is expected to be brought on a barge to Port Burwell through the St. Lawrence Seaway before the end of this year’s shipping season.

Dan McNeil, a retired Canadian rear admiral who advocated for the submarine to be located in Port Stanley, said the decision to put it in Port Burwell will still benefit the entire region, creating jobs and drawing tourists.

"It is a win, win, win," he said.

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