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The Durham Makerspace

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I've written about meetup groups in the blog space before and I continue to enjoy them as a social and educational outlet. Yesterday, I attended my first East-End Tech Meetup. I must say that having a group closer to home is a lot nicer than a 3 hour round trip into downtown Toronto. The real excitement, for me however, was the topic. Here it is from the meetup description:

A remarkable young member of our community is planning to launch a GTA-class Makerspace right here in Oshawa. He wants to present his ideas to our community, elicit feedback, generate more ideas & strategies, as well as gather the much needed support from our citizens here in the Durham Region. This is no small undertaking and it will take the effort of many to back his execution.

This would be a substantial asset to Oshawa and its people so spread the word. Tell your friends & neighbors. Every bit of support is needed to make (pun) this a reality.

Now, I've visited maker labs before. They were all far away, very expensive, and difficult to join, especially for an older person such as myself. Let's just say that I did not feel welcome.

This group is different. I suppose it is at least partly the thrill of getting in on the ground floor, but there was an energy present that I had not seen or felt before. There was also an open exchange of ideas and many diverse contributions were being sought after. My impressions were very positive.

The effort is still in its infancy, but they have a facebook page. Take a look and hopefully find a resource to express your creativity through engineering and making.

Yours Truly

Peter Camilleri (aka Squidly Jones)

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