

## **Return to glory days**

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Why not return Windsor Station to its original vocation and move the temple and shrine of the Montreal Canadiens back to its magical nexus at Atwater and Ste. Catherine?

This is not an impossibility. For an extra \$50 million the trains could still be rolling underneath today's Bell Centre and Windsor Station would not have passed into oblivion. But this idea was rejected because of the extra costs involved.

Such short-term thinking led to the demolition of Manhattan's grand neo-classical glass-enclosed Pennsylvania Station between 1963-1964. There are now plans for its revival with the proposed moving of Madison Square Garden. There are also proposals to return trains to Ottawa's Union Station and rebrand it as a gateway to the capital.

The imminent disposal of Windsor Station by CPR is the direct result of misguided public policy that has de-emphasized railways in favour of the more environmentally destructive fly/drive paradigm.

Society has come to reap the harvest of what it has sown: disappearing railway infrastructure, bridge collapses, urban sprawl, destruction of the last remaining natural spaces, highway congestion, road rage, air and noise pollution, heat retention and climate change.

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