



Quotes: Waterfront Innovation Centre Announcement

“The transformation of Toronto’s waterfront has been nothing short of spectacular. We are seeing old abandoned industrial sites turned into dynamic, modern, livable communities that are attracting cutting-edge workplaces like this new Innovation Centre. The Innovation Centre will not only reaffirm Canada’s place as a global leader in the Information and Communications Technology sector, it will also create opportunities for growth and good high-paying jobs.”

Joe Oliver, Minister of Finance and Minister Responsible for the GTA

“Ontario recognizes the economic importance of revitalizing Toronto’s waterfront. The Waterfront Innovation Centre is a perfect example of the type of investments we strive to attract to the province. We look forward to continued work with Waterfront Toronto and all levels of government to create a dynamic business climate, stimulate the waterfront area economy, and invest in important public infrastructure.”

Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development, Employment, and Infrastructure

“The Waterfront Innovation Centre is a perfect example of how private and public partnership can drive economic development in Toronto. Waterfront Toronto and Menkes together are helping revitalize our waterfront by attracting businesses and jobs to this area. This Centre will make our city more competitive on the global stage by strengthening the ever-evolving new technology sectors in Toronto.”

Toronto Mayor John Tory

“The Waterfront Innovation Centre shows how Waterfront Toronto and committed developers like Menkes can provide creative new spaces to support the growing digital media sector, help build out a complete community and do it in a way that meets the highest standards for design and sustainability.”
“The Innovation Centre is an excellent model for waterfront revitalization; after Waterfront Toronto has made the up-front investment in needed public infrastructure such as municipal services, parks and public spaces, the private sector takes on the role of building a high-speed broadband network and the customized office space that makes use of it. In this way, Waterfront Toronto is able to leverage high-quality infrastructure to deliver key economic and social benefits that enable Toronto to compete aggressively with other top tier global cities for investment, jobs and people.”

John Campbell, President and CEO, Waterfront Toronto

“The Waterfront Innovation Centre represents the next generation in progressive office development that meets the unique company culture, workspace configuration and technological needs of innovative companies.”

“There is growing demand from companies in the creative arts, film and television, digital media, R&D and technology industries for an alternative to traditional corporate office space. For these firms, open concept collaborative workspaces not only foster innovation, but are integral to their economic success and competitiveness on both a Canadian and global scale.”

Peter Menkes, President – Commercial / Industrial, Menkes Developments Ltd.

"The Waterfront Innovation Centre/The Centre will not only showcase the most progressive building science and technologies, architectural and real estate practices, it will also host inspiring and adaptive environments that will foster creativity with the essential balance between private contemplation, collaboration, quality social interaction, discovery, exchange and work-life balance."

"Innovation and collaboration are inextricably linked. Fostering collaboration and the exchange of ideas encourage innovation. The design for the new Waterfront Toronto Innovation Centre is focused on stimulating, encouraging and supporting three aspects of collaboration: Social Interaction, Information Exchange, and Transformative Space."

Dermot Sweeny, Principal, Sweeny &Co Architects Inc.