



WATERFRONToronto

June 2009 Newsletter

Simcoe WaveDeck Opens

The Simcoe WaveDeck was opened ahead of schedule and under-budget in time for Luminato's closing weekend festivities on the waterfront. Hundreds of community members joined Waterfront Toronto and our government partners at the opening celebrations on June 12 which featured acrobats, stilt walkers and jugglers.

The Simcoe WaveDeck is the second and most dramatic urban dock to open along Toronto's central waterfront. Located just west of Simcoe Street, the wooden wavedeck features impressive curves that soar as high as 2.6 metres above the lake.

After the official ribbon-cutting, people streamed onto the curves of the wavedeck enjoying its dramatic slopes and vistas. Over the weekend, hundreds of thousands of people walked, played and enjoyed the wavedeck during Luminato festivities featuring Cirque du Soleil.



The third wavedeck at the Rees Slip is on schedule to open in early August. In addition to providing a much needed public space at the water's edge, the Rees WaveDeck is also designed to give canoeists and kayakers a place to launch and land their boats when exploring the Central Waterfront.

The Simcoe WaveDeck is already becoming a 'must-see' Toronto landmark. The Toronto Star says the wavedeck has "beautiful, elegant, engaging, entertaining, cool and ever so slightly loopy, qualities that have long been conspicuous in their absence on our poor long-exploited waterfront." Impressed visitors have also posted videos of the new wavedeck on YouTube and photographs on Flickr. View the [video](#) and [photos](#).

Lower Don Lands Wins International Best Futuristic Design Award

Lower Don Lands plans have received the 'Best Futuristic Design Award' in one of the world's leading sustainability focused development industry design competitions. The Keating Channel Precinct, the Lower Don Lands' first planned community, was recognized at the Building Exchange (BEX) Conference. The fifth annual BEX International Awards, held in partnership with the World Green Building Council, promote global standards for environmentally sound buildings, large-scale developments and infrastructure. Judged by a panel of leading experts, the awards celebrate sustainability, innovation, efficiency and collaboration in the built environment and demonstrate consideration of the issues surrounding climate change, sustainable communities and future legacies.

The Lower Don Lands is also the subject of another recent video created by Waterfront Toronto. The video, which is available for viewing on YouTube, features a flip animation that outlines the plans for the Lower Don Lands. [View the video](#).

Tour the Central Waterfront on YouTube



Internationally-renowned landscape architect and urban planner Adriaan Geuze recently led a tour along the Central Waterfront to describe Waterfront Toronto's exciting vision for the area. The tour, which includes a sneak peek at the new footbridges planned for the water's edge was filmed, edited and posted on Waterfront Toronto's YouTube Channel.

The four-minute video also brings to life Waterfront Toronto's plan to transform Queens Quay Boulevard into a grand waterfront street rivaling some of the best in the world. [View the video](#).

Making Way for Sherbourne Park

The decommissioning of two buildings in East Bayfront is currently underway to enable construction of Sherbourne Park. Decommissioning of the Abel Building at 5 Lower Sherbourne Street and the former Town and Country Restaurant at 190 Queens Quay East will be completed by the end of June.

Construction of Sherbourne Park — the spectacular new 1.47 hectare park at the heart of East



Bayfront — is expected to begin in July.

Inspired by the iconic Canadian lakeside experience, this year-round waterfront park will be made up of woods, water and open greenspace. One of the highlights of Sherbourne Park which is located at the foot of Sherbourne Street on both the north and south sides of Queens Quay, is a stunning water feature running the length of the park. This water feature — which acts as the stormwater management system for East Bayfront — is as beautiful as it is functional. This impressive park will become a neighbourhood park serving the new residents of East Bayfront and will be a city-wide destination.



East Bayfront Public Meeting

On July 8, Waterfront Toronto is holding an East Bayfront public meeting to provide a brief update on construction activities and upcoming groundbreakings for Sherbourne Park and Sugar Beach. The meeting will include a detailed presentation by Adriaan Geuze and the West 8+DTAH team and plans for East Bayfront's water's edge promenade and innovative stormwater management system. Workbooks will be distributed and public feedback will be solicited. Members of the project team will be on hand to answer questions and share ideas.

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

6:30 p.m. (Open House)

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Presentation and Discussion)

Novotel Hotel - Champagne Ballroom

45 The Esplanade, Toronto

For more information, please contact Andrea Kelemen at akelemen@waterfrontoronto.ca.

West Don Lands Construction Update

Construction of a new pedestrian ramp in the West Don Lands is well underway. The new ramp is designed to bring pedestrians from River Street to the Eastern Avenue overpass and will replace the existing pedestrian ramp which is too low for vehicular traffic on the new River Street.



Luminato

On June 13 and 14, Waterfront Toronto took part in the closing weekend of the 3rd Annual Luminato Arts Festival which featured Cirque du Soleil along the waterfront and the Taste of Toronto Food Festival along Queens Quay. Waterfront Toronto staff and volunteers were on hand along the waterfront to distribute information and answer questions to festival goers. Visitors were also encouraged to stop by the Waterfront Toronto tent to speak to staff, learn more about revitalization projects and plans, and watch videos showcasing the different areas of waterfront revitalization.

Canada Green Building Council Annual National Summit

Waterfront Toronto participated in a panel session titled 'Making LEED Affordable for Developers' at the second annual Canada Green Building Council National Summit held earlier this month. The event brought together more than 1,350 participants, including representatives from industry, government, and non-profit sectors. Focusing on the theme of Every Building Can be Green, the Summit included 78 exhibitors and more than 70 speakers who shared their expertise on a range of green building issues, trends and opportunities.

Walking Tour of the Lower Don Lands and Port Lands



On June, Waterfront Toronto Planning and Design Project Manager Brenda Webster accompanied a group of environmental journalists from across Canada on a walking tour of the Lower Don Lands and Port Lands. During the tour the group was given details of revitalization initiatives for the area including our plans to re-naturalize the mouth of the Don River and to create new wetlands.

Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Please check website for meeting agenda with time and location

Upcoming Design Review Panel Meetings

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

No meeting scheduled for August 2009

Design Review Panel meetings are held at Waterfront Toronto Offices – 20 Bay Street, Suite 1310 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. For more information, please check our website for the meeting agenda.

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