



TORONTO WATERFRONT
REVITALIZATION CORPORATION



New and Improved Water's Edge Opens at Harbourfront Centre

Toronto, June 26, 2005 -- Harbourfront Centre and the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation (TWRC) today welcomed representatives from the three governments to officially open the new public promenade, boardwalks and piers along the water's edge areas of York Quay at Harbourfront Centre in the central waterfront. The official opening occurred during Harbourfront Centre's Boardwalk Bash event.

The Harbourfront Centre Water's Edge Revitalization Project was built with the support of the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation with funding from the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto.

"The revitalization effort is producing results, and we can certainly see that here today," said the Honourable Joe Volpe, the federal Minister responsible for the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Initiative. "The Government of Canada is proud of its support of waterfront revitalization. We are making this a place where people will want to live, work and play."

"It's an impressive makeover. You can see immediately how this project improves the central waterfront and makes it more accessible for people," said the Honourable David Caplan, Ontario Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal. "The McGuinty government is pleased to be a partner in this important step in the process of transforming and reclaiming the waterfront for the people of this community – and the thousands of visitors who come here every year."

"This project represents a major advance in the revitalization of Toronto's waterfront," said Mayor David Miller. "These new piers and boardwalks make it clear that, by investing in our public spaces, we can ensure that our spectacular lakefront can be enjoyed by all Torontonians."

Located at one of the most visited sites in Toronto, the Harbourfront Centre Water's Edge Revitalization Project's objective was to expand and improve public access to Lake Ontario.

TWRC contributed \$12.5 million to support Harbourfront Centre in this first step toward the overall revitalization of the site. The restructuring of the water's edge around York Quay, features extensive landscaping improvements, the widening of the water's edge promenades and the addition of a five-metre wide wooden boardwalk on the lake adjacent to the promenade and two new finger piers.

The project also included installing new and unique lighting and street furnishings, including a continuous granite capstone for seating that runs the length of the boardwalk. Environmental improvements include the addition of about 100 trees and the construction of new fish habitat.

The Harbourfront Centre Water's Edge Revitalization Project is the first step in TWRC's overall plan to create a continuous and easily accessible water's edge.

"The high quality of the Harbourfront Centre water's edge promenade, boardwalk and finger piers sets the standard for what we will do across the central waterfront," said Robert Fung, the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation's chair.

"Harbourfront Centre is thrilled to be a partner with the TWRC and government on this exciting project," said William J.S. Boyle, Harbourfront Centre's Chief Executive Officer. "The current efforts to revitalize the Toronto waterfront have given us one of the best opportunities in our 30-year history to improve the quality of this site as an important public asset."

The Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto established the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation in December 2001 to lead the revitalization of Toronto's waterfront. For more information, please go to www.towaterfront.ca.

Harbourfront Centre is a nonprofit charitable organization operating 10 key acres of Toronto's central waterfront. For more information, please see www.harbourfrontcentre.com.

-30-

Aussi disponible en français.

For further information:

Media Contacts:

Stephen Heckbert, Citizenship and Immigration Canada
613-954-1064
stephen.heckbert@cic.gc.ca

Wilson Lee, Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal
416-325-8735
wilson.lee@pir.gov.on.ca

Patchen Barss, Office of the Mayor
416-338-7134
pbarss@toronto.ca

Kristin Jenkins, TWRC
416-214-1479
kjenkins@towaterfront.ca

Bruce Hutchinson
416-973-4677
bhutchinson@habourfrontcentre.com