



WATERFRONToronto

OCTOBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S NEW

Spadina WaveDeck Opens

In September, Federal Minister Peter Van Loan, Deputy Premier George Smitherman and Mayor David Miller joined Waterfront Toronto to officially open the Spadina WaveDeck, the first of a series of spectacular new public spaces being built as part of the central waterfront plan.

Located at the foot of Spadina Avenue, the 630 square-metre wooden wavedeck offers Torontonians a new waterside gathering place in an area that was formerly a narrow sidewalk and lacked public access to the lake. Built in less than 10 months, the Spadina WaveDeck creates more public space along one of the most heavily used parts of the Toronto shoreline. The 60x10.8 metre flexible space provides for staging and informal seating and its varying heights allow for new vantage points of the lake and city skyline.

Environmental sustainability is also a key feature of the central waterfront design. The first stage of this work was undertaken at the Spadina WaveDeck and includes the creation of new fish habitat. Riverstone shoals, tree logs and embankments were installed to provide shelter and increased feeding and foraging opportunities for lake fish.

[For more information.](#)



Start of Construction - Rees and Simcoe WaveDecks



Later this month, Waterfront Toronto will begin construction activities of the next two wavedecks at the Rees and Simcoe slips. Construction activities include hoarding installation, dockwall repairs, structural pile drilling, decking and public realm improvements. The Rees and Simcoe wavedecks are expected to be complete by summer 2009.

Cherry Beach Sports Fields

In September, the highly anticipated Cherry Beach Sports Fields were opened by Waterfront Toronto. The two regulation-sized elite soccer and lacrosse fields help meet a high demand for playing fields in Toronto and are in keeping with Waterfront Toronto's mandate to expand recreational opportunities on the waterfront. The state-of-the-art fields can accommodate a wide range of recreational activity including field hockey, football and ultimate frisbee in addition to soccer and lacrosse.

The Sports Fields are part of an overall strategy to revitalize the Port Lands and represent the work and challenges involved in taking industrial, underutilized and contaminated land and transforming it into new, beautiful, public space for community use. Made from highly durable artificial turf, the fields feature a longer playing season and a life-expectancy of 20-25 years.

The opening event featured soccer and lacrosse clinics set up for the children and community members to participate in. City Councillor Paula Fletcher and Waterfront Toronto Board Chair Mark Wilson kicked off the festivities. Ryan Cousins, National Lacrosse League player and team captain for the Minnesota Swarm led the lacrosse clinic and Laza Lowe from the Toronto Soccer Association led the soccer clinic.



Mimico Waterfront Park

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Waterfront Toronto's Board approved the implementation of phase two of Mimico Waterfront Park at its September Board meeting. Phase two builds on the initial phase of the park which was opened by Waterfront Toronto in July. Construction of the second phase, which will expand the park from Superior Avenue to Humber Bay Park, is expected to start in 2010.

Mimico Waterfront Park provides west end Toronto residents with a new lakefront public green space in an area that previously lacked public access to the waterfront. The park re-establishes the Mimico community as a recreational destination and is expected to help re-invigorate the local economy.

Phase two construction activities will include lakefilling to create the landbase for the installation of an additional 500 metres of Waterfront Trail from Superior Avenue to Grand Harbour, the creation of terrestrial and aquatic habitat enhancements and a cantilevered boardwalk along the shoreline. It is expected to open in 2012.



West Don Lands



A key milestone in infrastructure construction in the West Don Lands was achieved last month. Reconstruction of the lower level interceptor, a critical part of downtown Toronto's sewage system, was completed and actively in use in September. The interceptor runs beneath a portion of the massive 3.4 hectare engineered berm that is being constructed to provide flood protection for the West Don Lands and surrounding area to the west. The near century old pipeline had to be replaced before the massive berm could be constructed on top of it.

OTHER NEWS

LEED for Neighbourhood Development Pilot Project

Waterfront Toronto is participating in the U.S. Green Building Council LEED ND (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Neighbourhood Development) pilot program and is seeking gold certification for waterfront communities including East Bayfront and the West Don Lands. This ground-breaking, third-party verification program focuses on sustainable development from a comprehensive, neighbourhood-wide perspective rather than on a building-by-building basis.

Toronto Island Tree Planting



Waterfront Toronto in keeping with its commitment to sustainability held a community tree planting event in conjunction with Evergreen on Toronto Island on October 4th. Community members took part in planting shrubs and trees to help bring nature back to the waterfront. The planting was a great success with more than 50 people in attendance. The next planting is scheduled for October 25th at Ashbridges Bay. For additional information or to sign up in advance please contact: Claire Ellenwood, Horticulture and Stewardship Specialist, Evergreen Brick Works: claire@evergreen.ca.

Presentation to the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC)

Waterfront Toronto Planning and Design Project Manager Carla Guerrero, recently delivered a presentation on the West Don Lands at the annual conference of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC). More than 70 senior level transportation professionals attended the *Tools for Change* session which focused on sustainable transportation options in the West Don Lands, and looked at how sustainability can be incorporated into decision-making to improve project outcomes.

TAC is a national association with a mission to promote the provision of safe, secure, efficient, effective and environmentally and financially sustainable transportation services in support of Canada's social and economic goals. TAC's members include federal, provincial and territorial transportation departments, municipalities, private-sector firms with an interest in road and urban transportation issues, academic institutions and associations.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Annual General Meeting

Waterfront Toronto's Annual General Meeting is being held on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Steam Whistle Brewing, The Roundhouse, 255 Bremner Boulevard, Toronto, M5V 3M9 (see [map](#) for directions).

In addition to providing an update on Waterfront Toronto's work over the last year, the meeting will also feature a presentation on the importance of modern

and intelligent city-building. The keynote speaker is Carol Coletta, President and CEO of CEOs for Cities, a national network of urban leaders dedicated to building the next generation of intelligent, sustainable cities.

For additional information, please contact Amanda Flude at 416-214-1344 ext. 276 or aflude@waterfrontoronto.ca. Note: you do not need to register for the event.

Lower Don Lands Municipal Infrastructure EA and Keating North Precinct Plan

The second public meeting for the Lower Don Lands Municipal Infrastructure EA and Keating North Precinct Plan will be held in December. At this meeting, the team will present the recommended planning alternatives, draft block plan and propose infrastructure design alternatives for further evaluation. Details of the next public meeting are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Location: St. Lawrence Hall, 157 King Street East, Great Hall
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Open House)
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Presentation & Facilitated Discussion)

A summary report of Public Meeting #1 is available on the project website: www.waterfrontoronto.ca/lowerdonlands.

Queens Quay Update

Waterfront Toronto is currently undertaking two environmental assessments for Queens Quay one in partnership with Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) to extend transit east into the East Bayfront Community and a second for the revitalization of Queens Quay from Lower Spadina Avenue to Lower Jarvis Street. Working collaboratively, both are intended to create a comprehensive strategy for the reconstruction of Queens Quay.

The transit environmental assessment is proposing to provide transit via a new streetcar line from Union Station which will extend east from Bay Street along Queens Quay Blvd in a new dedicated right-of-way. Five options for a portal to enable the streetcar to come to surface have been investigated and a preliminary preferred alternative has been selected. Additionally both environmental assessments have been developing design alternatives for the cross-section of the street. Collaboratively two design alternatives have been developed.

Waterfront Toronto together with TTC is committed to presenting these findings at a public meeting later this fall. Community stakeholder advisory committee meetings will be convened prior to the public meeting. Further details will be available in the next newsletter.

Annual Heritage Toronto Awards

Waterfront Toronto's President and CEO John Campbell is the featured speaker at the 12th annual William Kilbourn Memorial Lecture & 34th Annual Heritage Toronto Awards on Monday Oct. 27. The theme of the event, which is being held at the Carlu is *It's a Shore Thing*. The Lecture, which is held as part of the Heritage Toronto Awards, will explore Waterfront Toronto's plans to transform more than 800 hectares (2000 acres) of underutilized and contaminated land along Toronto's lakefront, from its industrial past into exceptional 21st century showcase waterfront communities.

Board of Directors Meetings

Wednesday, October 15, 2008
Tuesday, December 16, 2008

please check website for agendas

Waterfront Design Review Panel Meetings

Wednesday, November 12, 2008
Wednesday, December 10, 2008

please check website for agendas

NEW FACES

David Kusturin joins Waterfront Toronto as the Vice President, Program Management.

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